



SAINT MARK'S ORTHODOX FELLOWSHIP (CANADA)._
8 Th. ANNUAL CHRISTIAN UNITY CONFERENCE.

(Preliminary Notice)

"Orthodox Christianity, Bioethical Problems, and the Course of Human Life from Birth to Death."

August 2 – 4 2008. Toronto.

Speaker :Fr. John Breck. (See over).

Place :St. Mark Coptic Orthodox Church (Scarborough) and other locations (TBA)

Sessions :(1) Saturday evening.

(2) Sunday afternoon, then dinner,

(3) Sunday night,

(4) Monday morning, lunch, farewell.

Admission : Free to Public. (please **send notice of your attendance** for meal-planning)

Topics (including open discussion and questions at each talk)

(1) Bioethical Issues and Orthodox Solutions at the **Beginning of Life** :

Medically assisted procreation, status of the embryo, genetic engineering, abortion, etc.

(2) Socio-bioethics at **Mid-Life** :

Orthodox Views of Family Systems and the Raising of Children in Modern Society.

(3) Bioethical Issues and Orthodox Solutions at the **End of Life** :

Palliative care, physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia, pain management, accompanying the dying, etc

Website Address: www.smofonline.org E-mail Address: smof.canada@gmail.com

(Archpriest) Fr. John Breck

Father John Breck is one of the best-known Orthodox writers and lecturers today on the engagement of science and theology in questions of bioethics.

His books on this subject (which will be available at the Conference) are translated into French, Russian, Romanian, Bulgarian, Greek, and Arabic; they include *The Sacred Gift of Life. Orthodox Christianity and Bioethics*. (1998) [available in Arabic and Romanian translations], *God With Us. Critical Issues in Christian Life and Faith* (2003), *Stages on Life's Way. Orthodox Thinking on Bioethics* (with Lyn Breck) (2005), and *Longing for God. Orthodox Reflections on Bible, Ethics and Liturgy* (2006).

Besides his work on bioethics, Fr. Breck is also a noted New Testament scholar and teacher. His books on New Testament include *The Power of the Word* (1986), *The Spirit of Truth. The Origins of Johannine Pneumatology* (1991), *The Shape of Biblical Language* (1994), and *Scripture in Tradition. The Bible and its Interpretation in the Orthodox Church* (2001).



Fr. Breck is Professor Emeritus of New Testament from the world-famous St. Vladimir's Theological Seminary in New York, and he has had a long, and continuing, career as Professor of both New Testament and of Ethics at the famous St. Serge Orthodox Theological Institute, Paris, France. He also is Visiting Lecturer annually at the theological faculties of Romania, and in the past has taught at St. Herman's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Kodiak, Alaska. He holds graduate degrees from Yale Divinity School and the University of Heidelberg, is *Doctor honoris causa* from the University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania (2003)

Besides his academic work and journalistic essays, Fr. Breck together with his wife Lyn is the Director of the St. Silouan Retreat Centre on Wadmalaw Island (South Carolina)