

Daughter of Zion: Mother of the New Creation
First International Congress 2008

- Presented by -

The Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary - USA

Monday, August 11th - Friday, August 15th
[Saturday, August 16th - optional day]

You are invited to the first ever International Congress to be held by the Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary USA [ESBVM USA], on Monday, August 11, to Friday, August 15. In the tradition of the ESBVM USA, we hope to present stimulating papers which foster “listening” and “communicating.” The Congress includes ecumenical prayer together, visits to houses of worship, sightseeing, and time for social interaction and engagement. Our meeting space will be held in the Newman Library at the National Institute for Newman Studies, located adjacent to the University of Pittsburgh in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The location provides familiar and warm ties between the United Kingdom, Europe, and the USA. Also, we hope to organize an optional fun trip to a Pittsburgh’s “Big League” American baseball game. We have invited a number of American scholars to participate and will welcome speakers from “over the pond” at this Congress.

The idea for this International Congress was born at the International Congress held by ESBVM-UK in 2004, in Bath, England. We have worked industriously since that time in order to organize this important and truly historic event.

Our daily program is included below but is subject to change. Speakers who definitely have agreed to present papers to date are as follows:

Fr. Peter Stravinskis, Roman Catholic, founding editor of *The Catholic Response*, noted American Catholic apologist and author, co-founder of the Diocesan Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Mt. Pocono, Pennsylvania.

Fr. Nicolas L. Gregoris, Roman Catholic, noted Newman scholar and published author on Newman’s Mariology, co-founder of the Diocesan Oratory of St. Philip Neri in Mt. Pocono, Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Dr. Donald Lacy, noted United Methodist Mariologist, noted ecumenist, author and speaker, long-time member of the ESBVM-USA.

Rev. Dr. Judith Marie Gentle, Anglo-Catholic theologian and Mariologist, published author and speaker, current board member of ESBVM-USA.

Andrea Olivia Florendo, Roman Catholic, harpist and collector of Marian flower images and history, speaker and writer.

Dr. Virginia M. Kimball, Greek Orthodox theologian, adjunct professor at Assumption College, Worcester, Massachusetts and Merrimack College, No. Andover, Massachusetts, former president of the Mariological Society of America and Vice-president of the ESBVM USA.

Speakers who have been invited to speak and we await their response:

Dr. Mary Hansbury, an independent scholar in Syriac literature and iconographer.

Dr. Paul Russell, professor at an Anglican seminary in Maryland, and a Syriac scholar.

Dr. Elizabeth Podromou, Eastern Orthodox, Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts.

Fr. Thomas Hopko, Eastern Orthodox, Elwood City, PA.

Fr. John Abdalah, Antiochian Orthodox, rector at St. George Church in Oakland, PA.

Dr. Mark Miravalle, Roman Catholic, Franciscan University of Steubenville, Steubenville, Ohio.

Rev. Jennifer Juliano, United Church of Christ, pastor in Walton, New York.

Dr. Donald Dawe, Presbyterian, long-time member of ESBVM.

Robert Andrews, internationally known Byzantine iconographer, mosaics and paint, his work is seen at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral in San Francisco, California, and at the Transfiguration of the Savior Greek Orthodox Church in Lowell, Massachusetts (among many other locations.) He will be seen soon on a Discovery Channel special from Italy.

and ... presenters from ESBVM UK.

Molly's Trolley



Pittsburgh Newman Oratory



Preliminary Schedule of Events

Monday, August 11	Arrival, Registration Tea Opening and First Speaker Supper – Holiday Inn	Noon to 3 pm 2:30 pm 3:15 pm
Tuesday, August 12	<i>Paraklesis</i> (Orthodox Lenten prayer) Three morning speakers (45 mins. each, 10 mins questions) Lunch at Holiday Inn or nearby restaurants Visit to an Anglican church with tea and Evensong Evening speaker Andrea Olivia Florendo (proposed): “Beauty in the New Creation - Harp Music and the Meaning of Marian flowers”	7 pm 9:00 – 9:55 10:00 – 10:55 11:00 – 11:55 Noon Afternoon 7 pm
Wednesday, August 13	Three morning speakers (45 mins. each, 10 mins questions) Lunch at Holiday Inn or nearby restaurants Afternoon “break-out” sessions Panel discussions Supper and Evening casual social event or ... free time to rest or ... exhibition tables (books, etc.) or ... demonstration icon painting	9:00 – 9:55 10:00 – 10:55 11:00 – 11:55 Noon Afternoon Evening
Thursday, August 14	Three morning speakers (45 mins. each, 10 mins questions) Lunch at Holiday Inn or nearby restaurants Molly’s Trolley – Pittsburgh & its churches Tea – Hospitality Suite, Holiday Inn Supper, Holiday Inn or nearby restaurants <i>Dormition Vespers</i> (Orthodox Cathedral)	9:00 – 9:55 10:00 – 10:55 11:00 – 11:55 Noon 2:30 – 4 pm 7 pm
Friday, August 15	Assumption/Dormition Feast Day, choice of: Orthodox Cathedral Roman Catholic Cathedral Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Newman Oratory Other local parishes nearby Two afternoon speakers Tea between speakers Gala Banquet, Pittsburgh Athletic Club	2:30 - 3:25 3:45 - 4:40 6:00 pm
Saturday, August 16	Optional day with group activities Shopping the Prime Outlets, Grove City, PA (bus tour) Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Carnegie Museum of Natural History (across the street) Cathedral of Learning – U. Pittsburgh	

Daily Mass at Roman Catholic Cathedral 6:45 am; 8:15 am; 12 noon
Daily Mass and Eucharistic Adoration available at Newman Oratory Chapel

Booking Form

*Daughter of Zion: Mother of the New Creation
First International Congress 2008*

- Presented by -

The Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary - USA

**Monday, August 11th - Friday, August 15th
[Saturday, August 16th - optional day]**

Meeting Location: *The National Institute for Newman Studies*
[<http://www.newmanstudiesinstitute.org/>]
The Newman Library & Oratory
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA

Lodging: *The Holiday Inn Select, University Center, Oakland*
100 Lytton Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 USA
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania USA
\$115.00 plus \$19.55 hotel tax per day = Total of \$134 per day (by
Credit Card only) For a single, air conditioned private
room with private bathroom facilities (sink, toilet, shower)
[Rooms may be shared with up to four people per room,
arranged privately among registrants. Each with a separate
bed, shared bathroom facilities. The room cost is still the
same if there are 1, 2, 3, or 4 people in the room.]
Register online: www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/HL/hd/pitsp
Or, call the Inn: [country code + 412-682-6200]
OR [country code + 888-465-4329]
Congress code / Group code = **ESB**
[Reservations for rooms are made directly with the Inn by
Congress attendees – by telephone, mail, or online – CREDIT
CARD ONLY]

Meals: Meals will be purchased individually, either at the Inn or nearby
restaurants, bistros, and cafes (approximately \$35 per day)
A Grand Banquet on Friday, August 15, will be included in the
Registration Fee
Morning Coffee/Pastries and Afternoon Tea – included in the
Registration Fee

Connection by air: Pittsburgh International Airport, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania [PIT]
**Transportation from the airport to the Congress provided free to registered
attendees. Indicate your date, time of arrival, and email address on the
registration form so arrangements can be made to pick you up at the airport.**

Registration Cost: *After October 1, 2007*

\$450 payable on a US Bank (International Draft)

International Drafts are available at Barclay's Bank and other banks in the UK and other European countries.

Total is due by the beginning of the 2008 Congress after the deposit is made.

Deposit: \$100 payable on a US Bank (International Draft)

International Drafts are available at Barclay's Bank and other banks in the UK and other European countries

Early Registration before October 1, 2007

\$400 payable on a US Bank (International Draft)

International Drafts are available at Barclay's Bank and other banks in the UK and other European countries.

Total is due by the beginning of the 2008 Congress after the deposit is made (before October 1, 2007).

Deposit: \$100 payable on a US Bank (International Draft)

International Drafts are available at Barclay's Bank and other banks in the UK and other European countries

If unable to send an International Draft, contact us for other options.

Bruce Lawrence and Franck Romance, Co/Registrars and Treasurers

Email: LAWRENCE@pire.org

Mail: Bruce Lawrence, 11340 Evans Trail, #202, Beltsville, Maryland, USA 20705- 3021

Amenities and possible other costs:

Amenities for the room and lodging may be arranged directly with the Inn

(See www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/Hi/hd/pitsp)

Meals: approximately \$35 per day (full range of eateries available)

Local transportation (bus, cab, train) for private needs

Baseball game in Pittsburgh (possibly on Saturday, August 16, 2008)

Spirits at the bar (evening)

Shopping (Museums have gift shops, local shopping in the area)



International Congress 2008, ESBVM USA

Name: _____

Address: _____

[Please include street, town/city, country]

Email address: (required if at all possible) _____

Early Registration by **October 1, 2007** (please mark here) Yes ____ No ____
\$100 deposit (check payable on a US bank (International Draft) must be included.

Congress Registration \$400 (early registration) Yes ____ No ____
\$450 (after October 1, 2007) Yes ____ No ____
\$100 deposit (check payable on a US bank (International Draft) must be included.

[Presenters will be guests of the Congress, room and food.] Are you a presenter? Yes ____ No ____

Are you interested in the Proceedings to be mailed at a later date after the Congress?
Yes ____ No ____ [You will be notified of the cost + mailing at a later date]

What is your faith / denomination? [optional] _____

Would you be interested in taking part in the ESBVM USA prayer service? Yes ____ No ____

Would you like to participate in a liturgy/service of your faith? Yes ____ No ____

Specify any particulars _____

Take part in Congress visit to your church, if possible?

Roman Catholic morning Mass? ____ Anglican Eucharist? _____

Reform Tradition ? _____

Orthodox Vespers for the Dormition ? _____ Orthodox Liturgy for the Dormition ? _____

Any health conditions we need to know about? _____

[Note There is some walking involved to the meeting areas from the Inn (three blocks). We are providing free shuttle transportation to the meeting areas by van. Please let us know if you will utilize this service.
Yes ____ No ____]

Date and time of arrival, and airline _____

Are you interested in attending an American baseball game on Saturday, August 16, 2008? Yes ____ No ____

Mail this form with required deposit to:

Bruce A. Lawrence, 11340 Evans Trail, #202, Beltsville, Maryland 20705-3021, USA.

Refer all registration questions to: LAWRENCE@pire.org

Make checks payable to:

Ecumenical Society of the Blessed Virgin Mary USA