



E. No. 696
September 25, 2017

TO ALL CLERGY AND ORDAINED MONASTICS;
TO ALL DIOCESAN COUNCIL MEMBERS;
TO THE FEDERATION OF CIRCLES OF SERBIAN SISTERS; AND
TO ALL CHURCH-SCHOOL CONGREGATIONS, MISSION PARISHES AND MONASTERIES
OF THE DIOCESE OF EASTERN AMERICA:

We greet you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ—proclaimed and witnessed by our holy and venerable St. Mardarije of Libertyville and St. Sebastian of San Francisco and Jackson.

With great enthusiasm, we invite all clergy, lay leaders and faithful, together with our Orthodox or non-Orthodox friends, to attend the fourth lecture series of the **St. Sebastian and Mardarije Orthodox Institute** which will be held **February 13-15, 2018** at the **St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Clearwater, Florida**. Immediately thereafter, our **Annual Diocesan Assembly** will be held at the same venue from **February 16-17, 2018**.

The St. Sebastian and Mardarije Orthodox Institute, established in 2015, provides a series of lectures that are thoughtfully designed, intellectually and spiritually exhilarating, and deeply rooted in the Tradition and ethos of the Orthodox Church,

“Faith, Science, and Mystery” is the theme of this lecture series, and will be presented by our main speaker, Gayle Woloschak, Ph.D., Professor Departments of Radiation Oncology, Radiology, and Cell and Molecular Biology Robert E. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center Feinberg School of Medicine Northwestern. Professor Woloschak, will discuss Religion and Science: Interface; Technology: Where are we going?; Creation and Eternity; and Becoming Human. Special guest, Fr. John Behr, will open the Institute with the theme “Creation and Becoming Human.”

With this letter we ask you to make this unique opportunity known by repeatedly advertising it through your common communication and media means. As you know, together with the Parish Priest, lay leaders of our communities are responsible for the spiritual and traditional enrichment of their parishioners. Our Institute is intended to assist you in this endeavor. The Online Information and Registration page is available at <https://institute2018.eventgrid.com/>.

In order to facilitate the participation of our clergy, we feel it incumbent upon all of our Church Boards to financially sponsor the participation of their parish priest at this Institute. Mission Parish Boards may underwrite part of the cost for their priest and perhaps solicit donations to assist in offsetting costs. We fully trust in your goodness and devotion to our Church and its ongoing Educational Programs to assist us in this God-pleasing endeavor.

With Archpastoral blessings and paternal love,

BISHOP OF EASTERN AMERICA





Gayle Woloschak, Ph.D.

Faith, Science, and Mystery. Gayle Woloschak, Ph.D., Professor Departments of Radiation Oncology, Radiology, and Cell and Molecular Biology Robert E. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center Feinberg School of Medicine Northwestern University



Dr. Gayle Woloschak is currently a professor of Radiation Oncology at Northwestern University in Chicago and an adjunct professor of Religion and Science at Lutheran School of Theology Chicago, and at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. She holds a Ph.D. in Biomedical Sciences from the University of Toledo (Medical College of Ohio), and a D.Min. in Eastern Christian Studies from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Her laboratory interests include molecular biology, radiation biology and nano-biotechnology, and her science-religion fields include biological evolution, stem cell research, and ecology. View Dr. Woloschak's faculty profile on the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine's Website. Educational Background: B.S., Youngstown State University; Ph.D., Medical College of Ohio; Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Mayo Clinic; M.S., University of Balamand; D. Min., Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Teaching Interests: Science and Religion topics; Bioethics; Evolution; Environment; Current Projects and Research Interests: Book in progress with Dr. Leonard Hummel (Lutheran) on pastoral aspects of cancer; Working on science-religion project with several scholars at Lutheran School of Theology; Recent Courses Taught at SVOTS; D.Min. course on Bioethics Selected Publications "Have we replaced the Holy Spirit with Ideology?," *The Wheel*, issue 4, pp. 4-11, 2016 "Becoming Human: Weaving Together Genetics and Personhood," article in: *Embracing the Ivory Tower and Stained Glass Window: A Festschrift in honor of Archbishop Antje Jackelen*, ED: Jennifer Baldwin, Springer, 2015 "Reflections on Life: Lessons from evolutionary biology," with insights from Sergius Bulgakov chapter 4, in: *Issues in Science and Theology: What is Life?* (EDS Dirk Evers, Michael Fuller, Antje Jackelen, Knut-Willy Saether), Springer, 2015, pp. 43-55 "Biblical Literalism" in: *Reintroducing Christianity*, ED by Amir Azarvan, Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2016, pp 77-84. *Chance, Necessity, Love: An Evolutionary Theology of Cancer*, Zygon, 2016, in press, co-authored with Dr. Leonard Hummel.

V. Rev. Dr. John Behr



John Behr is the Dean of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in New York. He has published numerous monographs with St Vladimir's Seminary Press and Oxford University Press. His recent works include an edition and translation of the fragments of Diodore of Tarsus and Theodore of Mopsuestia as well as a monograph on Irenaeus of Lyon and a more poetic and meditative work entitled *Becoming Human: Theological Anthropology in Word and Image* (St Vladimir's Seminary Press, 2013). He is currently working on a new edition and translation of Origen's *On First Principles* for Oxford University Press, and a study of the Gospel of St. John.