

84<sup>th</sup> Session of the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation  
*Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary*  
*Crestwood, New York,*  
*June 4 - 6, 2013*

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The eighty-fourth meeting of the North American Orthodox-Catholic Theological Consultation took place at Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Crestwood, New York, from June 4 to 6, 2013. Neither of the co-chairmen of the Consultation was able to attend this meeting. The position of Catholic co-chairman is currently vacant, and His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston was called away on a pastoral emergency. Consequently the meeting was chaired jointly by the two Executive Secretaries of the Consultation: Father Brian Daley, SJ, Catherine F. Huisman professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, and Father Thomas FitzGerald, Dean of the Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology in Brookline, Massachusetts.

At this meeting the members continued their study of the role of laity in the two churches, and celibacy and marriage in relation to priestly ordination. The following papers on these topics were presented: "Lay Reception of Church Teaching" by Despina D. Prassas, Ph.D., of Providence College in Providence, Rhode Island; "Lay Movements in the Church of Greece" by Father Robert Stephanopoulos, pastor emeritus of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, New York; "Priesthood, Priestliness, and Priests" by Msgr. Paul MacPartlan, Carl J. Peter professor of systematic theology and ecumenism at The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.; "The Priesthood of the Laity" by Bishop Alexander (Golitzin) of the Bulgarian Diocese of the Orthodox Church in America; "Official Catholic Pronouncements Regarding Presbyteral Celibacy: Their Fate and the Implications for Catholic-Orthodox Relations" by Father Peter Galadza, Kule Family professor of liturgy at the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, Ottawa, Ontario; "*Cum Data Fuerit* (1929) and Historical Objectivity" by Father David Petras, spiritual director and professor of liturgy at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, Pittsburgh; and "Mandatory Celibacy Among Eastern Catholics: A Church Dividing Issue" by Father James Dutko, pastor of St. Michael's Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Church in Binghamton, New York.

Atonement Father Damien MacPherson, Director for Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs at the Archdiocese of Toronto, Ontario, was welcomed as a new member

representing the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops, which has officially participated in the Consultation since 1997. The members attended a Divine Liturgy celebrated in the seminary chapel on Wednesday morning, June 5. The next meeting is scheduled to take place from October 24 to 26, 2013, in Mississauga, Ontario.