



Orthodox education for faith and life

SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS ORTHODOX INSTITUTE

Newsletter November 2018

Distinguished Visiting Faculty

SCMOI is delighted to announce three appointments to the Institute's Distinguished Visiting Faculty.

We are honoured to welcome:



His Eminence Metropolitan Jonah (Paffhausen), former Primate of the Orthodox Church in America. His Eminence is a leading commentator on Orthodox affairs and has a longstanding interest in pastoral education and training. We look forward, please God, to his lecturing on Christian leadership at

the SCMOI Residential School scheduled for 1–5 July 2019.

His Grace Bishop Irenei (Steenberg) of Richmond and Western Europe, is former Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Leeds Trinity University. An internationally respected scholar, he has published extensively in patristics and theology. His Grace also is

author of the well-known *The Beginnings of a Life of Prayer* and founder of Monachos.net.



The Very Rev. Dr Peter Alban Heers, a specialist in ecclesiology, teaches at Holy Trinity Seminary, Jordanville. He is Headmaster at Three Hierarchs Academy in Florence, Arizona, author of *The Ecclesiological Renovation of the*

Second Vatican Council and the Church and other works, founder of Uncut Mountain Press, and the

founder and first editor of "Divine Ascent, A Journal of Orthodox Faith."

Introduction to Christian Thought

Mitred Archpriest Nicholas Karipoff, SCMOI Lecturer in Theology, describes the Introduction to Christian Thought unit, delivered in Semester 2, 2018.

Half of SCMOI's eight students chose to enroll in this course in our Institute's initial semester. Conducting lectures, seminars and discussions online was challenging at first, but we quickly settled into a class routine that enabled a quality educational experience.

This study of Christian faith and key doctrines contained in the Nicene Creed introduced students to the rich patristic culture of theology many centuries old and yet youthful and as relevant today as its source – the Bible and Church tradition. We covered topics in a more formal way in "interactive" lectures, which one can do in a smaller group. These included—after the introductory lecture on content and method of Christian theology—Scripture and tradition as sources of theology; the Early Church speaking about God; two two-hour sessions on the Holy Trinity; four lectures and discussions on Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the last of these dealing with the Theotokos in a Christological perspective. One session looked at the theanthropic phenomenon of the Church, and Eschatology completed the theological themes following the structure of the Creed.

Seminar presentations and discussions sought to prepare and amplify the topics presented in lectures. These included presentations on the attributes of God, on the meaning of the Eucharist, Baptism and the life in Christ. Our discussions took a comparative approach in placing Bible revelation and patristic theology in the contexts of modern Eastern Orthodox Christianity and Western Christian thought. These came together to complete the course with discussions on Comparative

Christology and Ecclesiology and the Church in postmodernity, with its challenges as well as opportunities for a greater understanding between Christians.

Student achievements

All students achieved credit level and above results for their 2018 ACD units. We congratulate them on their commitment to their studies and active engagement throughout the Semester. Top results:

Interpreting the New Testament

DipMin – Dimitry Palmer (NSW)

GradDipMin – Reader Daniel Hill (SA)

Introduction to Christian Thought

DipMin – Steven Threadgill (Qld)

GradDipMin – Reader Daniel Hill (SA)



FAQ

- **Are SCMOI courses only for training clergy?**

SCMOI courses are open to anyone who wants to develop their understanding of Orthodox faith and life. SCMOI offers two pathways: the Clergy track for ordination candidates and serving clergy; and the Faith and Life track for men and women generally.

- **Do I have to be Orthodox to attend SCMOI?**

SCMOI welcomes students from all Orthodox jurisdictions. We also welcome students from non-Orthodox backgrounds who want to discover more about the faith and tradition of the Orthodox Church.

- **What are the benefits of studying with SCMOI?**

Many – dedicated instructors; recognised qualifications; distance delivery across Australasia; a thorough grounding in the teaching of the Orthodox Church; development of transferrable skills as a critical thinker, leader, communicator and advocate; plus growth in your faith and Christian commitment.

Office Times:

December 2018 – January 2019

Please note that the SCMOI Office will be CLOSED from 10–20 December; OPEN 21 & 24 December; then CLOSED 25 December–8 January 2019. From 9 January 2019, the Office will be open as usual.

Units offered Semester 1, 2019

MINS1101/8209 **Interpreting the Old Testament**

Lecturer: Rev. Dr Peter A.L. Hill

MINS1601 **Spirituality for 21st Century Disciples**

Lecturer: Very Rev. Nemanja Mrdjenovic

MINS2218 **I & II Corinthians**

Lecturer: Rev. Dr Peter A.L. Hill

MINS 8201 & 8202 **Guided Study A & B**

Supervision by arrangement

Provisional timetable at www.scmoi.edu.au/2019a

2019 enrolments now open



Enrol with SCMOI for undergraduate and postgraduate awards (DipMin, AssocMin, BMin, GradCertMin and GradDipMin). Audit options also available.

Units are delivered at distance (online) and fully-supported by the

ACD learning platform and extensive study resources.

Australian residents are eligible for FEE-HELP.

Don't delay! Start your educational journey today by contacting SCMOI.

SCMOI Semester 1 enrolment closes 8 February 2019.

Visit www.scmoi.edu.au

Email us at info@scmoi.edu.au

Phone us (office hours) on (08) 8252 9440



SCMOI is the theological and higher education institute of the Australian and New Zealand Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia. Undergraduate and postgraduate award courses are delivered by arrangement with the Adelaide College of Divinity and the Uniting College for Leadership and Theology.

T: +61 (08) 8252 9440

E: info@scmoi.edu.au

P.O. Box 4019, Elizabeth South SA 5112



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ABN: 63 623 975 913

www.scmoi.edu.au