

THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS:

BIBLICAL, THEOLOGICAL AND CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES

(7-8 OCTOBER 2021, ODESA, UKRAINE)

The Idea of the Conference

The final clause of the Apostle's Creed emphasizes the importance of "the communion of saints". The theme is not only a historically formulated statement, which has to be preserved and reverently reiterated. It is essential to overcoming the current fragmentation of the Church and is widely discussed in various (multilateral) theological dialogues today. Moreover, the issue has far-reaching practical implications for church practices. As the COVID-19 situation has demonstrated, the churches have been compelled to take a fresh look at traditional liturgical and ecclesiastical practices. The increased use of modern means of communication and substitution of some of the traditional practices with online forms have caused pastors and theologians to ponder the meaning of "the communion of saints" and its attainability in virtual space. These are the questions that our conference will aim to address. We invite everyone interested in the topic of the communion of saints in biblical, historical and contemporary perspectives to take part in the conference.

Possible Topics:

- The Communion of Saints and the Concept of Covenant
- The Communion of Saints in Fragmented Churches
- The Communion of Saints and the Departed in Christ
- The Communion of Saints in the Works of Leading Theologians
- An Ecclesiology of Communion
- The Communion of Saints and Virtual Space
- The Communion of Saints and the Triune God
- The Communion of Saints and the Mission of the Church
- The Communion of Saints and Ontology
- The Communion of Saints and Bodylines
- The Communion of Saints and Prayer

Potential Participants: pastors, theologians, lecturers, postgraduate students.

Format: plenary papers, round table or world café, three sections (depending upon the availability of presentation papers).

Duration: two days (from Thursday 9 am until Friday 3 pm).

Papers and Publications

Participants should send an abstract (not more than 300 words) with a short CV to otsconferences@gmail.com before July 30, 2021. The conference committee will be selecting abstracts according to the following criteria: relevance to the conference subject, originality of analysis and arguments. After the conference, the presentations will be published in a conference proceedings volume. The working languages of the conference are English, Russian and Ukrainian.

Presentation papers (3-4 thousand words) should be sent before September 15, 2021. The text should be prepared in MS Word, A4, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font (footnotes – 10 pt.), left justified, 2.5 cm margins and page numbers should be bottom, center. Footnotes should be prepared through the menu: References / Footnotes / typical and automatic. The title of the presentation should be centered on the first page. In the upper right of the page should be the author's last name and initials, academic degree (no abbreviations), then after 1 space – the text. After the title of the article should come the abstract (10 point font, 100-150 words), then key words (3 – 5 words).

The articles and references should be in conformity with the style and rules of *Chicago Manual of Style 16th ed. (Notes and Bibliography)*. The transliteration of Cyrillic sources should be in conformity with the system of romanization of the Cyrillic alphabets of the Library of Congress, USA.

The organizing committee reserves the right to reject papers that are not in conformity with the above stated themes and scientific criteria or do not conform to the above described format. All committee decisions are final.

Conference attendance

To participate in the conference as an attendee, you must register by September 25, 2021 and complete the registration form at <http://surl.li/tjdy>. Participants should pay a registration fee of 700 UAH (26\$). The fee includes a registration packet, lunch and dinner on the first day of the conference and breakfast and lunch on the second day, as well as coffee breaks. Transportation to/from the conference is the responsibility of the participant. The conference fee is due the first day of the conference. Participation in absentia is also possible (with the subsequent publication of the paper). For more information, please contact the Conference Secretary (see contact info below).

As a stand-alone service and for an additional fee (and at the request of the attendee), the organizing committee can reserve a room for those participants who need accommodations overnight in the OTS dorm (200 UAH [8\$]).

Conference Program Committee: Dr. Oleksandr Geychenko, Dr. Inna Golybovich, Dr. Sergei Sannikov, Dr. Roman Soloviy.

Conference Organizing Committee: Vyacheslav Gerasimchuk, Vitaly Stankevich, Timothy Kondor (Conference Secretary).

Please direct all questions concerning participation in the conference to otsconferences@gmail.com or call +38063-369-7815 (Timothy Kondor).

Address / Place of the Conference: Sadova 37a, Korsunsi, Odessa region, Ukraine.