

Liturgical Studies Week 2019: call for papers

*To every researcher, teacher, pastor, doctoral student,
interested in liturgical matters*

Dear friends and fellow liturgists,

You are cordially invited to participate in the 66th annual Liturgical Studies Week, on the subject of:

Pilgrimage Liturgies .

The conference will take place from Monday 1st to Thursday 4th July 2019 in the premises of the Saint-Serge Institute. Please submit your paper proposal at your earliest convenience, and also forward the present call to any person among your academic contacts, presumably interested in our work.

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The desire to move and to surpass oneself – and to go beyond a mere performance – for the purpose of inner growth, whatever the means, pedestrian or otherwise, is deeply rooted in the human being. Whatever spatial displacement is made towards a goal to satisfy a more or less conscious quest, be it a long journey or just a liturgical procession of a few meters; it can place the pilgrim in relation to a sacred reality.

In the 66th Liturgical Week, this phenomenon will be analysed from a liturgical point of view, as in many places, not just Christian, pilgrims gather and religious ceremonies are held which go beyond a simple individual devotion. This is the purpose of our study.

Pilgrimage liturgies may be examined through various conference contributions, potentially focusing on the following subjects:

- Interactions between liturgies, sanctuaries and pilgrimage; the journey and the goal;
- Pilgrimage liturgies: more or less codified; historical, anthropological, spiritual and theological aspects; in particular: pilgrimage liturgy as a means of personal reconfiguration and route of the human being towards God;
- Jerusalem as the founding place of all Christian pilgrimages;
- Pilgrimages in the Old Testament; pilgrimages made by Jesus (e.g. Lk 2:41f and other “ascents” Lk 19: 27f, and //);
- Founder or identity aspects of a pilgrimage, reinforcing a feeling of belonging and the place of the liturgy in this regard;
- Phenomenology of the pilgrimage: personal quest and spiritual ascent;
- Concept of inner journey: traces in liturgy;
- The destination as a motivation/purpose of the pilgrimage: a salvation event, an apparition, the tomb of a saint or a renowned character;
- Christianization through liturgy: influence of pilgrimage on local liturgy;
- Link between pilgrimage and Liturgy of the Word, preaching, fraternal communion and Eucharist, and other means of encounter with Christ;
- Pilgrimages and acts of popular piety and their constraints; criticism of excesses/deviations such as personal devotions cut off from the liturgy of the Church, superstitions, links with trade of indulgences, souvenirs, folkloric aspects;
- ...

- *Methodology and limitations*

The goal of the liturgical weeks organised at Saint-Serge is to study Christian liturgical phenomena in an academic language, in order to promote a dialogue between Christians; without however, excluding the – welcomed – interreligious aspect.

Presentations will be based on the analysis of one or more ancient or recent documentary sources, in order to identify the theological and doctrinal message; the pastoral aspect may also be taken into account, provided that it is not limited to the mere description of a practice or field experience but includes the use of appropriate studies.

Authors should pay particular attention to meeting the following criteria, which are decisive for the acceptance of an abstract:

- novelty of the proposed problem;
- its connection with this year's theme;
- quality of the sources and referencing;
- accuracy of the analysis;
- balance between citation and commentaries
- quality of the historical approach;
- quality of the theological argumentation.

- *Practical arrangements*

Interested speakers are kindly requested to submit an abstract by 15 November 2018 to <semilit.stserge@yahoo.fr>. To be taken into account by the organizers of the 2019 conference, any abstract must include:

- A provisional title,
- 5 to 10 lines of argumentation,
- short bio/bibliographical information on the author (academic or ecclesial activities, ... and main titles of recent or old publications), even in case of recent presentations in Saint Serge,
- last name, first name, email and postal address of the speaker

The speaking time of the lectures is set at 25 minutes, followed immediately by a short moment for questions and a moment of debate. The dominant language of our conference is French, but the use of another language is allowed. A simultaneous oral translation of the presentations and discussions from English to French and vice versa, will be provided at the conference.

The material situation of the organizing institute unfortunately does not allow to offer financial support to participants: speakers come and stay at their own expense and pay a participation fee for the conference. Only on the day of their presentation the meal is graciously offered to them. However, in case of difficulty to pay, a small contribution to transportation costs, accommodation or registration remains possible, reserved for the most needy participants.

- *Publication*

The acceptance of a presentation for the conference does not automatically imply a publication in the Proceedings. The members of the Scientific Committee reserve the right to evaluate the scientific content of the presentations and ask the authors, if necessary, to make amendments before publication; they may also decide not to publish a text if its scientific level is considered insufficient.

The practical arrangements for sending the texts, the style sheet and other technical indications will be communicated to the speakers on the spot during the conference. Each publication must imperatively be corrected by a native speaker of the chosen language.

Finally, all speakers are requested to send a provisional text of their presentation before 1 June 2019, to express to the organizing team their commitment to participate in the meeting, to allow a first scientific evaluation, as well as to help with simultaneous translation.

We remain at your disposal for further information.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Cordial greetings

The members of the preparation team of the Liturgical Weeks of Saint Serge.