

SAVE THE DATE: SUNDAY APRIL 7TH

LENTEN LECTURE & DISCUSSION



A discussion on: “Stepping up to the Challenge: Liturgical Reflections on the Journey to Pascha”

will be offered by the Rev. Protopresbyter Stephanos Alexopoulos, Associate Professor of Liturgical Studies/Sacramental Theology at the Catholic University

Fr. Stefanos was born in Zimbabwe, raised in South Africa and Greece, and received his higher education in the United States, earning a B.A. in Religious Studies from Hellenic College, a M.Div. from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, both in Brookline, MA., and a Ph.D. in Liturgical Studies from the University of Notre Dame. While at the University of Notre Dame he taught the course "The Spirituality of the Christian East: Experience, Form, and Expression" for which he received the Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher Kaneb Award for Excellence in Teaching. In 2003 Fr. Stefanos returned to Greece where he served as a parish priest and taught for the College Year in Athens Program, for the Greco-Roman Program of St. John's University/St. Benedict's College, Colledgeville, MN, and for the Pastoral Institute of the Archdiocese of Athens, Church of Greece. In 2009 he was elected Assistant Professor of Liturgy at the Ecclesiastical Academy of Athens. In the Spring of 2012, he was invited to teach at the Institute of Sacred Music at Yale University as a visiting professor. His work has appeared in English, Greek, German and Russian. He is the author of *The Presanctified Liturgy in the Byzantine Rite: A Comparative Analysis of Its Origins, Evolution, and Structural Units* in the series *Liturgia Condenda 21* (Peeters Publishers, 2009). He is a member of the North American Academy of Liturgy and the Society of Oriental Liturgy, which he served as Secretary between 2006-2012. Since 2009 is actively involved in the new Catalogue of Byzantine Manuscripts project out of the Protestant Theological University (Holland). He is an ordained Greek Orthodox priest, the son and grandson of priests, and since 2010 has been appointed full member of the Special Synodical Committee on Liturgical Renewal of the Holy Synod of the Church of Greece. Fr. Stefanos joined the Faculty of the School of the Theology and Religious Studies at Catholic University of America in the Fall of 2013.

His research focuses on aspects of Byzantine Liturgical History, Eastern Liturgical Traditions and Liturgical Renewal. His current projects include a book-length study on the history of the private "Office of Holy Communion" in the Byzantine rite, a book-length study on the history and theology of the Minor Hours in the Byzantine Rite, and a book-length introduction to Eastern Liturgies.

Academic Area: Liturgical Studies/Sacramental Theology

School: School of Theology and Religious Studies

Expertise: Byzantine Liturgical History

The Lenten discussion will be focused on:

“Stepping up to the Challenge: Liturgical Reflections on the Journey to Pascha”

St. John Climacus uses the idea of the Ladder of Divine Ascent to describe the challenges in our Spiritual lives.

This is a wonderful example for all of us in examining our own Spiritual journey to Pascha. From the Triodion, to the Lenten Fast, to Holy Week and arriving at our Lord's Pascha! How does the Liturgy guide us there and how does the Liturgy allow for us to change and challenge ourselves along the way...Come and see...

