

LTS 201

THE SANCTIFICATION OF TIME

Course Credit: 3 Semester Hours

I. Course Description

This course is a scriptural and liturgical commentary on the calendar of the Orthodox Church, including a topical approach to the annual cycle of moveable and fixed feasts. The comment generally revolves around the Gospel lesson read on a given Sunday or Feast Day. The annual cycle of moveable feasts centers on Pascha (Easter) while the annual cycle of fixed feasts highlights the major and minor feasts not included in the moveable cycle. Themes of feasts and times of the year are expounded and explained.

II. At the conclusion of this course, students will have:

- A. A framework for personal Christian development through the liturgical life of the Church.
- B. A grasp of the moveable and fixed cycles of the Church year.
- C. An increased understanding of the themes and specific contents of the Orthodox lectionary, the seasons, and the major and minor feasts of the Church.

III. Materials Needed

- A. *The Year of Grace of the Lord: A Scriptural and Liturgical Commentary on the Calendar of the Orthodox Church*, by A Monk of the Eastern Church, translated by Deborah Cowan. Published in 1980 by SVS Press
- B. Bible

C. English Dictionary

D. Biblical Concordance

IV. Course Content

Lesson I: The Significance of the Liturgical Year

Lesson II: Entering the year of Grace

Lesson III: The Time of Advent

Lesson IV: Christmas and Epiphany

Lesson V: The Time of Lent

Lesson VI: The Time of Passion (part I)

Lesson VII: The Time of the Passion (part II)

Lesson VIII: The Time of Easter and of Pentecost

Lesson IX: Pentecost and the Time After Pentecost

Lesson X: Major and Minor Feasts of the Summer

V. Assignments

For each lesson, write 250-500 words in total for each assignment in each lesson, double-spaced. Each lesson will account for 10% of your grade. Faculty will give substantive commentary on all assignments. Final exam details, if applicable, are explained in the virtual classroom content on moodle.com.

VI. Attendance

We do not have an official attendance policy due to the nature of being a self-paced course (faculty are expected to engage with each student at least once per week through moodle.com).

VII. Participation

All students must engage at least once per week in the asynchronous forum discussion group. Access is made available in the virtual classroom.