



ROMANIAN ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE IN THE AMERICAS
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The Faith

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ELECTRONIC BULLETIN
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MESSAGE FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

Message on the Feast of Pentecost



His Eminence Archbishop Nicolae

Pentecost is the celebration of coming into the world of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit who "moved upon the face of the waters" during the first moments of creation is now sent to complete the redemptive work of the Risen Christ who ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. The Spirit comes to offer to each of us the fruit of this work.

At Pentecost, the Spirit comes upon the disciples and makes them the Body of Christ. This new reality which unites heaven and earth, God and people is the Church, His Bride. And this new reality - the Church—is born from a new power, the power of endless love of God who came to release man from helplessness and to give him eternity through overcoming "death by death." The Church was born at Pentecost as a reality imbued with a heavenly power so that she would preserve and share it with the world. The Church is thus the bearer of this love which is always renewed. This is because the Holy Spirit always descends upon the Church, bringing Christ and offering Him to those who are thirsty and hungry for

Him. The Spirit descends when invoked through prayers, and remains in the souls of those who are clean and reconciled with God and the neighbors. As Christians, we are members of the Church of Christ, that was founded at Pentecost; we are part of this new reality and we are called to witness it and to spread it into the world. Only he who abides in the love of Christ and the peace of the Holy Spirit that dwells in the Church is worthy to accomplish this mission. The contemporary world needs *peace* and *love* that can only come from heaven, and which the true Christian ought to offer his neighbor. Peace and love as gifts of the Holy Spirit, which we receive in the Church, are our offerings to the neighbor and the emblems of our Christian witness.

May God the Father renew the sending of the Holy Spirit and make us partakers of the Spirit's countless gifts.

+ NICOLAE
Archbishop of the Romanian
Orthodox Archdiocese
in the Americas





NEWS FROM THE ROMANIAN PATRIARCHATE

His Grace Irineu Pop – the New Archbishop of Alba Iulia



*His Grace Irineu Pop –
The Newly Elected Archbishop of Alba Iulia*

The Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church, convened on Thursday, May 19, 2011, and elected by secret ballot His Grace Irineu Pop Bistriteanul (formally Auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Vad, Cluj and Feleac), for the See of Archbishop of Alba Iulia, as reported by the Press Office of the Romanian Patriarchate. The enthronement ceremony of the new Archbishop of Alba Iulia is scheduled to take place at the "Reintregirea" (Reunification) Cathedral of Alba Iulia on Sunday, June 5, 2011. The newly elected Archbishop declared that the main priorities of his mission in Alba Iulia include the continuation of the pastoral activities—particularly the social and philanthropic mission—started by his predecessor, His Eminence Andrei, Metropolitan of Cluj. He also expressed a particular interest in supporting the theological schools, as well as in promoting culture - , Radio Trinitas reports.

His Grace Irineu Pop was born on July 2, 1953, in the village of Băsești (Maramureș County), and received the baptismal name of Ionel. A graduate of the Faculty of Theology in Bucharest (class of 1978) he became a monk at the monastery of Sinaia (Prahova County), receiving the monastic name of Irineu. In

October 1990 he earned the title of "Doctor of Theology" granted by the Faculty of Theology in Bucharest. After serving as a priest at the Patriarchal Cathedral in Bucharest for a brief period of time, he was appointed Superior of the Romanian Orthodox settlements in Jerusalem and Jordan and the representative of the Romanian Church near the Patriarchate of Jerusalem. In October 1990 he was elected Assistant Bishop to the Archdiocese of Cluj, receiving the title of "Bistriteanul". As a professor of Christian Ethics and Orthodox Spirituality at the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of Cluj-Napoca, as well as an instructor of History of Christian Civilization at the Faculty of Law of the "Dimitrie Cantemir" University, he has developed an impressive scientific research work, having authored a large number of books, studies and articles. In 2004, the Romanian Presidency awarded him the Order of Cultural Merit in the rank of Commander and, in 2010, the "Babes-Bolyai" University of Cluj-Napoca awarded him the title of "Professor Honoris Causa".

The editorial team of The FAITH Electronic Bulletin wishes the new archbishop of Alba Iulia a long, and fruitful apostolate! May God grant him many years!

Source: www.basilica.ro



Canonization of St. Irodion of Lainici



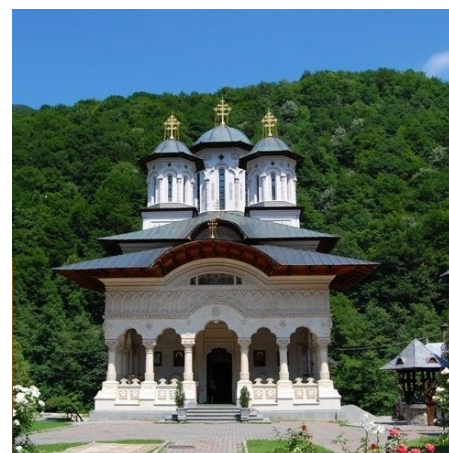
*Monastery of Lainici.
Canonization of St. Irodion. May 1, 2011*

Romanian Orthodox Church proclaimed, Sunday, May 1, 2011, the official canonization of Venerable Irodion (Herodion), former abbot of Lainici Monastery and spiritual father of St. Hierarch Calinic of Cernica - announces the Basilica Press Agency. The event took place at the Monastery of Lainici, on Jiu Valley, and was decided by the Holy Synod in October 2010. An impressive group of hierarchs, priests and deacons headed by His Beatitude concelebrated the Divine Liturgy. His Grace, Emilian Lovisteanul,

Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Râmnic, read the Tomos of canonization, issued by the Holy Synod. On this occasion, Patriarch Daniel also consecrated the new church of the monastery. At the end of the festival, the icon and the shrine containing the relics of St. Irodion were worn in procession by monks and exposed for veneration in the newly consecrated church. Saint Irodion was born in Bucharest in 1821, and his baptismal name was John. At the age of 20 years, he entered the Monastery of Cernica

whose abbot at that time was St. Calinic. Irodion (Herodion), as he was named at his tonsure, was much loved by the whole monastic congregation, having also earned through his life pure and his spiritual efforts the respect and appreciation of Elder Calinic. When the latter became bishop of Râmnic, St. Irodion was summoned to help him restore his diocese. Irodion was thus ordained deacon and then priest for the Hermitage of Lainici, where he was appointed abbot, becoming a spiritual father and confessor to St. Calinic who used to call him the "Morning Star of Lainici". He shepherded the her-

mitage (with short intermissions) for almost 41 years, until 1900 when he fell asleep in the Lord. Due to his pure life, God made him worthy to work miracles while he was still alive. Following his death, St. Irodion's tomb became a place where numerous miracles were performed: evil spirits were cast out of demoniacs, and people from all over the country came there to find relief of their pains, troubles and sufferings. This year, on May 3, Saint Irodion was celebrated for the first time as a Saint throughout the Romanian Orthodox Church.
Source: www.basilica.ro



Monastery of Lainici. The Church



The relations between the Patriarchates of Jerusalem and Romania

During its special session of May 19 -20, 2011, the Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church took act and analyzed the recent decisions of the Holy Synod of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, as published on its official site on May 9, 2011 - reports the Basilica Press Agency. Although Jerusalem's decisions are considered "contradictory to the spirit of brotherly communion between the sister Orthodox

Churches," the Holy Synod of the Romanian Church has nevertheless decided not to break up communion with the Patriarchate of Jerusalem. Instead, a delegation was assigned with the official mandate to conduct a formal dialogue with the Patriarchate of Jerusalem to address the contentious issue of the Romanian Establishment at Jericho, which is in dispute.

Source: www.basilica.ro



Religious Studies Introduced in Russian Schools

In March 2011, the Russian minister of Education announced the introduction of the religion in all the schools across the country, beginning in 2012, informs Asia News Agency. Thus, religion gains a permanent status in the educational curriculum of the primary and secondary levels. However, the courses will be taught only over the length of onese semester. The Orthodox Church requested that the period be extended over the whole year. No religious conflicts

were reported during the previous one year trial. It was rather noted that the children had an improved moral behavior. Religious education is a fundamental necessity, a life and death issue; if Russia does not experience a true "moral revolution, the country will not survive for much longer" - underscored Father Vsevolod Chaplin, the director of the Department for Relations with Society of the Patriarchate of Moscow.

Source: www.asianews.com

WORLD ORTHODOXY



Class of Religion in Russia



Metropolitan Epiphanius of Bryoula Fell Asleep in the Lord



Metropolitan Epiphanius Perialas
(1935–2011)

Metropolitan Epiphanius (Perialas) of Bryoula, former Metropolitan of Spain and Portugal, fell asleep in the Lord on Monday, May 9, 2011 following a long fight with cancer. Metropolitan Epiphanius, known in the world as Constantine Perialas, was born in Ithaca, New York, in 1935. He served for 30 years as a professor of speech and communications at Ithaca College, being its vice president for a period. In 1997, the college established the Perialas Prize in his honor. The prize is given to three students annually. In 1984 he was

ordained to the priesthood (taking at that time the name Epiphanius) and served in a variety of parishes. In 2003, the Holy Synod of the Ecumenical Patriarchate elected Fr. Epiphanius as the first bishop of the newly-established Metropolis of Spain and Portugal. He ruled it until 2007, when he returned to the U.S., and spent here his last years. His funerals were held at St. Catherine Greek Orthodox Church in Ithaca, NY., Saturday, May 14, 2011. May God rest his soul in peace!

Source: www.goarch

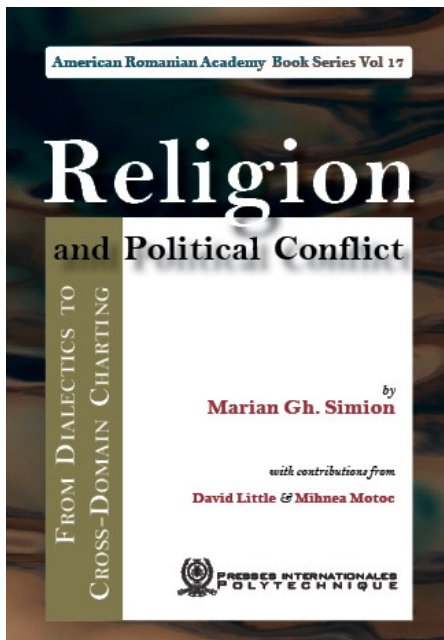


An Important Book on Religion and Political Conflict

Marian Gh. Simion, PhD (ABD), a young Romanian scholar, has authored an important book in the field of political sciences - the Hellenic College website announces. Bearing the title *Religion and Political Conflict: From Dialectics to Cross-Domain Charting*, the volume was published by the University of Montreal and the American Romanian Academy of Arts and Sciences. Simion serves as Adjunct Instructor at Hellenic College in Brookline, MA, and Assistant Director of the Boston Theological Institute. The first part of this book contains the proceedings of a lecture series on religion and conflict which was organized by Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations, and includes a keynote lecture by Marian Simion, with a response by Professor David Little of Harvard University, and introductory remarks offered by Ambassador Mihnea Moțoc (former Romanian Ambassador to the UN). Authored entirely by Marian Gh. Simion, the second part of the volume includes an extensive cross-examination of

collective violence and proposes a new, integrative, approach to the topic, from the perspective of the author's two areas of competence: Orthodox theology and political sciences. Blending, in an intelligent and innovative manner, religious wisdom with political theory, Simion proves to be equally a deep theologian and a redoubtable political analyst. The preface of the book is written by His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. Prominent personalities in this field of research, such as Dr. Scott Appleby of Notre Dame University, Dr. Yoon Young-Kwan from Seoul National University (former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea), etc., have enthusiastically endorsed the volume. "Marian Simion created a masterful analysis of religion and conflict," says Dr. Marc Gopin at George Mason University. "It is a major contribution to the field," the renowned scholar added. Congratulations, Marian Simion!

Source: www.hchc.edu/hellenic



Relics of St. Nectarios Arrive in Our Archdiocese

From May 20 through June 6, 2011, the Orthodox faithful of our parishes of Central and Eastern USA enjoy the chance to venerate the relics of St. Nectarios of Aegina, from the Radu Voda Monastery in Bucharest. Recognized for their healing powers, the relics of St. Nectarios have been brought to the USA by a delegation from the Archdiocese of Bucharest, headed by His Grace Vicar Bishop Varsanufie Prahoveanul. In June, the relics of Saint Nectarios will go to

the following parishes: June 1 to June 2 - St. Nicholas Church, New York, NY, June 3 - Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, Victor (Rochester), NY; June 4 and 5 - St. Demetrios the New Monastery in Middletown, NY, whose church will be consecrated on this occasion; June 6 - St. Paraskeva Church, Wakefield, MA. St. Nektarios is best known as the great healer of one of the most terrible illnesses : cancer.

Source: www.romarch.org



Holy Cross Monastery of Toronto

Over June 3 - 6, 2011, Holy Cross Monastery of Toronto, Canada, organizes a spring pilgrimage to three major Catholic shrines in Quebec: Notre-Dame-du-Cap (Trois-

Rivières), Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré and St. Joseph's Oratory in Montréal. For details and reservations please contact Father Hierodeacon Mardarie at tel. 647-436-9786.



EMINESCU recited by Ion Caramitru

Sunday, June 26, 2011 at 2 pm, in the hall of the Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia, PA, will take place an important cultural event: EMINESCU recited by Ion Caramitru, with music performed by clarinetist Aurelian Octav Popa. This unique show envisioned by Caramitru includes excerpts from the poetry, prose and philosophy of the great Romanian poet, and will be completed by the musical discourse of Maestro Popa's clarinet, which is intended to serve as a window through the poetry itself.

Reputed Romanian stage and film actor and director, Ion Caramitru is currently the director of the Bucharest National Theatre and the president of UNITER (the Theater Union of Romania). Alongside his rich activities as a theater, musical and

opera director, Ion Caramitru performed leading roles in many theater and film productions. Between 1996 and 2000, he led the Ministry of Culture.

Romanian clarinet player, composer and prestigious conductor, Aurelian-Octav Popa has been a soloist of the "George Enescu" Philharmonic in Bucharest since 1962, and, since 1990, the conductor of the Constanta Philharmonic, of his own Chamber Orchestra, "Quodlibet Musicum," as well as of the Brass Ensemble the "George Enescu" Philharmonic. He played under the baton of internationally acclaimed composers and conductors, including the Romanian premiere of Copland's *Concerto* conducted by the famous American composer himself.

LIFE IN OUR ARCHDIOCESE



St. Nectarios of Aegina



Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Church in Philadelphia, PA

Pastoral Itinerary of His Eminence Nicolae for the Month of June



His Eminence Archbishop Nicolae

His Eminence Archbishop Nicolae will celebrate the feast of the Ascension of the Lord on June 2, 2011 at St. Nicholas Church in Woodside, NY. On the following Sunday, June 5, 2011, the head of our Church will consecrate the monastery Church of St. Demetrios the New in Middletown, NY, which is dedicated to the Ascension of Our Lord. On the Feast of Pentecost, June 12, His Eminence will be among the faithful of Holy Trinity

Church in Troy, MI, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the consecration of their church. The next Sunday, June 19, the Archbishop will perform the hierarchical Divine Liturgy in Toronto, ON, at All Saints Church, on the occasion of its patron's day. The Feast day of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist will be celebrated by Archbishop Nicolae at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Montreal, Sunday, June 26, 2011.



Archdiocese Summer Camp 2011



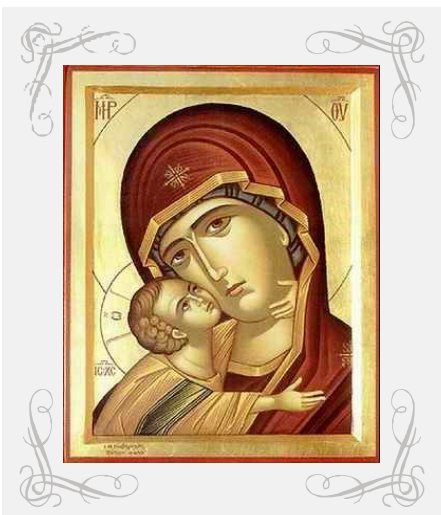
*The Orthodox youth camp
in Emlenton, Pennsylvania*

Between August 20 and September 2, 2011, the Romanian Orthodox Archdiocese in the Americas organizes the eighth edition of the Orthodox camp for children. The camp will be held this year in Emlenton, Pennsylvania (110 All Saints Road, Emlenton, PA 16373) and will give the opportunity to 80 children of 7 years and up to participate. The "Sacraments of Holy Baptism and Holy Matrimony and the youth today" will be this year's theme. The program includes participation at morning and evening services, painting icons on glass, music and Romanian language classes, reading

and opened discussions, activities like swimming, volleyball, soccer, hiking and more. There will be two weeks in two age categories: August 20 and 26 - ages 14 to 18 years old, and August 27 and September 2 - ages 7 to 13 years old. Price: \$ 250.00/children for a week. This includes accommodation, meals and participation in all provided programs. The deadline for registration is July 21, 2010. More information about the camp and the proposed projects will follow. For details please contact Fr. Daniel Adrian Ene at tel. 1 (585) 705-9288.



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