

THE ECUMENICAL SOCIETY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, USA

PRESENTS

“Mary, Disciple of the Lord: Suffering”



2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORM

July 26-28, 2018

**Misericordia University
301 Lake Street
Dallas, PA 18612**

<http://www.misericordia.edu>

**For more information, please contact the ESBVM USA President,
Dr. Christopher M. Carr at ccarr@misericordia.edu or 570-550-1619.**

The Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary USA (ESBVM USA) exists to advance the study of Mary, the Mother of Christ, in Christian biblical and spiritual perspectives, and in the light of such study, to promote ecumenical interchange and prayer. Its aim is to show that, in Mary, Christians of many traditions may find a focus in their search for unity.

Since the writing of the Gospel of Luke, Christians have revered the mother of our Savior as an exemplary Christian disciple and model of Christian suffering. Although the subject of Mary has, at times, been a source of friction among Christians of differing denominations, the fact that she was the first Christian believer and a heroic follower of her Son has proven a meeting ground for Christians of all traditions.

So, whether you are Baptist, Methodist, Lutheran, Anglican, Reformed, Non-denominational, Catholic, Orthodox or from any other Christian tradition, please come and join us for a time of study, prayer, reflection and discussion that is certain to feed your mind and spirit as we strive together to live more fully our Christian calling!

Presentations

“Buffalo Calf Woman: Sign of Hope – the Lakota Love for the Virgin Mary Amid Dire Suffering,” by Richard May, M.A., Founder of havetruth.org.

“Gnostic Mary and the Suffering Soul,” by Father Joseph McCauslin, Rector, St. Eve’s Apostolic Johannite Church, Harrisburg, PA

“*Impassibilis est Maria in partu, sed non incompassibilis*: On the Question of Mary’s Experience of Childbirth,” by Dr. William R. Hamant, Assistant Professor of Theology, DeSales University, Center Valley, PA

“The ‘Kenosis of Faith’: Mary’s Suffering Beneath the Cross in John Paul II’s *Redemptoris Mater*,” by Carly O’Connor, Doctoral Candidate, Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family, Washington, D.C.

“Mariology and Suffering in the Theology of Henri de Lubac, with Special Reference to his Studies on Amida Buddhism,” by Sara Hulse, ABD, Instructor in Theology, DeSales University, Center Valley, PA

“Mary and the Groaning of Creation,” by Deacon Aaron Williams, Doctoral Candidate, Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family, Washington, D.C.

“Mary, Disciple of the Lord: Her Role in Strengthening Young Catholics in an Era Marked by Suffering,” by Alexandra Fontanetta, Graduate Student, Saint Joseph College of Maine, Portland, ME

“Unpacking the Concept of Co-Redemptrix in Light of John Paul II’s *Redemptoris Mater* and *Salvifici Dolores*,” by Lynn Marie Busch, Doctoral Student, University of Dayton, OH

Pre-Conference Excursion: At no extra cost, arrangements have been made to visit Saint Tikhon’s Orthodox Monastery and Seminary in South Canaan, PA on the afternoon of Wednesday, July 25th, which is the Feast of the Dormition of Saint Anne, mother of the Theotokos. The trip will include a tour of the grounds, including the on-site museum, a visit to the bookstore, which features publications of Saint Tikhon’s Monastery Press and many different icons, and the opportunity to participate in the vespers for the feast day. **In order to go on this trip, please indicate your interest on the Conference Registration Form and plan to be in town by 12 noon on Wednesday. Also be prepared to dress modestly: no shorts or other inappropriate attire. The buildings are air conditioned.**

Accommodations

On Campus: For a **total cost of \$260 per person**, each registrant will receive a private room in Misericordia University’s newest dorm, MacDowell Hall. The price includes conference registration, on-campus housing for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights, linen fee, breakfasts on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, lunches on Thursday and Friday, and a one-year membership in the ESBVM USA.

Holiday Inn Express, 1063 Highway 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702: **Ask for the special Misericordia rate of \$85 per night (plus tax).** Rooms are based on availability. There is a free shuttle to and from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP), but you must contact the hotel to make arrangements. There is no shuttle service to Misericordia, but someone from the university will pick you up. Hotel phone: 570-825-3838; hotel website: www.heixpress.com/wilesbarrepa.

Fairfield Inn and Suites, 884 Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702: **Ask for the special Misericordia rate of \$92 per night (plus tax).** Rooms are based on availability. There is a free shuttle to and from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP), but you must contact the hotel to make arrangements. There is no shuttle service to Misericordia, but someone from the university will pick you up. Hotel phone: 570-208-4455; hotel website: www.Mariott.com/AVPFF.

The Woodlands Resort, 1073 Highway 315, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702: **Ask for the special Misericordia rate of \$99 per night (plus tax).** Rooms are based on availability. There is a free shuttle to and from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP); just send your flight schedule to them in advance. The hotel will provide a shuttle service to Misericordia can be arranged. Hotel phone: 800-762-2222; hotel website: www.thewoodlandsresort.com.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

The annual weekend conference of the ESBVM USA will be held on the campus of Misericordia University in Dallas, PA, near Wilkes-Barre and Scranton. Campus is located approximately 30 minutes from the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton International Airport (AVP). The airport website is <http://flyavp.com>. Directions to the campus and a campus map are available on the university's website: www.misericordia.edu.

Please fill out a separate form for each person who will be attending and submit the appropriate fee by Friday, July 6th. Make checks payable in US dollars to the ESBVM USA.

Please print or type:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Religious Affiliation: _____

I will arrive on Wednesday, July 25th at approximately _____ (time).

Will you join us for the excursion to St. Tikhon's Monastery on Wednesday afternoon? YES NO
(Please circle one; the cost of dinner that evening is *not* included in the registration fee.)

Off-Campus Registration Fee (for those who are commuting to the conference): \$90 per person
Price includes conference registration, lunches on Thursday and Friday, and a one-year ESBVM USA membership (includes journal and newsletters).

On-Campus Registration Fee (for those who are staying overnight in MacDowell Hall): \$260 per person
Price includes conference registration, on-campus housing for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights, linen fees, breakfasts on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, lunches on Thursday and Friday, and a one-year ESBVM USA membership (includes journal and newsletters).

One-Day, Walk-In Registration Fee: \$40 per person

Price includes conference registration and lunch; *ESBVM USA membership is not included.*

I am enclosing my payment in full, amounting to: \$_____.
(Make checks payable to ESBVM USA.)

Mail form and payment by July 6th to: **Dr. Christopher M. Carr**
ESBVM USA
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Dallas, PA 18612