

EDITORIAL

The Holy Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church declared 2015 "Mission Year of Parish and Monastery Today" and "Commemorative Year of St. John Chrysostom and of great Shepherds of Souls." Therefore the periodical *Teologia* decided to dedicate its last issue for this year to publishing reflections on the pastoral profile of St. John Chrysostom.

As guest editors, we managed to win five authors to contribute to this thematic issue: a Romanian, an Orthodox American of Greek origin who wrote in English and three German protestant authors who eventually wrote in German. Lucian Farcașiu writes about the profile of priest's life as described by St. John Chrysostom and the way how this profile is aimed to determine the accomplishing of priest's mission at parish level. Martin Illert, a young German protestant patrologist pensioned for St. John Chrysostom's personality, researches St. John Chrysostom's sermon *De vana gloria et de educandis liberis* and depicts in this way St. John Chrysostom's profile as shepherd of souls (germ. Seelsorger). Adolf Martin Ritter, retired professor for Patrology and Early Christianity and a worldwide recognized authority in field of chrysostomology, contributed with an article whose purpose is to present St. John Chrysostom's profile as shepherd of souls (germ. Seelsorger) starting from a selection of several fragments from Chrysostom's extensive writing to whom he added valuable personal comments. Adrian Podaru, a young Romanian Orthodox patrologist extremely passionate for St. John Chrysostom's life, work and historical impact, contributed with a valuable attempt to draft a holistic portrait of St. John Chrysostom as pastoral authority. Demetrios E. Tonia, Protopresbyter of Greek origin, active in the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese in the United States of America an author of several studies in field of patrology and inter-religious dialogue kindly accepted to contribute with a valuable study on models of virtue of Old Testament patriarchs and prophets as they are presented by St. John Chrysostom. Last but not least Andreas Heiser, young German patrologist who is internationally recognized as a specialist in St. John Chrysostom, proposes an excellent study on St. John Chrysostom's ecclesiology, using as starting point his affirmation that the virtuous disappeared from our midst.

Cristinel Ioja, Daniel Buda

The guest editors are very thankful to all five authors who responded positively to our invitation to contribute to this issue of *Teologia*. It is our hope that their efforts materialized in the studies encapsulated in this volume will be lectured by everyone interested to know better the tremendous contribution of St. John Chrysostom in field of pastoral care.

**Cristinel Ioja, “Aurel Vlaicu” University, Arad, Romania
Daniel Buda, “Lucian Blaga” University, Sibiu, Romania**