

Orthodox Christian SYNERGY
Seventeenth Annual
SYMPOSIUM

**ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY
AND HOMOSEXUALITY**

Saturday, October 15, 2011
9:00 am to 1:30 pm

St. George
Antiochian Orthodox Church
1220 South 60th Court,
Cicero, IL 60804



WHAT IS SYNERGY?

Orthodox Christian Synergy is a Pan-Orthodox organization comprised of clergy and laypeople from Chicago area Orthodox Christian parishes.

SYNERGY was organized in 1990, and strives to promote interaction and co-operation among the local parishes and to promote awareness about Orthodox Christianity to the public at large. Among its activities are the sponsorship and support of:

- The annual Synergy SYMPOSIUM
- Annual Pan Orthodox Eve of Thanksgiving Divine Liturgy
- Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan Orthodox Vespers
- Pan Orthodox Akathist Service
- Pan Orthodox Sanctity of Life Prayer Service
- Dept of Children and Family Services (Cook County) Christmas Gift Program
- Orthodox Christians for Life
- Other Pan Orthodox Programs

SYNERGY invites members in good standing with area Orthodox Christian parishes to join us in our mission.

For information about SYNERGY, including upcoming meetings and events,
please visit our web site

www.chicagosynergy.org

REGISTRATION FORM

**Orthodox Christian SYNERGY Seventeenth Annual SYMPOSIUM
ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY AND HOMOSEXUALITY**

Saturday, October 15, 2011
St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church
1220 South 60th Court
Cicero, IL 60804

Yes! I will attend the Symposium on October 15!
 My Registration Fee is enclosed

\$35 until October 7
\$40 October 8-15
\$50 couples, until Oct. 7
\$20 High School &
College Students
(No refunds after October 8)

Name _____

Parish Affiliation _____

Address _____

Mail to: Orthodox Christian SYNERGY

City _____

c/o Diane L. Nickolaou, Treas.
15W322 79th Street
Burr Ridge, IL 60527

State, Zip _____ e mail: _____

For information, call 630-230-0079 or 847-647-8880

“ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY AND HOMOSEXUALITY”

Speaker:

Fr. Thomas Hopko

The scope of this Symposium is a frank presentation about homosexuality as an issue of Orthodox faith and life facing Orthodox Christians. The intention is to focus on how Orthodoxy understands the phenomenon of homosexuality, how Orthodox Christians with same-sex attractions are to deal with their condition, and how Orthodox Christians, especially clergymen and family members, are to relate to Orthodox Christians and all people who are same-sex attracted, rather than focusing on related cultural, social or legal issues.

SCHEDULE:

Registration and Coffee Service 9:00 am

Opening Prayer 9:40 am

Welcome
Michele Hagerman, Synergy President

First Presentation 10:00 am
“Theological Vision: Orthodox Christian Faith and Human Sexuality”

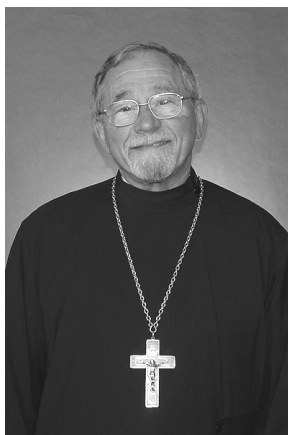
Questions/Discussion 10:45 am

BRUNCH 11:15 am

Second Presentation 12:00 pm
“Spiritual Practice: Orthodox Christian Life and Homosexual Attraction and Behavior”

Questions/Discussion..... 12:45 pm

Conclusion 1:30 pm



OUR SPEAKER:

Thomas John Hopko was born on March 28, 1939 in Endicott, New York where he was educated in the public schools. He graduated from Union-Endicott High School in 1956. He was baptized and raised in St. Mary’s Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Greek-Catholic Church.

He holds the rank of Protopresbyter in the Orthodox Church in America and is now in his 48th year of priestly service. He served as pastor of churches in Warren, Ohio (1963-68)), Wappingers Falls, NY (1968-1978), and Jamaica Estates, NY (1978-1983). He was rector of Three Hierarchs Chapel at St. Vladimir’s Seminary from 1992 to 2002.

From 1968 to 2002 he taught courses in Dogmatic Theology, Practical Theology, Homiletics and Spirituality at St. Vladimir’s Seminary. He served as Dean of SVS from September 1992 until retiring from this office in July 2002. He was given the title of *Dean Emeritus* by the SVS Board of Trustees.

Married to Anne Schmemmann in 1963, the Hopkos have 5 married children (a son and four daughters) and 15 grandchildren. Fr. Thomas and his wife Anne now live in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania.

Fr. Thomas is the author of multiple books and articles, most widely known for the four volumes of *The Orthodox Faith (Doctrine, Worship, Bible and Church History, and Spirituality)*. His book *Christian Faith and Same-Sex Attraction: Eastern Orthodox Reflections* was published by Conciliar Press in 2006.

HEALING SERVICE

A prayer service of healing will be held in the Church of St. George by Father Nicholas Dahdal, pastor, following the conclusion of the Symposium. All are welcomed.