

ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑ ΘΕΟΛΟΓΙΚΩΝ ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ ΒΟΛΟΥ

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ - ΑΝΑΠΗΡΙΑ - ΚΟΙΝΩΝΙΑ

ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΟ ΣΥΝΕΔΡΙΟ
ΜΕ ΔΙΕΘΝΗ ΣΥΜΜΕΤΟΧΗ

Σάββατο 30 Μαρτίου 2019

Συνεδριακό Κέντρο Θεσσαλίας, Μελισσάτικα, Βόλος

PROGRAM - ABSTRACTS - CVs

Συνδιοργάνωση



ΑΚΑΔΗΜΙΑ
ΘΕΟΛΟΓΙΚΩΝ
ΣΠΟΥΔΩΝ
ΒΟΛΟΥ



ΚΕΝΤΡΟ ΣΩΜΑΤΙΚΗΣ &
ΨΥΧΟΛΟΓΙΚΗΣ ΥΠΟΚΛΗΡΗΣΗΣ



Το εικαστικό έργο στην αφίσα είναι της Ιωάννας Τερλίδου

9.30 Registration

10.00 Starting, Welcoming Greetings

10.30 - 12.00 A. Psychosocial Dimension of Disability

Chair: Rev. Dr. Amfilochios Miltos,

Head, Church of Evangelistria Nea Ionia, Volos

10.30 - 10.50 Dr. Galini Sapountzaki, Sign Language Linguist, Assistant Professor of Special Education, Pedagogical Department, University of Thessaly,
Self-identification and self-image of people with hearing impaired problems

10.50 - 11.10 Ioulia Nissiotou, Paediatricist, Assistant Professor of the Pedagogical Department of Special Education of the University of Thessaly,
The Doctor as a companion of the disabled child and his / her parents

11.10 - 11.30 Ioanna Georgiadou, Social Clinic Psychologist MSc, Systemic Psychotherapist, Doctoral Candidate of the University of Thessaly,
Self-assistance and empowerment of people with mobility disabilities

11.30 - 12.00 Discussion

12.00 - 12.30 Coffee break

12.30 - 14.00 B. Practices of integration and accessibility of persons with disabilities in the liturgical texts and the body of the Church

Chair: Rosana Popota, Journalist

12.30 - 12.50 Rev. Anargyros Sigalas, Parish Priest, Agioi Pantes Church Kallithea, Athens,
Deaf scouts ... meaningful: the example of the parish of deaf people

12.50 - 13.10 Rev. Dr. Ioannis Karamouzis, Priest, Holy Metropolis of Chalkida, Associate of the Synodic Committee of the Inter-Orthodox and Inter-Christian Relations, Lecturer at the distance postgraduate department of Special Education of the University of Nicosia,
Psychosocial approach to deafness

13.10 - 13.30 Rev. Konstantinos Papanikolaou, MA, Candidate Winchester University, former Director of IEA, Member of the EASPD Standing Committee on Employment, OLYMPIA, *Facilitating the access of people with disabilities to the Church and work through the Internet*

13.30 - 14.00 Discussion

14.00 - 15.30 Lunch

15.30 - 17.30 C. Round Table discussion: Church and Disability:

Obstacles and Bridges

Chair: Nikos Varalis,

Director, Radio Station of the Holy Metropolis of Demetrias «Orthodox Witness»

Petros Bellos, President of the Association of People with Disabilities in Magnesia, Ippokambos

Ioanna Georgiadou, Social Psychologist, MSc, Systemic Psychotherapist

Rev. Georgios Giannios, Parish Priest, The Annunciation of the Mother of God Church, Metropolis of Demetrias, member of the writers team of the book manual: “The Religious lesson in Special Education”

Christina Lappa, Postdoctoral Researcher in Special Education, University of Thessaly, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University

17.30 - 18.00 Coffee break

18.00 - 20.00 D. Orthodox Theology and Disability

Chair: Dr. Pantelis Kalaitzidis,

Director, Volos Academy for Theological Studies

18.00 - 18.20 Katerina Pekridou, Executive Secretary for the Theological Dialogue Conference of European Churches (CEC, Brussels),

Theology and Disability: Establishing the basis for a meaningful dialogue in the Body of the Church

18.20 - 18.40 Dr. Katerina Tsalampouni, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Theology, University of Thessaloniki, Member of the Board of Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies, “Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame” (Lk 14,21): disability and the Kingdom of God

18.40 - 19.00 Dr. Petre Maican, Aberdeen University (U.K.), *The Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Gifts of Persons with Profound Intellectual Disabilities for the Church: Developing the Pneumatological Dimension of Orthodox Ecclesiology*

19.00 - 19.30 Discussion

19.30 - 19.45 Closing – with the participation of the Metropolitan Ignatius of Demetrias

Sunday, March 31, 2019

7.30 -10.30 Matins and Divine Liturgy, Church of Evangelistria, Nea Ionia, Volos, **with simultaneous performance in Sign Language.**

The conference will take place with simultaneous translation in Sign Language.

Dr. Galini Sapountzaki

Sign Language Linguist, Assistant Professor of Special Education,
Pedagogical Department, University of Thessaly



Self-identification and self-image of people with hearing impaired problems

It is well known, that Social identity is significantly influenced by the type of relationships the individual develops in his / her social environment (Barbas, 2008). In order for a deaf or a hard hearing person to shape his/her social identity that corresponds to his/her real self, the relationships and expectations of the environment must be consistent with the person's personal identity. Under conditions of substantial social and personal interaction, the environment does not necessarily take into account the audiometric data, but the deaf or hard hearing person itself is treated as a potential individual with a complete existential identity. Within the community, self-definition as a Deaf is self-evident and in no way bears a shame, irrespective of the degree of acoustic loss; even functionally listening individuals may be members of the Deaf community. Equally self-evident and automatic is the adoption of deaf-compliant behaviors. Behavior elements that are considered to be very kind in the Deaf community can be a taboo to the wider audience. Conversely, behaviors that are not considered rude to the wider audience might cause problems among the members of the deaf community. In its full expression, the Deaf culture refers to the use of sign language, imprinting the core of its culture and transmitting to its members a common worldview, values and customs of a community to which it is proud to belong (Deaf Pride) and Deafhood, as defined by the social anthropologist Paddy Ladd (2001).

Galini Sapountzaki is a linguist with specialization in sign language, assistant professor at the Pedagogical Department of Special Education of the University of Thessaly. He has graduated from the Department of Philology of the National Technical University of Athens. in 1994, while at the same time she developed her doctoral thesis on theoretical linguistics at Birstol University in England as a student of the Hellenic Foundation of Scholarship (2000-2005). He has worked as a philologist at Secondary Education (Deaf / Hard of Hearing & Intercultural) schools and has worked as an interpreter to and from the Greek Sign Language since 1997. Since 2004, he has served in the Special Education Department of the University of Thessaly in Volos. In relation with the local community, she takes part in information and awareness raising actions on sign language and communication for deaf and hard of hearing people in both school and postgraduate curricula. She is responsible for research and training programs on Greek Sign Language in the Research Committee and the Lifelong Learning Center, respectively, of the University of Thessaly. He has cooperated with Greek and foreign research organizations, particularly in the field of morphology, avatars, sign language typology, teaching methodology, asynchronous language education, grammar and embryology processes etc. Her research work includes book chapters, articles and papers in Greek and international conferences and scientific journals in the field of Linguistics, New Technologies and Didactics.

Ioulia Nessimiotou - Mantelou

Paediatricist, Assistant Professor of the Pedagogical Department of Special Education of the University of Thessaly

The Doctor as a companion of the disabled child and his / her parents



To help and support the disabled child, we need first of all to support its parents. The doctor, and especially the paediatricist, cooperates directly with parents, at least as long as the child is in need and dependent on their love and care, and indirectly with the child.

The family is the first "environment" to provide the necessary experiences for the development of the child's brain, but also to restructure it to incorporate new data and adapt to new conditions, mobilizing the capacity of its nervous system, called plasticity. The family, as a complex organization of relations between its members, must have the potential to cope with two seemingly contradictory missions: on the one hand, to protect the disabled child and to give him the sense and the certainty of "belonging", and on the other to progressively lead it to autonomy and social inclusion.

In this talk, the doctor's interactions with parents, the "different" child, the interdisciplinary team of therapists and the teachers who will take care of the intervention and the social and welfare policy will be presented. The Church can play an important role in organizing effective structures to support the disabled child and its family, as well as changing the way in which disability is considered.

Ioulia Nessimiotou - Mantelou studied at the Medical School of the University of Athens and specialized in Pediatrics. He has completed postgraduate studies in Human Genetics at Lyon I (France) and a doctoral dissertation on "Hematology, Clinical and Genetic Heterogeneity of the B-Mediterranean Anemia in the Prefecture of Magnisia" at the University of Athens. She worked at the Volos Hospital until 2000 and currently she is an Assistant Professor of the Pedagogical Department of Special Education of the University of Thessaly and her teaching and research fields include the genetic and perinatal factors that affect child development, the early intervention for "high risk" children, the coordination of the interdisciplinary intervention team and the cooperation with the family.

Ioanna Georgiadou

Social Clinic Psychologist MSc, Systemic Psychotherapist,
Doctoral Candidate of the University of Thessaly,

Self-assistance and empowerment of people with mobility disabilities



The social model of disability requires scientific and political research to be carried out, to promote scientific progress and to promote the activation of vulnerable groups. The emancipatory research is an example of research with a positive social footprint. Equally, disability counseling strategies are required to ensure that socially inclusive societies are strengthened and organized into offering and assistance systems in line with the principles of respect, shared responsibility and reciprocity. The purpose of the present talk is to highlight the benefits of helping people with mobility disabilities and to refer to the regional role of special mental health as a suggestion of empowerment. It describes the function of a counseling group for people with mobility impairment and the attempt to develop it into a self-help group. The interventions of the systemic counseling of the B Government are exalted as drastic tools for highlighting the inner courage of people with mobility disabilities. Finally, the methodological model of action research is proposed as a model of emancipatory research, which gives the participants the opportunity to exercise control, through systematic feedback.

Ioanna Georgiadou is a Psychology Social Psychologist with postgraduate studies (MSc) in addictions and psychosocial problems. It follows the approach of Systemic Psychotherapy and Counseling to which she has been trained and attempts to integrate it in person-centered psychotherapy. Supports families, couples, adults and teenagers. He particularly loves coordinating counseling groups, supporting parents and other adults. Her interest in the area of disability led her to the area of special education, where she is working on her doctoral dissertation on the issue of the quality of life of people with disabilities. He is a fellow of the Hellenic Scholarship Foundation, and the Onassis Foundation. He has experience in organizing and operating rehabilitation structures and in coordinating support, personal development and self-help groups. He has worked with the University of Thessaly to develop psychosocial support programs for individuals and vulnerable social groups. As a member of the Social Cooperative Society HEALTH ACTION aims at the implementation of psychosocial interventions along with the support in the clinical context. She is currently working and living with her family in Volos.

Rev. Anargyros Sigalas

Parish Priest, Agioi Pantes Church Kallithea, Athens

Deaf hearings ... meaningful: the example of the parish of deaf people



The hearing of deaf people became meaningful from the meeting of Nikos Grayos (later metropolitan of Thiva and Levadia, Nicodemus), with a group of youths before 1940. We heard the deaf people, who spoke to the “Profitis Zacharias” association, founded by grandfather Nikodimos. Deaf “listened” to our meaning when we called them to our parish, which also became their parish in 2010.

We try to “understand” the deaf “hearings” and “listen to” their meanings, by forgiving (living in the same place), within the limits of our parish, living together within the Church, in our common path to the Divine Communion and to the realization of Jesus Christ prayer: “Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one”.

Rev. **Anargyros Sigalas** was born in Athens on 29/11/1963. He is a graduate of the Theological Department of the Theological School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He was ordained in 1989 and since then served as a parish priest in the Agioi Pantes Church in Kallithea (Athens). At the same time, he is a professor in Secondary Education and since 2004 he teaches at the Sivitanidios Public School of Arts and Professions. He is responsible for the youth in his parish and from 2010, when the parish was proclaimed by His Beatitude Archbishop of Athens and All Greece, Hieronymos, as parish of the deaf, he took over the ministry of the deaf community.

Rev. Dr. Ioannis Karamouzis

Priest, Holy Metropolis of Chalkida, Associate of the Synodic Committee of the Inter-Orthodox and Inter-Christian Relations

Psychosocial approach to deafness



Deafness is not considered as a disability but as a cultural particularity. The presence of a deaf child creates a lamentation in the family until it is accepted. But even Deaf him/herself, until he/she accepts his/her own condition he/she has to go through difficult psychological stages. Society also plays its own role. It affects both the dynamics of the family and the deaf him/herself. Finally, the Church plays the most important role for the benefit of the Deaf him/herself.

Rev. **Ioannis Karamouzis**, Preacher of the Holy Metropolis of Chalkida, Associate of the Synodical Committee of the Inter-Orthodox and Inter-Christian Relations, holder of a Ph.D. degree from the Theological School of the University of Thessaloniki, holder of the Post-Doctorate of the Theological School of the University of Athens, fluent in English, French, Italian, Spanish language and the Greek sign language. He directs the Deaf community of Evia and Athens.

Rev. Konstantinos Papanikolaou

MA, Candidate Winchester University, former Director of IEA,
Member of the EASPD Standing Committee on Employment

*OLYMPIA, Facilitating the access of people with disabilities to the
Church and work through the Internet*



Our Church, motivated by Christ's Love and the utilization of specialists, developed a system of health and social care services in Byzantium that formed the basis for modern systems.

For most of the twentieth century, the State was responsible for these services, but these were characterized as controversial. Thus, in recent years, there has been a development of private initiative in this area. Services provided by the private sector are characterized by specialization and flexibility.

The OLYMPIA program is an online 'platform' that includes educational programs and 'disability tools' that can be implemented at parish level. It provides access to methods related to the development of volunteering, support for social inclusion and employment promotion through four seminars and a self-help tool based on the "learn by doing" method.

In particular, seminars help catechists or teachers to integrate disability into the curriculum, and enable non-specialists to set up and coordinate a group of volunteers who support people with disabilities, actively involve people with disabilities in volunteer activities and, finally, to create employment opportunities through social entrepreneurship.

The "8 Steps to Work" self-help tool aims to identify and improve the skills of the unemployed with disabilities, to help with job search and to improve their presence within the work environment.

Rev. **Konstantinos Papanikolaou** is a priest from Thessaloniki and serves as a parish priest at Church of Aghios Panteleimon, Nea Magnissia, of the Holy Metropolis of Neapolis and Stavropoleos. He has studied Sociology and Theology, holds a Masters degree from the University of Wales, Lampeter and a PhD of the University of Winchester. He has attended a series of seminars and conferences on disability, he has served the community of people with disabilities since 1994 from various positions and has organized various actions and programs of Greek and European range. Between 2002 and 2017 he was the director of the Institute for Rehabilitation, where he organized social intervention programs and volunteerism. He is also an employment consultant, qualified for disability, and a member of the Standing Committee on Employment of the European Federation of Providers.

Petros Bellos

President of the Association of People with Disabilities in Magnesia, Ippokambos



Born in Volos in 1971, he lives and works in N. Ionia of Magnesia and since 2000 he is married to Elena Kapaniari.

He is a member of the General Council of the National Federation of the Disabled People and a member of the Board of Directors of the Public Benefit Society of the Municipality of Volos, elected representative of the National Confederation Disabled Persons and the Regional Federation of People with Disabilities of Thessaly.

Every Wednesday, at 12.00-13.00, he presents the radio show "Ippokambos in Action" at the radio station of Holy Metropolis of Dimitriadis and Almyros "Orthodox Witness".

From 1999 to the Summer of 2013 he worked as an Administrative Officer in the Municipality of Southern Pelion, from where he retired.

He is a graduate of the Theological Faculty of the Kapodistrian University of Athens.

Rev. Georgios Giannios

Parish Priest, The Dormition of the Mother of God Church, Metropolis of Demetrias, member of the writers' team of the book manual: "The Religious lesson in Special Education"



Archmandrite **Georgios Giannios**, was born in Volos in 1978. He is a graduate of the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, and a postgraduate student of the Hellenic Open University (Studies in Orthodox Theology), and a graduate of Upper Theoretical (Harmony), while she is peaking the English language.

He was ordained unpaid - volunteer Deacon on February 15th, 2014, while on February 16th he became Archimandrite.

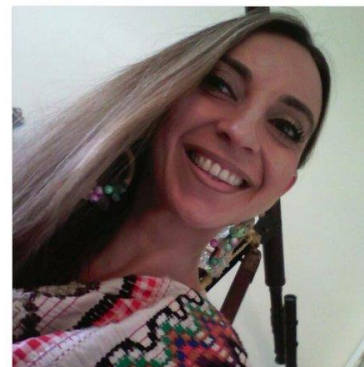
He is the Head of the Church of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary (Efxinoupolis), Head of Youth of Almiros District and animator at the Children's Creative Employment Center of the Municipality of Almyros (since 2000).

He has authored books of theological and folkloric content, and the catechetical textbooks of Holy Metropolis of Demetria, a columnist in the local press while he is a member of the team of writers of the manual "The Religious lesson in Special Education".

On May 7, 2017, His Beatutide the Patriarch of the Romanian Church, Daniel awarded him the "Cross of Saint Anthimus of Iveron".

Christina Lappa

Postdoctoral Researcher in Special Education,
University of Thessaly, Lecturer at the Hellenic Open University



Christina S. Lappa is a Special Needs Education teacher and lecturer at the Hellenic Open University at the Joint Interdisciplinary Post-Graduate Program "Education Sciences: Special Education and Training of People with Problems of Oral and Written Speech". She holds a postgraduate diploma in School Psychology from the University of L'Aquila, Italy. She has completed her doctoral dissertation and post-doctoral research in Special Education at the Pedagogical Department of Special Education of the University of Thessaly. She has been teaching philological courses since 2000 for general education students and since 2010 for pupils with disabilities and special educational needs in Secondary Education schools. He has published several articles in reputable Greek and international scientific journals in the field of Special Education. Her research interests are focused on the education of people with developmental disabilities (mental disability, autism and genetic syndromes), multiple disabilities, diversified teaching, inclusive education, environmental education applications for people with disabilities and special educational needs, aiming at social integration into a variety of contexts.

Katerina Pekridou

Executive Secretary for the Theological Dialogue
Conference of European Churches (CEC, Brussels),

*Theology and Disability: Establishing the basis for a
meaningful dialogue in the Body of the Church*



Disability is an integral part of our societal life, as well as of the ecclesiastical community. It is a matter that concerns us all, since we are members of a society, but also of the Church body. This paper describes the definition problem of disability and its association with the terminology and evolution of the theological discourse on disability in the international, mainly English-speaking, bibliography. It then outlines the basic questions of modern research in the field of disability and theology, and finally highlights specific aspects of Orthodox theology that can contribute to the understanding of disability, the full acceptance and participation of people living with disabilities in the church as well and in society, and the use of their skills and abilities.

Katerina Pekridou is Executive Secretary for the Theological Dialogue at the Conference of European Churches in Brussels, Belgium. The subject of her work is ecclesiology in ecumenical dialogue and the witness of the church in the modern world. She studied theology at the Theological School of Thessaloniki, the Theological School of the Holy Cross in Boston (USA), the University of Göttingen and Trinity College Dublin, and is a PhD candidate at the Catholic University of Leuven (Belgium). In the past, she worked with the “Faith and Order” Committee of the World Council of Churches, and the Institute for Missionary Studies at the Catholic Theological School of the University of Munster (Germany). She has been involved in the programs of the Volos Academy of Theological Studies since its inception in 2000, and has been an academic associate since 2009. During the period 2013-2015 she participated in the EDAN, the Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network, contributing with a text on disability entitled: “The Gift of Being: Called to be a Church of All and for All,” published in 2016.

Dr. Aikaterini Tsalamponi

Assistant Professor, Faculty of Theology, University of Thessaloniki, Member of the Board of Directors of the Volos Academy for Theological Studies

“Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame” (Lk 14,21): disability and the Kingdom of God



The starting point of this paper is the question of whether the Bible, and in particular the New Testament, can offer to the Church members the necessary primers and tools to understand and embrace disability. As an hermeneutical point of view the paper adopts that of the Kingdom of God, as described in the Synoptic Gospels. Jesus' preaching for the coming Kingdom, highlights not only the inclusive character of the latter, but also the way by which the presence of people with disabilities within it, assures the fullness of the Kingdom of God and contributes to its realization.

Aikaterini G. Tsalamponi was born in 1967 in Thessaloniki. She studied theology at the Faculty of Theology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and completed postgraduate studies at the Theological School of the University of Heidelberg (Germany). In 1999 she was awarded a Doctorate of the Department of Theology of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She worked as a director in the Thessaloniki branch of ELEPAP and at the ELPIDA autistic children institution, as well as a professor of theology in secondary education. In 2006-2009 she taught at the Department of Orthodox Theology of the University of Munich (Germany). Today she is an associate professor (Hermeneutics, Theology and History of the New Testament Times) at the Department of Pastoral and Social Theology of the Theological School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Hellenic Society for Orthodox Biblical Theologians, the Steering Committee of the European Association of Biblical Studies, the Board of the European Society of Women in Theological Research, and a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and Colloquium Oecumenicum Paulinum. She has published studies on issues of hermeneutics of the New Testament, the New Testament Times and the ecological interpretation of the New Testament.

Dr. Petre Maican

Aberdeen University (U.K.)

*The Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Gifts of Persons with
Profound Intellectual Disabilities for the Church: Developing the
Pneumatological Dimension of Orthodox Ecclesiology*



In most of the Orthodox world there is a lot of stigma surrounding persons with disabilities. One way to overthrow this stigma is to explain that they too have their own gifts to contribute to the church. This line of reasoning has usually been drawn from 1 Corinthians 12 where Saint Paul speaks about the members of the church as limbs of the body of Christ; all equally important and each with his or her particular charisma. The pitfall hidden in this metaphor is to conflate the gift of the person with disability with the disability itself thus forgetting to actually see and engage the person. In this sense, what I suggest that the gift persons with disabilities is revealed only in the interaction with other members of the community. This claim will be grounded in the pneumatological ecclesiology of Romanian theologian Dumitru Stăniloae (1903-1993) and will be developed in three stages. First, I will offer a short overview of Stăniloae's pneumatology. Then I will move to explain how this pneumatology opens the way for locating the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the interaction between the members of the community rather than in their natural attributes. Finally, in order to flesh out the consequences of this view for persons with disabilities I will rely on Brian Brock's inclusive interpretation of 1 Corinthians 12, where he makes a similar argument from an exegetical standpoint.

Petre Maican is a Teaching Fellow at the University of Aberdeen, United Kingdom. He holds a PhD in Systematic Theology from the same institution and a MTh and BTh from the University of Bucharest in Romania. His current research focuses on theological anthropology, with special focus on disability in the Orthodox tradition. At the moment, he is revising his PhD thesis for publication and co-editing two collective volumes of essays: one dealing with the impact of the Orthodox ecumenical engagement and another on Dumitru Stăniloae's encounter with the West.



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**PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL
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in Magnesia, Ippokambos**