



**MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
AS A TRIBUTE TO ANASTASIOS THE LATE ARCHBISHOP OF ALBANIA
ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PASSING**

“Greatness in Doing and Preaching”

St Vlash Durrës 22 – 25 JANUARY 2026

Under the auspices of His Beatitude IOANIS

Archbishop of Tirana, Durrës and All Albania

Organized by the Department of Theology and Culture

“LOGOS” University College

Wednesday January 21 all day arrivals at St Vlash

Thursday January 22 Feast of Saint Anastasios the Persian

08.00-09.30	St Vlash Divine Liturgy Breakfast Morning arrivals
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13.30	Lunch
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15.00	Transfer to Tirana
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Opening Session I “Logos” University College Tirana

17.00-19.00	Video on the life of the Late Archbishop Anastasios Official addresses -His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew -Higher Civil Authorities -Heads of the Interreligious Council of Albania -H.E. Metropolitan Vicken Aykazian (WCC) -H.E. Metropolitan of Central Germany, Dr Isaac Barakat -Prof. Dr. Neritan Ceka -MSc. Blerina Bombaj -Prof. Dr. Vasil Tole, <i>Archbishop Anastas, the Rebuilder of the Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Albania.</i>
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	<p>Address by H.B. Archbishop Ioani and Official opening of the Conference</p> <p>Keynote lecture:</p> <p>Fr. Martin Ritsi, Director of OCMC, <i>Archbishop Anastasios: “Reigniting Missions in the 20th Century: Lessons Learned and Guiding Principles for Today and Tomorrow</i></p> <p>-Choirs of the Cathedral (Directors: Ligor Trebicka and Theodhor Peci)</p> <p>-Reception (Logos foyer)</p>
20.30	Dinner at St Vlash for the participants to the Conference



Friday January 23 St Vlash	
08.00-09.00	Breakfast
09.00-09.30	Registrations at Skete Hall
“Evangelization-theological development and practice” Session II Moderator: Rev. Fr. Dr. Athanasios Gikas, Dean of the Faculty of Theology AUTH	
09.30-11.00	<p>a) Rev. Prof. Dr. John Chryssavgis, Executive Director of the Huffington Ecumenical Institute & Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology <i>Life of grace and purpose: The extraordinary leadership of †Anastasios</i></p> <p>b) V. Rev. Achim. Dr. Stephanos Toma, Department of Theology AUTH <i>Features of the charismatic theological approach of His Beatitude Archbishop Anastasios (Yannoulatos) of Albania</i></p> <p>c) Prof. Dr. Petros Panagiotopoulos, Department of Theology AUTH <i>Carrying the Flame: How Archbishop Anastasios' Witness Inspires Evangelization Today</i></p> <p>d) Prof. Dr. Niki Papageorgiou, Department of Theology AUTH <i>The Inculturation Challenge in the Missionary Field: The Contribution of Archbishop Anastasios of Tirana</i></p> <p>e) Dr. Alexandros Katsiaras, Director of Journal “THEOLOGIA” <i>The New Testament Background of the Mission and Ministry of the late Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
11.00-11.30	Break



“Evangelization-theological development and practice” Session III Moderator: Xanthi Morfi	
11.30 -13.00	<p>a) Prof. Dr. Genti Kruja, University College Beder <i>Archbishop Anastasios and the legacy of interfaith dialogue</i></p> <p>b) Dr. Georgios Gaitanos, "Logos" University College <i>The study of religion according to the late Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>c) Dr. George Triantafyllidis, President of the Inter-Orthodox Centre “Poreftendes” (Go Ye) <i>Love without boundaries: The theological foundations of inter-Christian and interreligious cooperation and dialogue in the life of the late Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>d) H.E. Bishop of Suprasi Prof. Andrezej Borkowski, Abbot of Monastery of Suprasi <i>Appreciation of Archbishop Anastasios’s contribution to inter-Christian dialogue by the ecumenical community in Poland, based on the example of the Theological Academy in Warsaw</i></p> <p>e) Dr. Risto Aikonen Ed.Lic., M. A (Ed.Sci), MA (Theo).University of Eastern Finland (Joensuu) <i>Ecumenism among Christian religions in Finland</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
13.30	Lunch – Afternoon break



“Evangelization-theological development and practice” Session IV Moderator: H.E. Metropolitan of Achaia Athanasios Chatzopoulos	
17.00-18.30	<p>a) Prof. Emer. Dimitra Koukoura, AUTh - "Logos" <i>The enthronement homily of Archbishop Anastasios: a fulfilled vision</i></p> <p>b) Prof. Dr. Konstantinos Belezos, Department of Theology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens <i>Insights into the social message of the Orthodox Church by the late Anastasios, Archbishop of Albania</i></p> <p>c) Dr. Nikolaos Tsirevelos, Department of Theology AUTh - "Logos" University College <i>Message and Witness. The homiletical and missionary dimension of Archbishop Anastasios' sermon</i></p> <p>d) Dr. Georgios Keselopoulos, "Logos" University College <i>With the fear of God, faith, and love: Aspects of the life and teaching of the blessed Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>e) Rev. Prof. Dr. Cyprian Kountouris, Theological School of the Church of Cyprus <i>Archbishop Anastasios of Albania: A Mediating Voice in a Fragmented World (a Personal Acquaintance)</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
19.30	Dinner



Saturday 24 January St Vlash	
08.00-09.00	Breakfast
“The example of Albania” Session V Moderators: Prof. Emer. Dimitra Koukoura – Dr. George Gaitanos	
09.30-11.00	<p>The scientific research in the years 1993 – today</p> <p>a) H.E. Metropolitan of Berat, Vlora and Kanina Asti, MSc. <i>Message of Christmas and Easter and the reality of Albania in the Encyclicals of Archbishop Anastasios of Albania</i></p> <p>b) Rev. Fr. MSc. Haralamb Gjoka, OACA <i>Archbishop Anastasios and the Economic Self-Reliance of the Church: Vision and Implementation</i></p> <p>c) Rev. Fr. MSc. Spiro Topanxha, OACA <i>Some Aspects of the Pastoral Ministry of Archbishop Anastasios in the Resurrection of the Orthodox Church of Albania</i></p> <p>d) Dr. Teodor Qesko, "Logos" University College <i>Witnesses of Holiness and Pastoral Responsibility: From the Saints of the Orthodox Church of Albania to Archbishop Kyrillos of Sinai (1759–1790), through the study of the unpublished Sinaitic Codex 2190A.</i></p> <p>e) Dr. Thoma Shkira, "Logos" University College <i>The Orthodox Christian Heritage of Albania in the Apostolic Work of Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>f) Dr. Cand. Andi Rëmbeci, University of Tirana <i>Forming a new generation of scholars in Albania: a personal reflection on the role of Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>g) Dr. Cand. Thoma Çomëni, "Logos" – AUTH <i>Resurrection of an Autocephalous Church from the ruins: The Legacy of Archbishop Anastasios in today's Albania</i></p>



	<p>h) Dr. Cand. Theodor Peci, AUTH <i>Theodoros Fokaeus and his contribution to Psaltic Art</i></p> <p>i) Dr. Cand. Ioannis Christodoulakis, Catholic Institute of Paris <i>“Liturgy after Liturgy” as a Missionary Motto: An Orthodox Witness in a Catholic Academic Context</i></p> <p>j) MSc. Marina Baba, “Logos” University College <i>The monthly newspaper “NGJALLJA” and its message of Resurrection”</i></p> <p>k) MSc. Dhimitër Qosja, Ecclesiastical Academy of Resurrection of Christ <i>The Autocephalous Orthodox Church of Albania, contributing to Ecumenical Dialogue</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
11.00-11.30	Break



“Evangelization-theological development and practice” Session VI Moderator: Rev. Fr. Prof. Dr. Cyprian Kountouris	
11.30-13.00	<p>a) H.E. Metropolitan of Achaia, Prof. Dr. Athanasios Chatzopoulos, "Logos" University College <i>The letter of Patriarch Photios I of Constantinople to Khan Boris-Michael and Archbishop Anastasios of Albania</i></p> <p>b) Prof. Dr. Barbara Hallensleben, University of Fribourg <i>Mission and Diakonia. Inspirations from Life and Work of Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>c) Rev. Fr. Prof. Dr. Stephanos Athanasiou, Orthodox Institute of Munich <i>Mission as Dialogue: The Foundations of the Dialogical Theology of Archbishop Anastasios</i></p> <p>d) Prof. Dr. Christos Arabatzis, Department of Theology AUTH <i>The reception of history as a mystery of the Divine Economy in the work of Anastasios, Archbishop of Albania</i></p> <p>e) Prof. Dr. Thomai Chouvarda, Department of Theology AUTH <i>The Patristic “Way” in the Thought and Witness of Archbishop Anastasios of Albania</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
13.30	Lunch – Afternoon break



“Evangelization-theological development and practice”

Session VII Moderator: Dr. George Triantafyllidis

17.00-18.00	<p>a) Prof. Dr. Roberto Morozzo della Rocca, Università di Roma- Comunità di Sant' Egidio <i>Archbishop Anastasios and the Rebirth of the Orthodox Church of Albania</i></p> <p>b) Rev. Fr. Dr. Stephanos Ritsi, Ass. Missionary Director of OCMC & "Logos" University College <i>Listening to Lived Experience: The Reception of Archbishop Anastasios' Teaching and Witness Through the Voices of the Faithful</i></p> <p>c) Rev. Fr. Dr. Alexander Rentel, Rector of the Chapel of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminar <i>The liberty of our Lord Jesus Christ given by his own blood' has not been lost: the Renewal of the Church of Albania from the Perspective of the Canonical Tradition</i></p> <p>Discussion</p>
18.00	Holy Vespers
19.00	Dinner



Sunday January 25 Tirana	
07.30	Departure to the Cathedral "Resurrection of Christ" Tirana
08.15-11.00	Divine Liturgy- Memorial Service- Trisagion Prayer at the grave of the late Archbishop Anastasios
Coffee break-Guided tour to the Cathedral -Official lunch	
Departures to the airport or to St Vlash Dinner at St Vlash	

Monday January 26 St Vlash
Breakfast and departures