

EUCCHARISTIC INSTITUTIONALIZATION AND HESYCHAST CATECHESIS¹

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Abstract

The importance of Hesychastic theology for contemporary catechesis is indisputable. The Church is the space in which Hesychastic Tradition and theology grow empirically and the place in which this Tradition becomes an essential attribute of Orthodox ecclesiology. By the very term of hesychia we mean the attitude of withdrawal from the "communion at any cost" to a state of internalization, a state which, without excluding communion, does not absolutize it. Any attempt to introduce another form of preaching into the dynamics of Church life risks seriously affecting the ethos of this life and leading to a perversion of the true meaning of the Church.

Keywords: catechesis, ecclesiology, ethos, hesychia, institution, open mind, coaching

1. Introductory explanations. Eucharistic institutionalization: attempts to define it

This study does not intend to bring up front the matter of frequent communion or to develop the apologetic of a frequent or rare communion! This is another issue which has its own frame in the context of the pastoral discussions of liturgical and Eucharistic nature. The motivation of this study is given by the acknowledgement of the apparition in the contemporary theological discourse of a tendency to associate frequent communion

¹This study has also been published in Romanian, in Anuarul Facultății de Teologie Ortodoxă "Justinian Patriarhul", Year XX, Bucharest, 2020, pp. 481-494. I chose to publish it in English as well with some improvements, both for a better visibility of the content and for a potential problematization of the subject in the wider international theological environment.