



AUTOMNE 2023 / FALL 2023

**DIPLOME DE THEOLOGIE ORTHODOXE
DIPLOMA OF ORTHODOX THEOLOGY**

THL 6206

Fondements bibliques de la tradition orthodoxe :

MODERN SPIRITUAL ELDERS

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**Thursday evenings from 7-10 pm
starting September 14, 2023**

This course will concentrate on Modern Spiritual orthodox elders from 1800 until today. With emphasis on the 20th century. Starting with St Seraphim of Sarov and the philokalic renewal in Russia in the 19th century and the elders of Optina ,then to Dostoyevski and Tolstoy and St John of Kronstandt. In the 20th century we will pass first through Serbia (Velimirovic, Popovic, Yeftich, Rantovitch , Patriarch Pavle) to Romania (Staniloae, Cleopas) , the Middle East (Khodr, Patriarch Ignatius) , Cyprus, and then Greece.

In the 20th century the church of Greece underwent very important developments. In the beginning of the century with the presence of St Nektarios and then the establishment , development, reign and failure of the Christians Movements , then the unexpected renewal of Mount Athos in 1965 which has as a consequence the appearance of spiritual elders in the cities , in Mount Athos , in monasteries and sketes , islands and villages. The charismatic phenomena of the first centuries of Christianity repeated themselves in these elders who were bearers of this charisms , the special gifts of the Holy spirit.

The main part of the course will be dedicated to their lives, counsels and teachings . To name a few of them : Amphilochios of Patmos, Epiphanius of Athens, Iakovos of Evia, Joseph the Hesychast, Paisios the Athonite, Philotheos of Paros, Porphyrios of Kavsokalyvia, and George of Drama.

This course will be presented as a simple anthology of the sayings and counsels of contemporary spiritual elders who lived and reposed most of them in the 20th century. These elders have been true and precious vessels of the Holy Spirit and an inspiration for all of us who are strive to live the life in Christ today.