

"But seek ye first
the kingdom of God,
and his righteousness;
and all these things
shall be added unto you."

— Matthew 6,33



The 5th International Symposium on Biblical Exegesis

TIMIȘOARA, ROMANIA
13–15 NOVEMBER 2025



יְשָׁה רְצוֹנָךְ

"Thy Will Be Done (Mt 6:10)"
The Sermon on the Mount
Throughout Centuries

γενηθήτω τὸ θέλημά σου

link: meet.google.com/odx-xyvt-ktr



ISBE Committee

Fr. Dr. Ioan Mihoc
(Timișoara, Romania)

Fr. Dr. John Applegate
(Manchester, United Kingdom)

Fr. Dr. Iosif Stancovici
(Timișoara, Romania)

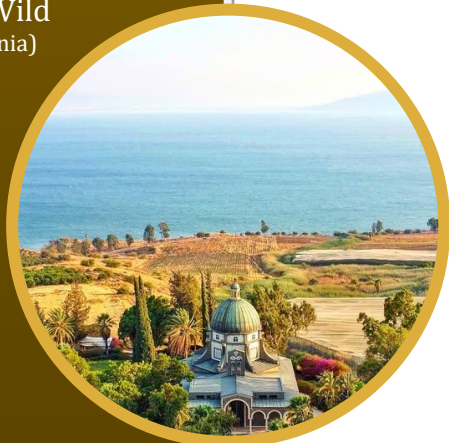


with the assistance of

Fr. Dr. Constantin Jinga
(Timișoara, Romania)

Fr. Dr. Srećko Koralija
(Amsterdam, the Netherlands)

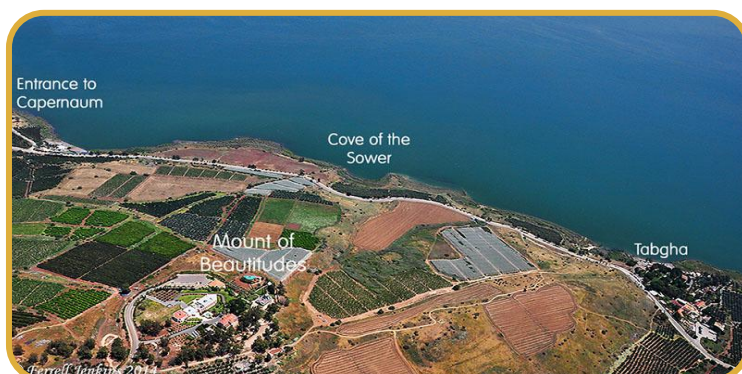
Fr. Dr. Marian Vild
(Bucharest, Romania)



Topics

Sermon on the Mount/Plain

- in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, as well as other New Testament writings
- and the Old Testament writings, particularly the Book of Proverbs and the Book of Psalms
- and its reverberations in early Jewish and Christian texts
- and sacred geographical studies
- preserving the historical significance of the Mount of Beatitudes, Tabgha, and the surroundings
- and the contextual elements in archaeological research and biblical exegesis
- in liturgy, hymnography and poetry
- in contemporary homiletics
- and visual representations



**“Avinu shebashamayim
yitkadash shemekha. Tavo
malkhutekha ye’aseh r’tzonekha
ka’asher bashamayim gam
ba’aretz. Et-lechem chukeinu
ten-lanu hayyom. Um’chal-lanu
al-chobotenu ka’asher machalnu
gam-anachnu l’chayavenu.
Ve’al-tevieinu lidei nissayon ki
im-t’chaltzeinu min-hara.
Ki lechah hamamlakhah
v’hagevurah v’hatiferet l’olemei
olamim. Amen.”**

English Transliteration of the Hebrew Text:

The Lord’s Prayer

אָבִינוּ שְׁפָשְׁמִים יִתְקַדֵּשׁ שְׁמֶךָ:
תָּבֹא מַלְכוּתְךָ יְיָשֶׁה רְצוֹנְךָ
כַּאֲשֶׁר בְּשָׁמַיִם גַּם בָּאָרֶץ:
אֶת-לֶחֶם חֻקֵּנוּ תֵן-לָנוּ הַיּוֹם:
וּמַחֲלֵ-לָנוּ עַל-חֻבוֹתֵינוּ
כַּאֲשֶׁר מַחֲלָנוּ גַם-אֲנַחְנוּ לַחַיָּבֵינוּ:
וְאַל-תְּבִיאֵנוּ לִידֵי נִסְיוֹן
כִּי אִם-תַּחֲלֹצֵנוּ מִן-הָרָע:
כִּי לְךָ הַמַּמְלָכָה וְהַגְּבוּרָה
וְהַתְּפָאֶרֶת לְעוֹלָמֵי עוֹלָמִים אָמֵן:

Hebrew translation by Franz Delitzsch, Berit Khadasha (Leipzig, Germany, 1861)

**“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come. Your will be
done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom
and the power and the
glory forever. Amen.”**

Matthew 6:9-13

Faculty of Letters, History, Philosophy and Theology
West University of Timișoara, Romania
November 13–15, 2025, online.

ISBE 2025

“Thy will be done (Mt 6:10): The Sermon on the Mount throughout centuries”

SCHEDULE

November 13 (Thursday)	November 14 (Friday)	November 15 (Saturday)
Symposium Inauguration and Session 1 (10:00–12:00 / English) Chair: Constantin Jinga	Session 4 (10:00–12:00 / English) Chair: John Applegate	Session 7 (10:00–12:00 / English) Chair: Iosif Stancovici
10:20 Srećko Koralija (Toulouse) [09:20]	10:00 Jerzy Ostapczuk (Warsaw) [09:00]	10:00 Daniel Mihoc (Sibiu)
10:40 John Applegate (Manchester) [08:40]	10:20 Marian Vild (Bucharest)	10:20 Alexandru Mihăilă (Bucharest)
11:00 Ioan Mihoc (Timișoara)	10:40 Mihai Handaric (Arad)	10:40 Yuri Iliev (Sofia)
11:20 Iosif Stancovici (Timișoara/Sibiu)	11:00 Mihailo Milenković (Belgrade) [10:00]	11:00 Alexandru Anastasiu (Râmnicu Vâlcea)
11:40 Q&A	11:20 Q&A	11:20 Q&A
Session 2 (14:00–16:00 / English) Chair: Srećko Koralija	Session 5 (14:00–15:20 / Romanian) Chair: Marian Vild	Session 8 (12:00–13:20 / Romanian) Chair: Ioan Mihoc
14:00 Capodistrias Hämmerli (Fribourg) [13:00]	14:00 Stelian Pașca-Tușa & Gabriel Solomon (Cluj)	12:00 Eusebiu Borca (Baia Mare)
14:20 Ionuț Băncilă (Berlin) [13:20]	14:20 Simion Anastasoae (Bucharest)	12:20 Daniel Enea (Timișoara)
14:40 Nenad Filipović (Belgrade) [13:40]	14:40 Daniel Hlodec (Timișoara)	12:40 George Antoniu Nicoară (Timișoara)
15:00 Q&A	15:00 Q&A	13:00 Q&A and Summary of the Conference Day 3
Session 3 (16:00–17:20 / English) Chair: Maria Cioată	Session 6 (16:00–17:20 / English) Chair: Capodistrias Hämmerli	Summary of the Conference (13:20 / English) Plenary Session
16:00 Wojciech Kosek (Krakow) [15:00]	16:00 Marek Baraniak (Warsaw) [15:00]	
16:20 Linda Saskia Menczel (Timișoara)	16:20 Olimpiu Nicolae Benea (Cluj)	
16:40 Ljubica Jovanović (Washington) [09:40]	16:40 Ralitsa Kostadinova (Sofia)	
17:00 Q&A	17:00 Q&A	
17:20 Summary of the Conference Day 1	17:00 Summary of the Conference Day 2	



▲ The Sermon on the Mount, a fresco by Franz Xaver Kirchebner, located in the Parish Church of Saint Ulrich (Ortisei) in Gröden / Val Gardena / Gherdëina, South Tyrol, Italy. The church was built in the late 18th century.

CONFERENCE DAY 1 Thursday, November 13th, 2025

10:00 Symposium Inauguration with welcome speeches

- His Eminence, the Most Reverend **Ioan Selejan**, Archbishop of Timișoara and Metropolitan of Banat.
- Fr. Dr. **Constantin Jinga**, Associate Professor in Old Testament Studies. Faculty of Letters, History, Philosophy and Theology, West University of Timișoara.
- Fr. Dr. **Srećko Koralija**: *Abun d'bashmaya*, "The Lord's Prayer" from the Peshitta (Syriac-Aramaic).

10:20 First Session

- Chair: Fr. Dr. Constantin Jinga
- Working Language: English

10:20 Fr. Dr. **Srećko Koralija**, Director of the Research Institute (DRI), Domuni Universitas, Toulouse, France.

"The Sermon on the Mount as a Revelation of Sacred Time and Human Participation in Eternity"

10:40 Fr. Dr. **John Applegate**, Archdeacon Emeritus. Honorary Research Fellow in Religions and Theology, University of Manchester, United Kingdom.

"How Might an Intersectional Reading of Matthew 5:8 Contribute to Our Understanding?"

11:00 Fr. Dr. **Ioan Mihoc**, Lecturer in New Testament Studies. Faculty of Letters, History, Philosophy and Theology, West University of Timișoara, Romania.

"Meekness and Inheritance:
A Biblical and Patristic Analysis"

11:20 Fr. Dr. **Iosif Stancovici**, Associate Lecturer. St. Andrei Șaguna Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania.

"From Joseph to the Beatitudes:
Typology, Wisdom, and the Theology of Blessedness"

11:40 Discussions (Q & A)

Lunch Break



14:00 Second Session

- Chair: Fr. Dr. Srećko Koralija
- Working Language: English

14:00 Fr. **Capodistrias Hämmerli**, Ph.D. candidate.
Theologische Fakultät. University of Fribourg,
Switzerland.

“»Love Your Enemies« (Matthew 5:43-48):
Old Testament Foundations and Patristic Reconciliation
of Biblical Tensions”

14:20 Fr. Dr. **Ionuț Daniel Băncilă**, Lecturer in
Religious Studies. Theologische Fakultät, Humboldt
Universität, Berlin, Germany.

“The Anti-Beatitudes in the Mandaean *Book of John*:
A Comparative Theological Analysis”

14:40 **Nenad Filipović**, Ph.D. candidate. Faculty of
Orthodox Theology, University of Belgrade, Serbia.

“Ascetic reception of Old Testament
in John Chrysostom’s *Homilies on Matthew 15–23*
(Matt 5–7)”

15:00 Discussions (Q & A)

Break 15:20–16:00

16:00 Third Session

- Chair: Dr. Maria Cioată (University of Manchester)
- Working Language: English

16:00 Dr. **Wojciech Kosek**, Th.D. Faculty of Theology,
Pontifical University of John Paul II, Kraków, Poland.

“Genesis 15 as a Proto-Typological Foundation
for the Covenant Passages of Exodus and John”



▲ The 5th-century mosaic from a church on the shore of the Sea of Galilee portrays a basket filled with loaves and flanked by two fish, a symbol of Christ's miracle of feeding the five thousand.

16:20 Dr. **Linda Saskia Menczel**, Vice President of
the Orthodox Women's Society of Timișoara.
Member of the Union of Romanian Visual Artists.

“The Sermon on the Mount in Visual Art:
Historical Traditions
and a Contemporary Sculptural Take”

16:40 Dr. **Ljubica Jovanović**, American Public
University System, Charles Town, West Virginia,
United States.

“Serbian Rulers as Caregivers
in the Image of Joseph of Genesis”

17:00 Discussions (Q & A)

17:20 Summary of the Conference Day 1.

▼ The Sermon on the Mount of Olives, a 6th-century Byzantine mosaic in Sant'Apollinare Nuovo, Ravenna, Italy, depicts Jesus Christ teaching His disciples in a scene characteristic of early Byzantine artistry.



CONFERENCE DAY 2

Friday, November 14th, 2025

10:00 Fourth Session

- Chair: Fr. Dr. John Applegate
- Working Language: English

10:00 Dr. **Jerzy Ostapczuk**, Associate Professor and Dean of the Christian Academy of Theology in Warsaw (ChAT), Poland.

“Subscriptions to the Gospels and Final Numeric Notations in Greek, Slavonic, and Romanian Manuscript Traditions”

10:20 Fr. Dr. **Marian Vild**, Associate Professor in New Testament Studies. Justinian the Patriarch Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Bucharest, Romania.

“»Thy Will Be Done«: Obedience as the Core of Pauline Spirituality”

10:40 Dr. **Mihai Handaric**, Associate Professor in Old Testament Studies. Faculty of Humanistic and Social Sciences, Aurel Vlaicu University of Arad, Romania.

“The First Beatitude of the Sermon on the Mount: The Essence of Christ’s Teaching”

11:00 **Mihailo Milenković**, Ph.D. candidate. Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Belgrade, Serbia.

“Saint John Chrysostom on the Beatitudes: Mediating Between Christian Revelation and Greek Ethical Philosophy”

11:20 Discussions (Q & A) Lunch Break

14:00 Fifth Session

- Chair: Fr. Dr. Marian Vild
- Working Language: Romanian/English

14:00 Fr. Dr. **Stelian Pașca-Tușa**, Lecturer in Old Testament Studies, and **Ștefan Gabriel Solomon**, Associate lecturer in Byzantine Iconography. Faculty of Orthodox Theology Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

“»The Blessed Man« and the »Two Ways« of Psalm 1: New Artistic Representations in Byzantine Form of Patristic Exegesis”

14:20 Fr. **Simion Anastasoae**, Ph.D. candidate. Justinian the Patriarch Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Bucharest, Romania.

“Knowledge and Glory in Romans 1:21: A Study in Pauline Theological Anthropology”

14:40 Fr. Dr. **Daniel Hlodec**, Deputy Director of the Saint Hierarch Anthimos the Iberian Orthodox Theological High School in Timișoara, Romania.

“The Moral Significance of the Beatitudes in the Moral and Spiritual Formation of Youth”

15:00 Discussions (Q & A) Break 15:20–16:00

16:00 Sixth Session

- Chair: Fr. Capodistrias Hämmerli
- Working Language: English

16:00 Dr. **Marek I. Baraniak**, Associate Professor of Ancient Orientalistics. Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Warsaw, Poland.

“Psalm 1 and the Beatitudes (Mt 5:3–12): A Rhetorical Perspective”

16:20 Fr. Dr. **Olimpiu Nicolae Benea**, Associate Professor in New Testament Studies. Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Babeș-Bolyai University of Cluj Napoca, Romania.

“»Thy Will Be Done, on Earth as It Is in Heaven« (Mt 6:10): The Divine Will in Jewish Tradition, the Sermon on the Mount, and the Cosmic Christology of Ephesians and Colossians”

16:40 **Ralitsa Kostadinova**, Ph.D. candidate. Faculty of Theology, St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia, Bulgaria.

“The Sermon on the Mount and the Economy of the Holy Spirit: Unity within the Divine Plan of Salvation”

17:00 Discussions (Q & A) 17:20 Summary of the Conference Day 2.

▼ Jankos of Kobatz’s Gospel of Matthew — an illuminated Greek manuscript on paper and vellum, containing the Calendar of Services, Apolyses, and the Gospel of Saint Matthew, produced in Serbia between the 12th and 16th centuries.





▲ The Church of the Beatitudes (Hebrew: כְּנֶסֶת הַר הַבִּטּוּתִים) is a Roman Catholic church situated on the Mount of Beatitudes, overlooking the Sea of Galilee near Tabgha and Capernaum in northern Israel.

CONFERENCE DAY 3 Saturday, November 15th, 2025

10:00 Seventh Session

- Chair: Fr. Dr. Iosif Stancovici
- Working Language: English

10:00 Dr. Daniel Mihoc, Associate Professor in New Testament Studies. St. Andrei Șaguna Faculty of Orthodox Theology, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania.

“From »Thy Will Be Done« (Mt 6:10; Lk 11:3)
to »We Ought to Obey God« (Acts 5:29):
Lessons from the Book of Acts”

10:20 Dr. Alexandru Mihăilă, Associate Professor in Old Testament Studies. Justinian the Patriarch Faculty of Orthodox Theology, University of Bucharest, Romania.

“Biblical Interpretation
in Eusebius of Caesarea’s
Demonstratio evangelica”

10:40 Yuri Iliev, Ph.D. candidate. Faculty of Theology, St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia, Bulgaria.

“The Miracle of the Transformation of the Holy Gifts:
A Liturgical and Theological Reflection”

11:00 Fr. Dr. Alexandru Anastasiu, Th.D., Physician, Priest of the Archdiocese of Râmnic, Romanian Orthodox Church.

“The Rise from Chaos to Glory through the Beatitudes:
A Philocalical Perspective”

11:20 Discussions (Q & A)
Short break 11:20-11:40

12:00 Eighth Session

- Chair: Fr. Dr. Ioan Mihoc
- Working Language: English/Romanian

12:00 Dr. Eusebiu Borca, Lecturer in Old Testament Studies. Justinian the Archbishop Faculty of Letters, North University Centre of Baia Mare, Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania.

The Terms מְלָכָה / מְלֻכּוֹת in the Pentateuch
as Foreshadowing the Kingdom
Proclaimed by Christ the Savior”

12:20 Fr. Dr. Daniel Enea, Lecturer in Patristic Studies. Faculty of Letters, History, Philosophy and Theology, West University of Timișoara, Romania.

“Physical and Spiritual Nourishment:
Patristic Exegesis of the Miracle
of the Multiplication of the Loaves”

12:40 George Antoniu Nicoară, Ph.D. candidate. Faculty of Letters, History, Philosophy and Theology, West University of Timișoara, Romania.

“Ἀγαπάτε τοὺς ἐχθροὺς ὑμῶν (Matthew 5:44):
The Commandment of Perfection
as the Defining Mark of the Christian Ethos”

13:00 Discussions (Q & A)
13:20 Summary of the Conference.