



# CHRIST IS RISEN!



## IOCS Pascha Newsletter 2019



### Message from the Principal

As we near the celebration of the Lord's Resurrection, I am delighted to share with the Institute's friends, supporters, and students this short IOCS Pascha Newsletter and to send, on behalf of all at IOCS, our prayerful wishes for a blessed Easter to you all!

We are grateful to all who continue to support the activity of the Institute and we ground all our work, teaching and research in that support and in the continual blessing of being able to witness and explore the Orthodox faith in the unique context of Cambridge.

As you may be able to glimpse even from this short newsletter, IOCS is a very vibrant and active place to be these days! We continue to grow our teaching, both residually and by distance learning, with a new range of Masters-level programmes and doctoral projects bringing together an incredibly diverse and able student body from the UK, Greece, the USA, Germany, Egypt, and Ethiopia. Our very successful series of free public talks, the IOCS Conversation Days, continue this year and offer a public platform for dialogue on significant faith issues: from disability, to climate change, to art, to worship and spirituality today.

In this context, I am proud to share with you the wonderful news that this week, on Holy Thursday, in what felt for us like a foretaste of the joy of Pascha, our Vice-Principal, Dr Razvan Porumb's book: *Orthodoxy and ecumenism: Towards active metanoia* – was published by Peter Lang as part of the publisher's series *Studies in Eastern Orthodoxy*.

A book-launch event is forthcoming for Razvan's publication, which has been received as "*an invaluable resource for anyone wishing to better understand* –

### Orthodoxy and Ecumenism

Towards an Active Metanoia

RAZVAN PORUMB

PETER LANG



from the inside – Orthodox theological tensions around ecumenism" (Fr John Jillions) and as "*opening up new possibilities for understanding ecumenical dialogue without relativising or sacrificing fundamental commitments*" (Revd Dr Rowan Williams).

Finally, our Paschal celebration will include thanksgiving for the significant and very generous legacy of the Harper Estate. Fr Michael and Jeanne Harper believed in the unique importance of an Orthodox Institute in Cambridge. Their legacy for the work of IOCS ensures that our activity continues sustainably and we hope that it will inspire more to follow their example in supporting the Institute.

*May the joy and life of our Risen Lord be with us all! Christ is risen!*

Father Dragos Herescu



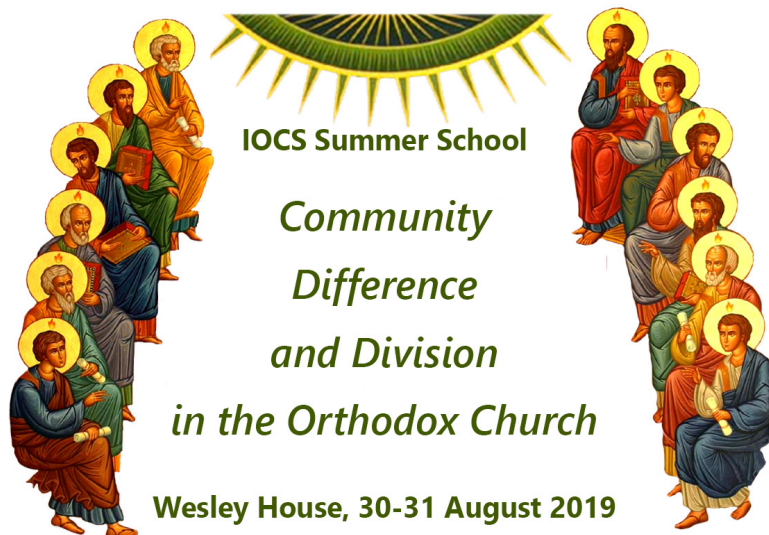
# Conversation Days at IOCS 2019



We are continuing this year our series of free public talks on topics of interest for Christians today. The first Conversation Day of the year took place on 5 April and, according to some participants, it was one of the best IOCS events they had ever attended! The theme of the day was *'In the image and likeness'*. *Human perfection and disability*, with the two featured speakers in conversation being: Revd Professor Frances Young OBE FBA and Dr Petre Maican. This event was organised jointly with our host college, Wesley House, Cambridge, and it is available as a video upload on our YouTube channel.

The next two Conversation Days will address equally fascinating themes and will take place on **4 May** and **21 June**. In May, Dr Margaret Barker and Dr Elizabeth Theokritoff will address the topic of *A Temple Not Made By Hands: The Christian Vision of Creation and Its Liturgical Roots*. This event is co-organised with the Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, Cambridge.

The June Conversation Day could more aptly be called a 'musical spiritual retreat' as it will present the theme of *Orthodox Aesthetics and Contemporary Art*, with renowned British composer and academic Father Ivan Moody. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in guided listening and reflection, with the aid of a selection of musical pieces. **Admission is free but please make sure you book your place in advance.**



IOCS Summer School

**Community  
Difference  
and Division  
in the Orthodox Church**

**Wesley House, 30-31 August 2019**

This year, our Institute brings back the popular format of the IOCS Summer School - albeit in a shortened, more accessible form. Applications are open for a two-day **Summer School, from 30-31 August 2019**, at Wesley House. This taught course addresses the timely topic of ***Community, Difference and Division in the Orthodox Church***. The team of lecturers includes: **Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, Revd Prof Andrew Louth, Revd Prof Nikolaos Loudovikos, Revd Dr John Jillions, Dr Elizabeth Theokritoff.**

Apart from lectures, there will be time for guided discussions and student presentations. Participation is open to everyone, but some basic theological knowledge about Orthodox theology is required to profit from the course. All participants will be given a Certificate confirming the successful completion of the Summer School. The level of teaching roughly corresponds to a second- or third-year BA course.

## Two new MA programmes

Spread the word about our two brand new MAs! - featuring tailor-made modules which bring an insight from Orthodox theology on: ***Orthodox Spirituality - Life in Liturgy, The Mystery of Love, Christianity and Ecology, or Theology and Science.***

❖ **Contemporary Faith and Belief.** Students engage in a meaningful exploration on the role of faith and belief in the contemporary world.

❖ **Spirituality.** Students approach spirituality as lived Christian experience, rooted in normative sources, throughout history and today.

***The MAs are available onsite and by Distance Learning, full-time or part-time.***

The stages leading to the full MA are: Postgraduate Certificate in Contemporary Faith and Belief (2 modules); Postgraduate Diploma in Contemporary Faith and Belief (4 modules); MA in Contemporary Faith and Belief (4 modules and a 15,000 word dissertation).

