


International Scientific Symposium




ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE
HALKI THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

**From the more sorrowful
to the more pleasing:
Wish and pray**

Under the blessings of His All-Holiness
Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew

 **February 6-7, 2022**

 **Theological School of Halki
Heybeliada, Turkey**

50 years from the suspension of the Holy
Theological School of Halki

30 years from the passing of its last
Scholarch, late Metropolitan of Stavroupolis

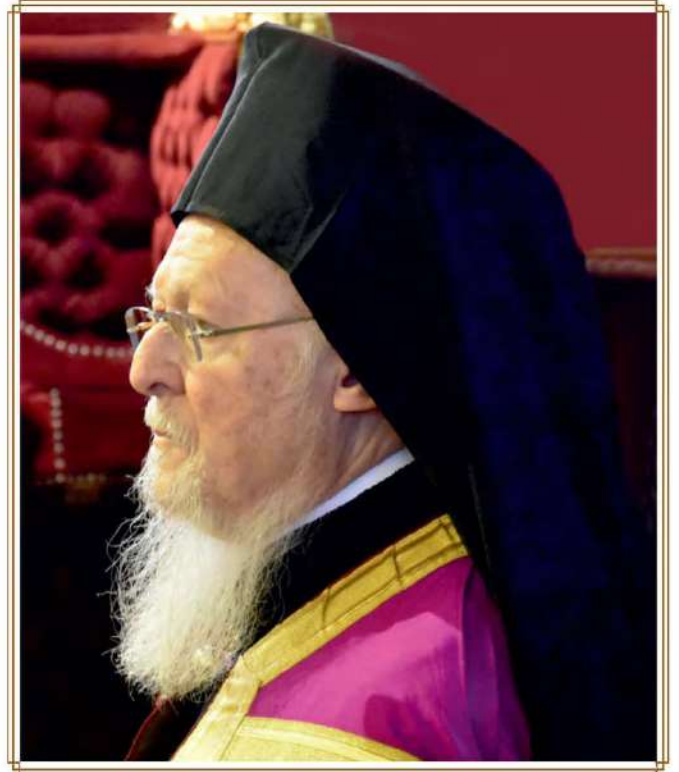


The Theological School of Halki



1844

**ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE
HALKI THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL**



**Under the blessings of His All-Holiness
Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew**



The last Scholar of the Holy Theological School of Halki, late Metropolitan of Stavroupolis Maximos

Maximos of Stavroupolis (1919-1991)

The last Dean of Halki Theological School

Maximos of Stavroupolis was born at Vatoussa on the island of Mytilene in 1919. His secular name was Stylianos Repanellis; he was the son of Father Antonios and Presvytera Anastasia.

He was six years old when he came to Constantinople. He studied theology at the Theological School of Halki (1917-1944).

He became a deacon on October 22, 1944, at the St. Nicholas Church in Galata. Metropolitan Maximos of Chalcedon, who later became Patriarch (Maximos VI), was the ordinar. In 1946, Maximos became member of the Patriarchal clergy under Patriarch Maximos V. In 1948,

he was sent to Louvain, Belgium, where he studied philosophy and psychology. In 1951 he was appointed as Professor of Philosophy and Christian Ethics at the Halki Theological School, a position which retained to his death.

On August 6, 1952, Maximos was ordained a priest by Metropolitan Maximos of Sardeis. The ordination took place at the St. George Patriarchal Church. Patriarch Athenagoras granted him the dignity of Archimandrite that same day.

In July of 1955, Maximos was appointed Dean of the Halki Theological School, a position which he also kept to the end of his service. On February 7, 1961, he was elected to the Episcopal dignity and received the title of the ancient Diocese of Stavroupolis, ancient Aphrodisias, in Minor Asia. He was consecrated as bishop on the Sunday of Orthodoxy that same year (February 26, 1961).

In July 1971, the Halki Theological School was closed down by the Turkish government. Maximos retained his position at the Theological School.

Maximos of Stavroupolis worked very diligently for the growth of the school entrusted to his capable governance and administration. Most of the teachers had studied at world renowned theological academies. Under his administration, the Theological School reached its record enrollment of 120 students.

Metropolitan Maximos died in Constantinople at the age of 71 on January 4, 1991, the victim of a heart attack. The Metropolitan's funeral took place at the Patriarchal Church of St. George on January 8.



His Grace Bishop Kassianos, Abbot of the Holy Theological School of Halki

Bishop Kassianos

Abbot of the Holy Theological School of Halki

Bishop of Aravissos Kassianos (born: Vassilios Notis) was born in the district of Peran in Constantinople in August 1978. He was ordained as a deacon in 1998 by the Metropolitan of Chalcedon, Joachim (now Metropolitan of Nicomedia). He studied at first in Constantinople and at the Ecclesiastical School of Patmos. He studied Theology at the Theological School of Aristotelian University of Thessaloniki (2002-2006), where he completed postgraduate studies in Inter-Christian Dialogue (2010). On November 3, 2011, he was ordained as a priest by the Metropolitan of Chalcedon Athanasios. On December 4, 2011,

he received the rank of Archimandrite. He served in the Diocese of Chalcedon. On January 21, 2018, he was ordained as the titular Bishop of Aravissos, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Chalcedon, in the Holy Temple of the Holy Trinity. The ordination was performed by the Metropolitan of Chalkidona Athanasios, supported by the Metropolitans of Konya Theoliptos, Prussia Elpidoforos and the Bishops of Alikarnassos Hadrian and Erythra Cyril. On March 15, 2020, he was appointed by His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew I, as Abbot of the Holy Monastery of the Holy Trinity of Halki, where is the historical Halki Theological School.

PROGRAM

Saturday, 5 February 2022

All day Arrivals

19:00-22:00 Welcome dinner

Sunday, 6 February 2022

09:00-11:30 Liturgy with **His All-Holiness, Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch**

11:30-13:00 Guided tour at the Holy Theological School of Halki

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-14:15 Opening Remarks by **His All-Holiness, Bartholomew, Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch**

14:15-15:45 Opening Remarks by:

- **His Eminence Elder Metropolitan of Derka Apostolos**, President of the Committee of Halki Theological School
- **His Grace Bishop Kassianos**, Abbot of the Holy Theological School of Halki
- **Peter Mandaville**, f. Senior Advisor in Secretary of State's Office for Religious and Global Affairs, US State Department | Professor, Schar School of Policy and Government | Director, Ali Vural Ak Center for Global Islamic Studies, George Mason University | Senior Research Fellow, Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs, Georgetown University | Member of the Diplomacy Committee of the G20 Interfaith Forum

• **Margaritis Schinas**, Vice-President of the European Commission, Promoting our Way of Life

• **Nikolaos Xexakis**, Emeritus Professor, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, President of the Halki Theological School Graduates

15:45-17:00 50 years from the suspension of the Holy Theological School of Halki | 30 years from the passing of its last Scholarch, late Metropolitan of Stavroupolis Maximos

• **His Eminence Metropolitan Meliton of Philadelphia**

• **Elder Nikodimos Agiopavlitis**

• **Elder Epiphanius of the Pantokratoros Monastery (Mount Athos)**, on the relationship between the Scholarch and the Mount Athos

• **Konstantinos Delikonstantis**, Emeritus Professor, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens; Director of the First Patriarchal Office, on the teaching (theology-philosophy) of the Scholarch

• **Dr. Antonios Chatzopoulos**, Director of the historical Archive of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, on the chanting tradition in the Holy Theological School of Halki

17:30-18:00 Break

18:00-19:30 Fireside conversation

Religion and Environmental Education: Climate Change and the substantial global role of the Ecumenical Patriarch in the post-Covid era

• **Rhett Power**, Editor, Forbes Magazine in conversation with

• **Barbara Kolm**, Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Austria

- **Dimitrios Mattheou**, Chairman, Green Award Foundation
- **Carey Cavanaugh**, Chairman of International Alert, f. US Ambassador and peace negotiator
- **Rev. Archdeacon John Chryssavgis**, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, advisor to the Ecumenical Patriarch on environmental issues (via Zoom)

19:30-21:30 Dinner

Monday, 7 February 2022

10:30-12:00 Session I
Interfaith and Interchristian dialogue: Paving the way for a society of peaceful coexistence

- **Rabbi Elie Abadie**, Senior Rabbi, Jewish Council of the United Arab Emirates, Interfaith & Ecumenical leader
- **Jerome Binde**, f. Deputy Assistant Director-General of UNESCO, Member of the Club of Rome and of the World Academy of Art and Science
- **Steve Alban Tineo**, Founder of Vision for Peace, Expert in diplomatic & commercial negotiations
- **Apostolos Kralidis**, Professor Aristotle University, Thessaloniki, Greece

12:00-12:30 Coffee break

12:30-14:00 Session II
Religious freedoms, human rights and international cooperation

- **Suzan Johnson Cook**, f. US Ambassador for International Religious Freedom

- **Marco Ventura**, Director of the Center for Religious Studies, Fondazione Bruno Kessler | Professor for Religious Diplomacy at the University of Sienna | Annual President of the European Consortium for Church and State Research (2019)

- **Angeliki Bouki**, Head of CEO Office and of Cultural and Social Initiatives Unit of Piraeus Bank

- **Ezra Friedlander**, Founder and CEO of Friedlander Group

14:00-15:30 Lunch

15:30-19:30 Session III
The Halki Theological School and the shared vision for a new mandate of training, research and innovation

- **John Charalambakis**, Professor of Economics and Finance, Patterson School for Diplomacy, Kentucky University

- **Agamemnon Tselikas**, Director of the Center for History and Palaeography (National Bank of Greece Cultural Foundation), Athens

- **Symeon Paschalidis**, Professor, Department of Social Theology & Christian Culture, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Director of the Patriarchal Foundation for Patristic Studies

- **Grigorios Stamkopoulos**, Associate Professor AEATH, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, (via Zoom)

19:30-21:30 Dinner

The Theological School of Halki (Heybeliada) is located at the top of the island's Hill of Hope (Ümit Tepesi), on the grounds of the Byzantine-era monastery of the Holy Trinity, founded by Ecumenical Patriarch Saint Photios the Great.



The Theological School of Halki

Trinity, founded by Ecumenical Patriarch Saint Photios the Great.

The idea of establishing a School that would meet the educational needs of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, and the Orthodox world in general, was not a new one, but it required the superior administrative and organizational skills of Ecumenical Patriarch Germanos the 4th in order to be materialized. Patriarch Germanos first visited the Monastery in 1842, and in just two years, he succeeded in gaining approval from the Ottoman authorities and organizing the reconstitution of the Monastery and the construction of the necessary facilities for the operation of the Theological School.

On October 1, 1844, the School was inaugurated, and the Monastery of the Holy Trinity resumed its thousand-year-old spiritual journey.

According to the School's rules and regulations, the School has an inter-Orthodox, inter-Christian (the first non-Orthodox student, an Anglican seminarian, was accepted as early as 1907), and inter-religious character. It operates as a monastic brotherhood and the student dress is the mandatory short black cassock.

The curriculum was very similar to those of the orthodox theological schools around the world, with special emphasis given to the

liturgical life and individual prayer, chanting and preaching, and, first and foremost, the deep knowledge of the orthodox tradition and theology, which distinguished the School's graduates.

During the 1894 earthquake, the complex was severely damaged - except the church-, and the School's operation was interrupted. The present structure of the monastery and Theological School is the result of generous funding by the great benefactor Pavlos Skilitis Stefanovik, who commissioned architect Pericles Fotiadis with the design of the new facilities, which took the form of the Greek letter Π. The inauguration took place on October 6, 1896.

The School was closed in 1971, when a ruling by the Constitutional Court of Turkey resulted in the shutting down of many institutions of private higher education. It has remained closed ever since, despite repeated appeals by the Ecumenical Patriarchate, several countries, and important international organizations and personalities.

The Library

The School's library, which is considered to be one of the richest in the world in old and rare works, dates to the Byzantine era, from the foundation of the monastery itself, which, according to Theodore the Studite, was a center for wisdom and education.

The library was re-established by Patriarch Metrophanes, as part for the monastery's reconstruction and reconstitution in the 16th century. Patriarch Metrophanes also donated 300 rare manuscripts and created the library's first catalog in 1572.

Several years after the School's establishment, Patriarch Germanos personally funded the construction of a two-story stone building for the library. The building was finished in 1853, and remained in service only until the destructive earthquake of 1894. No provision was made for a dedicated library building in the new complex, but from 1896 to 1927 the books were placed in the southwestern wing of the building. After 1927, the Library was relocated to its current location in the School's basement, in the northern part of the building.

With the passage of time, donations greatly enriched the library's initial collection. The main donor has always been the Ecumenical Patriarchate to which the library belongs, as a second library-subsidary to that of the Patriarchate's main library in the Phanar. Many of the library's important manuscripts, including those donated by Patriarch Metrophanes, are now kept in the manuscript wing of the Patriarchal Library.

Today the library contains over 80.000 books and around 140.000 journals. With the help of collaborations with institutions such as the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, the Bavarian State Library in



Main Library of the Halki Theological School

Munich, and the Library of the Greek Parliament, the enormous task of preparing the library for the reopening of the School has been divided into three main phases (cataloguing, digitization, and restoration of the books) and is well underway.

The Historical Garden

The School's buildings are surrounded by gardens originally created and tended by Metropolitan Dorotheos (1891-1974) of the Princes' Islands.

The thematic gardens:

The Biblical Garden

The Biblical Garden is composed of 65 out of the 82 plants named in the Bible. Most of them are planted around the church, the remaining ones being scattered around the garden. Upon completion of this collection, the Holy Trinity Monastery will be the first Orthodox monastery in the world to have a complete Bible garden.

The Trail of Virtues

The Trail of Virtues is a garden path where each plant symbolizes a virtue (e.g., olive trees symbolize mercy, peach trees symbolize humility, fig trees symbolize gentleness). The 14 plants found in this path have been selected according to the symbolic meaning of each species, based on the Symbolic Garden, an anonymous description of a historical garden contained in Codex Clarkianus XI, a 12th century manuscript found in Bodleian Library at Oxford University.

Byzantine Meadow

The Byzantine Meadow consists of tulips, dandeliums, cyclamens, and other plants that had symbolic meaning in Byzantine culture.

The Edible Garden

The Edible Garden consists of fruit trees, vegetables, herbs and a biodynamic vineyard; it is situated at the Garden's perimeter.

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COORDINATOR



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The team of

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