

Contact:

The Healing Initiative
Third Conference on Holistic Healing in Byzantium: Modern Adaptations
The Institute of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion
PO Box 380958
Cambridge, MA 02238
Telephone: 617-868-6557
Fax: 617-868-6550
Email: info@inmpr.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: (December 8, 2005)****Holistic Healing Conference to Feature Markides and Bishop Athanasios of Cyprus**

BROOKLINE, MASS: Bestselling author Kyriacos Markides, known for his trilogy on Orthodox mysticism, will welcome His Grace Bishop Athanasios of Cyprus and together open this year's Spring conference of the Institute of Medicine, Psychology, and Religion.

Dr. Markides calls the Bishop's appearance at the conference, taking place March 31st - April 1st, 2006 at Hellenic College/Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, MA, "a unique opportunity to be exposed to the healing gems of the Orthodox tradition, for Orthodox and non-Orthodox Christians alike." Other speakers will address the practical integration of faith and science in healing. Paper submissions on this topic are invited through December 20th, 2005.

As in years past, the interdisciplinary conference will gather educators, researchers, theologians and clinical professionals to discuss Holistic Healing in Byzantium. This year's conference on Modern Adaptations includes current practices and practical considerations, and will conclude the three-year series on Integrated Healing.

Selected papers delivered at the conference will be included in the second volume of the forthcoming book *Holistic Healing in Byzantium*. Publication of the first volume, which addresses the theology and epistemology of Byzantine healing as discussed in previous conferences, is slated for Spring, 2006. Paper proposals of 300-500 words related to the interdisciplinary praxis of holistic healing may be submitted to info@inmpr.org, or by mail to the contact address below by December 20th, 2005.

Conference registration and information about this Institute can be found at www.inmpr.org/conferences.html. Potential participants are encouraged to take advantage of the Early Bird registration date of February 1st, 2006.

As host of the conference, the Healing Initiative of the Institute for Medicine, Psychology, and Religion, is an outgrowth of collaborative research with the Center for the Study of World Religions at Harvard University. Affiliated with the Lilly Foundation at Hellenic College and the Local Societies Initiative of the Metanexus Institute, its purview is to encourage the integration of faith and healing by supporting interdisciplinary dialogue, research, and practice through publications and conferences in the field of holistic healing. Visit www.inmpr.org for more details.