

The IOTA Missiology Group International Lectures

Orthodox Mission in the Contemporary World

Invitation to our online webinar series
2021-22

With the aim of encouraging a broader conversation within the Orthodox churches on the theme of Christian witness in today's world, the IOTA Missiology Group is organizing a series of webinars with speakers who can draw on their scholarly research and practical experience of mission to respond to the challenges and complexities of different contexts and cultures around the globe. After each webinar's presentation(s) there will be time for questions and discussion.

Christos Bokoros

The coming lecture:

Thursday 28th October 2021, 19.00-20.30 (EET) (12.00-13.30 EDT):

Fr Luke A. Veronis (USA)

**Welcoming the Stranger as a Means of Witness:
Learning from Archbishop Anastasios**

"Orthodoxy welcomes another person without negativity, without xenophobia, without perceiving others as an enemy. No one is an adversary. Our only opposition is sin or our ego." These words highlight the spirit and worldview that the renown Orthodox hierarch and missionary Archbishop Anastasios (Yannoulatos) of Albania has held in witnessing to the world, as Archbishop of East Africa for 10 years and Primate and Archbishop of Albania for the past 30 years. Not only as a scholar and Professor of World Religions, an international ecumenist (in the best sense of the word), a peacemaker nominated for the Nobel Peace prize, and a missiologist, the Archbishop has stood at the forefront of leading the Orthodox world in frontiers with the stranger, with the other, with those who are different in religion, race, culture, economic status, and worldview. He has always believed in a spirit of loving hospitality that welcomes the stranger and see the image of Christ in every person. 2020.

Fr. Luke A. Veronis has served as a Greek Orthodox priest for 27 years. For the past 16 years he has pastored Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church in Webster, MA while simultaneously directing the Missions Institute of Orthodoxy Christianity at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, where he teaches as an adjunct instructor. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Orthodox Christian

Mission Center. Fr. Luke has been involved in the Orthodox Church's missionary movement since 1987, serving as a missionary in post-communist Albania for ten and a half years, and in East Africa for eighteen months. He has led nine short-term mission teams from his church to work at Project Mexico, building homes for the poor in Tijuana, Mexico. His published works include *Sharing the Light: Meditations on the Good News of Jesus Christ*; *Go Forth: A Journal of Missions and Resurrection in Albania*; *Lynette's Hope: The Witness of Lynette Katherine Hoppe's Life and Death*; and *Missionaries, Monks, and Martyrs: Making Disciples of All Nations*.

Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88292793178?pwd=ckllcVRFOCs3Mi9PaItvcVo0cVhZUT09>

Meeting ID: 882 9279 3178 | **Passcode:** 330053

Your local time: https://www.timeanddate.com/world-clock/converter.html?iso=20211028T160000&p1=136&p2=26&p3=170&p4=1927&p5=18&p6=179&p7=224&p8=159&p9=166&p10=tz_hkt&p11=423&p12=239

We look forward to seeing you at the IOTA Missiology Group International Lectures. Please feel free to pass on this Invitation to colleagues with a serious interest in Orthodox mission and missiology.

The IOTA Missiology Group Committee:

Rev. Dr. Michael Oleksa
Dr. Alison Kolosova
Rev. Dr. Anastasios Kihali
Dr. Evangelia Voulgaraki
Dr. Valentin Kozhuharov

<https://iota-web.org/>