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June 2019



Videos Now Available from Philadelphia Symposium



Archon George E. Demacopoulos, Ph.D., was moderator for the Archon Symposium which included experts (left to right) Carrie Frederick Frost, Ph.D., Kyra P. Limberakis, M.T.S., Teva Regule, Ph.D. and Rev. John Chryssavgis, Ph.D. who participated via video conference.

This past March, the Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate (GOA-Philadelphia area) sponsored a one-day symposium entitled "Reviving the Female Diaconate in the Orthodox Church: Has the Time Come?"

[WATCH THE VIDEOS](#)

St. Phoebe Center for the Deaconess board members, Teva Regule, Ph.D., Carrie Frederick Frost, Ph.D., and Kyra Limberakis, M.T.S. were invited to speak at the event. Others speakers were Rev. John Chryssavgis, Ph.D., Archdeacon of the Ecumenical Patriarchate (via video conferencing), and moderator George E.

IN THIS ISSUE

Videos Now Available from Philadelphia Symposium

.....
Join Us at the OCAMPR Fall Conference

.....
Plans in the Works for a One-Day Event This Fall

.....
Webinars to be Offered Soon

.....
The Female Diaconate? Issues East and West

.....
Suggestions on How You Can Help

.....

Demacopoulos, Ph.D., Fr. John Meyendorff & Patterson Family Chair of [Orthodox Christian Studies, Fordham University](#), Co-Founding Director, Orthodox Christian Studies Center, Fordham University, and Co-Founding Editor, Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies.

These noted theologians and leaders discussed issues including: 1) How can a revived male and female diaconate build up the Body of Christ? 2) Why ordination? and 3) Is NOW the time?

[WATCH THE VIDEOS](#)

Join Us at the OCAMPR Annual Fall Conference



St. Phoebe Center board members will make presentations at the Orthodox Christian Association of Medicine, Psychology and Religion (OCAMPR) annual fall conference. Titled "Isolation. Violence. Hope and Communion," it will be held November 7-9, 2019 at Saints Peter and Paul Greek Orthodox Church, 1401 Wagner Rd., Glenview, IL (Chicago area.).

Board Member Helen Theodoropoulos, Ph.D., will be part of the workshop titled "Building Bridges or Barriers? The Impact of Social Media on Connecting with Ourselves, Each Other, and God." She will present along with Randa Karadsheh Anderson, PhD, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Private Practice of Psychology, Orthodox Christian Counseling Institute; and Catherine Creticos, MD, Licensed Physician, Chief of the Section of Infectious Diseases,



*TROPARION
to St. Phoebe
Commemorated
September 3*

Enlightened by grace and taught the Faith by the Chosen vessel of Christ, You were found worthy of the diaconate; And you carried Paul's words to Rome. O Deaconess Phoebe, pray to Christ God That his Spirit may enlighten our souls!

Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center,
Director of Infectious Diseases, Howard Brown
Health; Physician and Consultant at AIMMC and
HBH.

St. Phoebe Center Founder and Chair AnnMarie
Mecera will present a paper titled "Healing from
Adversity as a Woman in the Church Today."

[GET MORE INFORMATION](#)

Plans in the Works for a One-Day Event this Fall

We are busy planning a one-day event to take
place this fall on the East Coast. The goal of this
event is to continue to educate the faithful about
the diaconate in general, the history of the
female diaconate in particular, and how reviving
this ministry can help meet today's ministerial
needs.

We are currently attempting to secure a venue.
A parish hall is typically the most economical
and convenient. These one-day events can be
held on a Saturday afternoon, making it less
complicated for our host, as it only requires
simple refreshments instead of meals and other
considerations.

If you or your parish are interested in hosting our
fall event, please let us know by emailing us at
stphoebecenter@gmail.com.

Webinars to be Offered Soon



The St. Phoebe Center is working
on offering webinars this fall in order to help
educate the faithful about the the history of the
diaconate, and how its revival could benefit the
entire church today.

If there are topics you would like us to address,
please let us know by emailing us at

The Female Diaconate? Issues East and West

PRAY TELL
Worship, Wit & Wisdom



One of the St. Phoebe Center board members, Teva Regule, is a regular contributor to the liturgical blog *Pray Tell: Worship, Wit & Wisdom*. Her latest contribution examines the question of the revival of the female diaconate in both the Christian East and West.

In the article, Dr. Regule examines some of the issues facing both the East and West regarding the diaconate in general as well as the female diaconate. She concludes by asking readers how both faith traditions can learn from one another and move the issue forward.

[READ THE ARTICLE](#)

Suggestions on How You Can Help Now Available

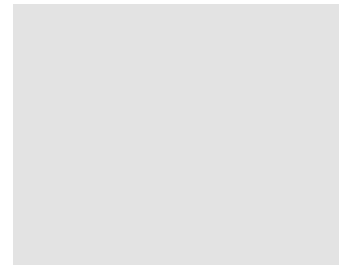
Many people have asked how they can help the St. Phoebe Center. We have just released a flyer with ideas and suggestions you can use in your own community, including a template for writing to your bishop about this ministry.



Download the flyer now and help by committing to one or more of these suggestions. Thank you for your help.

[LEARN MORE IN ENGLISH](#)

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3136 Kingsdale Center #120, Upper Arlington, OH 43221

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St. Phoebe Center for the Deaconess
3136 Kingsdale Center
#120
Upper Arlington, OH 43221
US

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