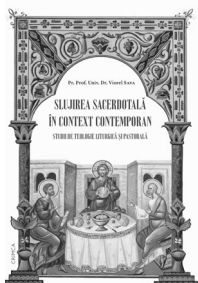


**Rev. Prof. PhD Viorel Sava, *Priestly Service in a Contemporary Context. Studies of Liturgical and Pastoral Theology*, Crimca Publishing House, Suceava, 2023, 384 p.**



In the latter part of 2023, at Crimca Publishing House of Archdiocese of Suceava and Rădăuți, appeared the exceptional work *Studies in Liturgical and Pastoral Theology*, by Father Professor PhD Viorel Sava, who teaches Liturgical Theology at the Faculty of Orthodox Theology in Iași, being at the same time PhD coordinator and scientific supervisor of many students and master's students from the same faculty. The work, both liturgical and pastoral, brings together studies compiled by the Father Professor during the years of research in the two fields of Practical Theology, now being brought together in a single volume. This volume is offered to Father Viorel Sava, on his beautiful 60<sup>th</sup> birthday, by his disciples. As the editors state, Father Viorel Sava returns this gift "to his spiritual and physical parents, to his family, to the teachers of the past (among whom Father Professor Nicolae D. Necula is in the place of honor), to the Romanian liturgy, to the Romanian Orthodox Church and to Christ the Lord, to whom he serves with exemplary selflessness" (p. 42).

At the beginning of this volume, in a medallion created as an offering of honor, suggestively titled "Fr. Prof. PhD. Viorel Sava at the «age of the perfect man» in Christ", the editors: Fr. Associate Professor. PhD. Lucian Petroaia, Fr. University Professor PhD. Marian Vâlcu and Fr. University Professor PhD. Dumitru Vanca make a foray into the life and the priestly and theological development of the Father Professor. In this part they presented an overview of the theological work of His Holiness and some coordinates of his theological thinking, as well as the far-reaching academic projects, which are in full swing.

As I stated at the beginning of my review, the volume brings together very updated theological-liturgical and pastoral articles and studies, which can inspire the future and current ministers of the Holy Shrines in the sacramental and pastoral work that they have to fulfill. All the materials edited in this unitary volume are approached from two perspectives: on the one hand, in a