

Preface

The 20th issue year 2024 of Icon of Faith (Icoana Credinței), International Journal of Interdisciplinary Scientific Research (IFIJISR) encompasses a group of articles on various themes, dedicated to the areas of Theology and Christian life.

The commencing paper is: *THE ANCIENT CHURCH AND THE ORIGINS OF THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SYSTEM*, by Rev. Prof. Ph.D. Leontin POPESCU. *The writings of the Holy Fathers reveal a variety of attitudes towards medicine, ranging from acknowledging it and displaying extreme trust in doctors' prescriptions to reasons for distrust; however, there is almost always a Christian concern to legitimize medicine as a useful tool for healing, but at the same time to consider it a gift of God who instituted it.* The subsequent paper, *THE EXERCISE OF TEACHING POWER AND ITS CANONICAL BASES* is signed by Prof. Ph.D. Cătălina MITITELU. *Since the participation of the two constituent elements of the Church, clergy and laity, in the administration of her teaching power, through acts of preaching, spreading, defending the Christian faith, formulating the truths of faith, etc., has both a scriptural and a canonical basis, in the pages of this canonical study the author have examined both texts.* Prof. Ph.D. Ionuț HOLUBEANU, sign the papers: *THE ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCE OF MOESIA SECUNDA IN THE MID-5TH CENTURY AD* and *A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF THE BISHOPS' SIGNATURE SEQUENCE IN THE LETTER OF MOESIA SECUNDA IN ENCYCLIA, AD 457–458.* *The author outlines the organization of the Church in Moesia Secunda in the decade following the Hunnic invasion of AD 447/448. Paper II, investigates the principle guiding the order in which the hierarchs of Moesia Secunda signed the response epistle addressed to Emperor Leo I.*

The next paper belonging to Prof. Ph.D. Cristian GAGU is: *THE EVOLUTION OF CHRISTIAN ICONOGRAPHY IN THE VI-VII CENTURIES.* *The II-III centuries represented the period of the birth of Christian sacred art through Christians imitating the custom of pagans, from whose ranks most of them came, to decorate their graves, sarcophagi or mausoleums with images and even by borrowing some pagan symbols and themes, to which they obviously gave a new, Christian meaning, to which, of course, exclusively Christian themes were added, most often of biblical origin, most of them having a narrative-historical character.* After that Lecturer PhD. Nicușor MORLOVA signs the paper *THE IMPACT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) ON SPIRITUAL LIFE, FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF CHRISTIAN ORTHODOXY.* *Artificial Intelligence, as a manifestation of human ingenuity, has fundamentally transformed many aspects of our daily life. The article aims to explore the multifaceted implications of AI on the spiritual life of humankind, and the define of the personal identity, specifically from the perspective of Christian Orthodoxy.* PhD. Candidate Fr. Andrei Alexandru GRIGORESCU signs the paper: *THE SOCIO-CULTURAL CONTEMPORANEITY AND ITS INTERACTION WITH CHRISTIAN MORALITY.* *In the midst of a secularized ethos, the rejection of moral reference points often results in a misguided sense of liberation.* Lastly, PhD. Ionuț VLĂDESCU, signs the paper: *ORTHODOX TEACHING ON TIME.* *The Orthodox Church, taking into account the truths detached from the divine revelation, gave the concept of time a major importance, not only to eternal life, but also to the time of the present life.*

Therefore, the content of the current issue is a good and interesting opportunity to reading research on specific themes presented in the journal book, which is open for constructive ideas for Christian view point.

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Editor Rev. PhD. Marian BUGIULESCU,
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