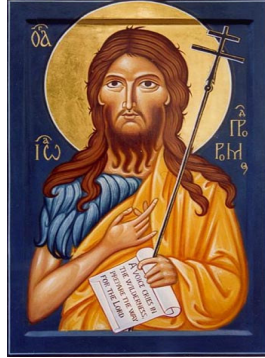


**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE SEVENTH ANNUAL
ORTHODOX MEN'S RETREAT
OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**



THEME

"THE FORGOTTEN PATH OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY."
GUEST SPEAKER: KYRIACOS C. MARKIDES, PH.D.

APRIL 9-11, 2010

**SANCTUM RETREAT CENTRE
CAROLINE, ALBERTA**

**Organizing Parishes
Information**

Antiochian Orthodox
Church of the
Annunciation – Reverend
Father Ibrahim Chahoud

Contacts: Sam Salloum

St. Mary's Romanian
Orthodox Parish – Very
Reverend Father Michael
Lupu;

Contacts: Denis Lipon,
Daniel Cojocariu

St. Vladimir's Ukrainian
Orthodox Congregation -
Very Reverend Father
Taras Krochak and
Reverend Father Timothy
Charpko

Contacts: Morris
Pawlyshyn, Glen Tacey,
Ihor Triska, Dan Zukiwsky



**Organizing Parishes
Information**

Serbian Orthodox
Church St. Simeon –
Reverend Father Obrad
Filipovic

Contact: George Ivkovic

St. Demetrios Greek
Orthodox Church -
Reverend Father
Demetrios Rougas

Contact: Simeon
Sinesios

St. Peter the Aleut OCA
Church - Very Reverend
Larry Reinheimer
Contact: Brent
Applegate

Sessions:

See Attached Schedule

The true Orthodox way of thought has always been historical, has always included the past, but has never been enslaved by it. For, the strength of the Church is not in the past, present, or future, but in Christ.

SEVENTH ANNUAL ORTHODOX MEN'S RETREAT

OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

SCHEDULE

"THE FORGOTTEN PATH OF CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY."

Friday – April 09, 2010

- 4:30 p.m. Registration begins
- 7:00 p.m. Supper and Orientation
- 7:45 p.m. Akathist to Saint John the Baptist
- 8:30 p.m. Conference
- 11:00 p.m. Please keep to your room

Saturday – April 10, 2010

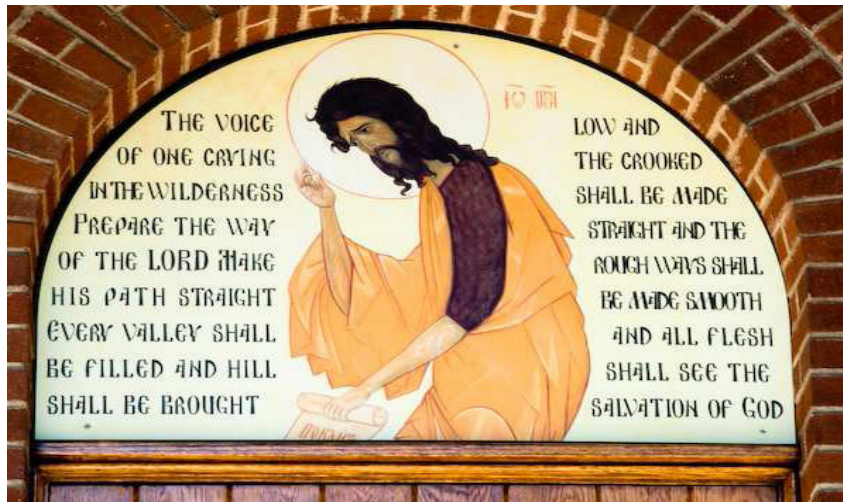
- 8:00 a.m. Morning Prayers
- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
- 9:00 a.m. Conference
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch - After lunch take time to enjoy the surroundings and relax
- 4:00 p.m. Conference Room - Question and answer period
- 5:00 p.m. Supper
- 6:00 p.m. Vesper Services and Memorial Service for Leo Giannoulis (retreatant fallen asleep in the Lord)
- 7:00 p.m. Conference
- 11:00 p.m. Please keep to your room

Sunday – April 11, 2010

- 8:30 a.m. No Breakfast – However for those that may require to eat due to medical reasons, food will be available (muffins and fruit)
- 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch and departure

The true Orthodox way of thought has always been historical, has always included the past, but has never been enslaved by it. For, the strength of the Church is not in the past, present, or future, but in Christ.

The voice of one calling in the wilderness, prepare the way of the Lord make His path straight. Every valley shall be filled and hill shall be brought low and the crooked shall be made straight and the rough ways shall be made smooth and all flesh shall see the salvation of the Lord.



To: Parish Priests and Parish Council Presidents

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

With the Blessings and support of our Bishops, and the support of our parishes and parish clergy, Very Reverend Father Taras Krochak, and Reverend Father Timothy Charpko – St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Congregation, Reverend Father Ibrahim Chahoud - Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Annunciation, Reverend Father Obrad Filipovic – Serbian Orthodox Church of St. Simeon, Reverend Father Demetrios Rougas – St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Congregation, Very Reverend Father Larry Reinheimer – St. Peter the Aleut OCA Congregation, and Very Reverend Father Michael Lupu - St. Mary’s Romanian Orthodox Congregation, the Orthodox retreat committee invite you to the seventh annual Orthodox Men’s Retreat of St. John the Baptist – 2010.

Through you, Parish Priests and Parish Council Presidents, we invite all men of good faith to the fifth annual **Orthodox Men’s Retreat of St. John the Baptist**, which will be held from April 9-11, 2010 at the Sanctum Retreat Centre, Caroline, Alberta. The fee for this years retreat is \$ 200.00 to \$ 300.00 per individual, depending on the room (see attached)

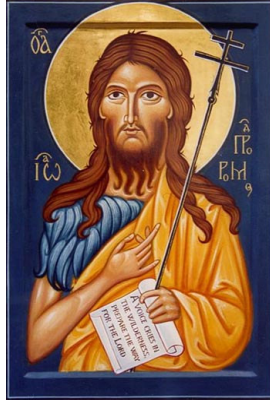
The theme of this years retreat will be **“The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality.”** The quest speaker for this years retreat will be Kyriacos C. Markides, Ph.D. a Professor of Sociology at the University of Maine.

Further to the Retreat schedule, we would like to emphasize that there will be ample time for quiet meditation and prayer, and to take full advantage of the retreat venue, while taking in the serene surroundings. There are hot tubs available, bring along your swimming trunks. Website <http://www.sanctumretreat.ca/home.htm>.

With greetings in Christ, you’re Retreat Team

Daniel Cojocariu – St. Mary’s Romanian Orthodox Parish
Dennis Lipon – St. Mary’s Romanian Orthodox Parish:
Glen Tacey – St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Congregation:
Lorne Calkins – St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Congregation
Dan Zukiwsky – St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Congregation
Morris Pawlyshyn – St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Congregation
Ihor Triska - St. Vladimir’s Ukrainian Orthodox Congregation
Sam Salloum – Antiochian Orthodox Church of the Annunciation
Simeon Sinesios – St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Congregation
George Ivkovic – Serbian Orthodox Church of St. Simeon
Brent Applegate – St. Peter the Aleut OCA Congregation

ORTHODOX MEN'S RETREAT OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST



Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? (1Co 1:20)

Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. (1Co 2:12)

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (Joh 8:12)

For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? (Mat 16:26)

"Teach me, and I will be silent; make me understand how I have gone astray. (Job 6:24)

The goal is not to abandon the world, but to keep oneself in Christ and salvage as much as possible from the evil world. Christians renounce the fallenness of the world, not creation itself.

From Kyriacos C. Markides, Ph.D.

*I'm a Professor of Sociology at the University of Maine and author of eight books published by leading publishers in the United States and the UK such as Random House/ Doubleday, Penguin, Viking and Yale University Press. Six of his books are on Christian mystics and Eastern Orthodox spiritual guides and elders. In my last two books, *The Mountain of Silence: A Search for Orthodox Spirituality* (Doubleday paperback) and *Gifts of the Desert: The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality* (Doubleday), I explored mystical Christianity through my association with the charismatic elder "Father Maximos," a monk from Mount Athos. These books are widely read and have been published in thirteen other countries and languages. As well as, giving regular lectures and workshops around the United States, Canada and overseas. Furthermore, appearing on national television and interviewed on national and international radio stations. As well as, newspapers and magazines. These books are available in major bookstores and in Amazon.com.*

- *live in Stillwater Maine with my wife Emily from Famagusta, Cyprus*
- *have two grown children, Constantine and Vasia.*

Gifts of the Desert

“The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality”

In Kyriacos C. Markides’ newest book, Eastern Orthodox Mysticism meets Western Christianity as the internationally renowned author takes readers on a deep journey back in time to unveil the very roots of authentic spirituality.

In his previous book “The Mountain of Silence” Markides introduced us to the essential spiritual nature of Eastern Orthodoxy in a series of lively conversations with Father Maximos, the widely revered charismatic Orthodox bishop and former abbot of the Panagia Monastery in the Troodos Mountains on Cyprus. In “Gifts of the Desert” Markides continues his examination of Eastern Orthodox mystical teachings and practices and captures their living expression through visits to monasteries and hermitages in Greece and America and interviews with contemporary charismatic elders.

Markides’ pursuit of a deeper understanding of Orthodoxy takes him to the deserts of Arizona and a stay at a new monastery near Sedona; to the island of Cyprus and a reunion with Father Maximos; on a pilgrimage to holy shrines aboard a cruise ship in the Aegean Sea; and finally to the legendary Mount Athos, home to more than two thousand Orthodox monks. Markides relates his Journey and reflections in a captivating style while providing important background material and information on historical events to give readers a highly accessible, in-depth portrait of a tradition little known in the west.

“Gifts of the Desert” “The Forgotten Path of Christian Spirituality” will appeal to a wide range of people, from Christians seeking insights into their religion and its various expressions to scholars interested in learning more about the mystical way of life and wisdom that have been preserved on Mount Athos since the fall of the Byzantine Empire and the Great Schism that separated the Eastern and Western Churches. Perhaps more important, however, is the bridge it offers contemporary readers to a Christian life that is balanced between the worldly and the spiritual.