Abstracts and keywords for all scientific articles of magazine №4 2021

From the history of the order of service and the rites of Christian burial

Archpriest Andrey Melnichuk (Melnichuk A. A.)

Abstract: The present article consideres the issue of the structure of the Christian burial service in various periods of the history of Christian worship. The study of the order of burial service makes it possible to establish which elements that made up the ancient basis of the service have fallen out of liturgical practice over time. The author of the article relies on the existing research of clergymen and scientists engaged in the analysis of Orthodox worship. As a result, a logical chain of reflections and researches on this issue was established among the key scientists studying the development of the burial service. Thus, the present-day order of burial service is the result of large-scale transformations of the original service, that dates back to X-XII centuries. This has resulted in the fact that in the modern order of service the comprehension of the death of a fellow Christian as entering into a new life has been lost. The latter circumstance causes an increasing desire of a number of liturgists to turn to the heritage of the Ancient Church, focused on consoling the living people, grieving for the loss of a loved one.

Keywords: liturgical charter; Typicon; Christian burial; funeral service; liturgics; Euchologion; hymnography; the order of service.

The problem of the origin and nature of the Church authority in Russian Theological Science of XIX–XX centuries and the conciliar system of the Church

Priest Victor Kulaga (Kulaga V. V.)

Abstract: In the proposed article the author analyzes the problem of considering the origin and nature of church power in the historical criticism of Protestant theology, which was reflected in Russian theology at the turn of XIX-XX centuries. This study emphasizes that, for Orthodox theology, overcoming of Protestant ideas in the understanding of church authority lies in the difference between the sacred (hierarchical) and the governmental (administrative) authority in the Church. Their identification or confusion leads to the problems of understanding of the continuous apostolic succession, the emergence and nature of the episcopal ministry, the historical development of the administrative power and primacy in the Church. The author connects the solution of these issues with the need to consider the origin and development of the administrative power within the framework of the conciliar system of the Church. According to his conclusions, the functioning of the governmental authority in the structure and life of the Church implies not only the implementation by the bishop of the sacred authority based on the sacrament of the Priesthood and received in the act of ordination through apostolic succession, but also its realization through the conciliarity of the Church. In this sense, the governmental power in the Church is exercised in the context of the historical development of its administrative structure in the activation and development of the conciliar system. The most important consequence of this historical development of the administrative structure of the Church is the institution of primacy, which has an official function.

Keywords: apostolic succession; primacy; governmental (administrative) authority; sacred (hierarchical) authority; conciliar system of the Church; sacrament of the Priesthood; church hierarchy; church ministry; charisma.

Dialogue of the Roman Catholic Church with the pre-Chalcedonian Oriental Churches (from the 1960s to the 1980s)

Protopriest Mikalai Sauchuk (Sauchuk M. I.)

Abstract: The present article substantively consideres the dialogue between the Catholic Church and the pre-Chalcedonian Churches. The time and place of the meetings, the main participants and the agreements reached are indicated herein. In the analysis of foreign sources, an attempt is made to consider the results of activities aimed at building dialogue between Catholics and pre-Chalcedonites. The dynamics of the meetings and their content show the interest of the both sides in such a process of rapprochement in those areas which are most acceptable to the opponents. In parallel, the Catholic Church developed efforts to establish ties between the Oriental Orthodox Churches, contributing to the development of dialogue and the elimination of differences between them. Various platforms and commissions served to achieve this goal, where representatives of various pre-Chalcedonian churches had the opportunity to discuss and resolve issues of unity and disagreement, significant for all the parties. Examination of such experience in the context of modern realities may also be of importance for the Russian Orthodox Church, which is intensifying efforts to establish a dialogue with the pre-Chalcedonites.

Keywords: Roman Catholic Church; International Mixed Commission for Dialogue; PreChalcedonian Churches; Armenian Apostolic Church; Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church, Christology, Mariology.

The legal basis and spheres of interaction of State authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local self-government bodies with religious organizations of the Russian Orthodox Church

Metropolitan of Smolensk and Dorogobuzh Isidor (Tupikin R. V.)

Abstract: The article analyzes the key areas of cooperation and interaction of State authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local self-government bodies with religious organizations, in particular with centralized religious organizations and Orthodox parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church. The normative acts regulating these relationships are considered. Some conclusions are drawn regarding the possible development of mutual cooperation, including those affecting the interests of the Russian Orthodox Church. The main purpose of this research is to study the main directions of interaction between State and municipal authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and religious organizations, in particular the bodies of the Russian Orthodox Church. Both prospects and challenges in the development of such relations are determined.

Keywords: secular state; religious organization; religious activity; State authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation; local self-government bodies; normative legal acts.

Experience of church-state cooperation in the field of taxation

Priest Lev Garin (Garin L. K.)

Abstract: In this article, the author examines the aspects of the interaction of the Russian Orthodox Church and the state in the field of financial relations, which are determined by law. It describes the problems of applying tax benefits, as well as other support provided by the state at the current stage of development of state-church relations, and gives the analysis of the features of normative regulation of tax benefits and related problems. The main purpose of this research is to study the main types of tax preferences provided by the state to religious organizations, including the Russian Orthodox Church, and their assessment for sustaining economic activities of Orthodox parishes

Keywords: interaction between State and Russian Orthodox Church; religious organization; non-profit organization; tax preferences; benefits; subsidies; state support; social policy

Common doctrines in the Acts of Paul and the Pastoral Epistles

Priest Ilya Burdukov (Burdukov I. V.)

Abstract: This article will cover topics concerning common positions for the apocrypha «Acts of Paul» and the Pastoral Epistles. This work is a logical continuation of the research on the relationship between the apocrypha and the canonical books of the New Testament. Since it was previously shown that the "Acts of Paul" are most closely related to the Pastoral Epistles of apostle Paul, it was decided to elaborate on this matter in more detail. As a result, due to the comparative analysis, it became possible to identify six thematic blocks, which demonstrate the concurrence of two groups of works. The conducted research gives a greater reason to consider the «Acts of Paul» from the point of view of Orthodox and canonical ideas, to which this apocrypha corresponds to a larger extent than it was previously believed. In this regard, the common ideas and the common language testify to the time and context in which the apocryphal «Deeds» were created.

Keywords: apocrypha «Acts of Paul»; Pastoral Epistles; apostle Paul; the Roman Empire; persecution; celibacy; false teachers; the official church; attitude to wealth.

Diocesan reports as a source for studying the Church everyday life in the early 1950s (on the example of the Kalinin Diocese)

Begovatov D. A.

Abstract: The article presents a description of the research potential of the diocesan reports of the Kalinin Diocese in the early 1950s for studying issues of the church everyday life. The main informational and thematic blocks of this type of documents are highlighted, the data contained in them are compared with the testimonies of contemporaries of the described events. The article proves the importance of using diocesan reports in order to reveal certain aspects of the church everyday life and clarify the cause and effect relationships of the phenomena under study. The conclusion is made on the advisability of using reporting documents in research together with oral historical sources to form the most complete and reliable picture of the past.

Keywords: Kalinin Diocese; annual diocesan reports; church everyday life; oral history; 1950s; «church revival»; archive department of the Tver Diocesan Scientific Library; state religious policy.

The history of teaching the scientific discipline of church law in higher educational institutions of the Russian Empire in XIX century

Priest Vladislav Bagan (Bagan V. V.)

Abstract: The present article provides an overview of the history of teaching and studying the scientific discipline of church law in the system of humanitarian knowledge of the Russian Empire in XIX century. The work reflects the development of methods, approaches, leading directions of teaching this discipline. In the initial period of its formation, church law was part of the system of theological sciences. The process of formation of the scientific discipline of church law was determined by the systematization of Russian law, which began under Emperor Nicholas I. Until the middle of XIX century church law was developed exclusively by professors of theology and representatives of the clergy, but subsequently the situation changed and church law issues became the object for scientific research by secular lawyers and jurists. The work reflects the institutional changes in the sphere of spiritual education, which affected, among other things, the state of teaching church law. The author traces the change of thematic priorities and main research areas in the development of the scientific discipline of church law in the Russian Empire in XIX century. The complicated development of the scientific discipline of church law gave the prerevolutionary jurisprudence new legal categories and some institutions of law. The article outlines the contours of unexplored areas in the history of church law in the legal system of the Russian Empire of the XIX century.

Keywords: church law; canon law; system of church law; source of church law; science of church law; theological discipline; Russian Empire.

Ukrainian and Belarusian autocephalous movements in the context of the claims of the Patriarchate of Constantinople on the territory of the historical Kiev Metropolia

Slesarev A. V.

Abstract: The emergence of the Ukrainian and Belarusian autocephalous movements in XX century was accompanied by attempts to build a system of ideological justifications for the desire to separate from the Russian Orthodox Church. An important component of these concepts was the statement about the allegedly non-canonical transfer of the Kiev Metropolia to the jurisdiction of the Russian Orthodox Church, approved by the decision of the Council of Constantinople in 1686. Initially distancing itself from the proposals of advocates of Ukrainian autocephaly to support the development of the Ukrainian autocephalous Orthodox Church, the Patriarchate of Constantinople in 1924 changed its position. By disavowing the conciliar acts of 1686, the Ecumenical Patriarchate actually supported Ukrainian and Belarusian church separatism. For this reason, the claims of the Patriarchate of Constantinople on the territory of the historical Kiev Metropolia provoked the development of schismatic movements and eventually led to a deep crisis of inter-Orthodox relations.

Keywords: Patriarchate of Constantinople; Russian Orthodox Church; Kiev Metropolia; Orthodox Church in Poland; Orthodox Church of Ukraine; Orthodoxy; autocephaly; nationalism; church schism.

Activity of the Commissioner for Religious Affairs under the Council of Ministers of the USSR for the Smolensk Region and changes in the network of religious institutions in 1987–1990

Ivanov A. M.

Abstract: Perestroika initiated change not only in the political and socio-economic reality in the USSR, but also led to the transformation of religious life. Under these conditions, the Council for Religious Affairs under the Council of Ministers of the USSR remained one of the key links in building ties between the state and religious organizations. Its commissioners in the regions, in connection with the change in the course of the party, also had to change their previous attitudes and methods of work. Under the new configuration, their actions acquired not a restraining character, but sometimes, on the contrary, a character contributing to the development of religious life, as evidenced by the active opening of new and restoration of old religious buildings in the Smolensk region during the period under review. In this article the author, basing on the archival data and statistics on the opening of religious comunities, makes a conclusion that during the period of Perestroika, the regional authorities quickly accepted the changed conditions and made efforts to follow a new domestic political course aimed at easing the tension between the state and religious organizations.

Keywords: relationship between state and Church; Perestroika; religious policy of the USSR; Russian Orthodox Church; 1000th anniversary of Baptism of Rus; Commissioner for Religious Affairs; administering; democratization of society.

State power and Old Belief in the period from 1905 to 1917

Priest Dmitry Gamilovsky (Gamilovsky D. M.)

Abstract: The Old Belief, as well as the Russian Orthodox Church, belongs to Orthodoxy. The conditions for the existence of Old Believer communities in the Russian Empire were difficult. The state power of the Russian Empire recognized the Old Believers as Orthodox schismatics and imposed various restrictions in order to prevent the development of the Old Belief in the Russian Empire. The restrictions were related to the peculiarities of marriage among Old Believers, construction of church buildings, missionary activity, and settlement in the territories of the empire. The Russian Orthodox Church in the given period acted as part of the state apparatus, therefore, unlike the Old Believers, it had sufficient administrative support. The State Archive of the Smolensk region contains an extensive amount of materials revealing the status of Old Believers in the Smolensk province. When studying them, it becomes clear that the state of the Old Believers in the indicated period was relatively prosperous, in comparison with other sectarian religious denominations.

Keywords: Russian Orthodox Church; Old Belief; Russian Empire; state power; Orthodox schismatics; archival data.

Orthodox churches of Moscow in 1918-1921. Conditions of existence and scale of liquidation

Borisyuk A. A.

Abstract: The article analyzes the status of Orthodox churches on the territory of Moscow in 1918-1921: it reveals the peculiar features of securing churches for Orthodox communities, analyzes the changes in the financial coverage of churches, presents the data on the liquidation of Moscow churches. Within the framework of the article it is reported in 1918 the Church was deprived of the status of a legal entity and of the right to own property (including chirch buildings). A legal basis was created for the liquidation of churches to any extent required. However, in the conditions of mass support of the Church on the part of believers, the Soviet government did not venture to completely close churches. The transfer of churches to groups of believers under personal responsibility was begun. On the territory of Moscow, this phenomenon became widespread. Due to the steadfastness of believers who stood up for the Church en masse, as well as to the heroic work of the priesthood, who continued their ministry in the conditions of deprivation, by 1921 a significant part of Moscow churches remained open.

Keywords: History of Russian Church; parish churches; monasteries; persecution; repression; financial situation of the Church in the USSR; revolution; Patriarch Tikhon; History of Moscow

On the issue of the seizure of Church valuables in the Smolensk province in 1922

Gavrilenkov A. F.

Abstract: In 1922, in Soviet Russia, a seizure of valuables took place which was connected with the assistance to the starving provinces, whose population was in a grave situation. The State power issued a number of legislative acts, according to which the seizure of valuables subsequently took place. In doing so, the Soviet state seized from religious organizations what constituted luxury items and on condition that the withdrawal did not violate the administration of worship. Nevertheless, the withdrawal was met by believers in different ways. For instance, on the territory of the Smolensk province, in the county towns, Orthodox believers did not resist the authorities and gave away the valuables. In Smolensk, the believers of the Holy Dormition Cathedral resisted the authorities. The seizure of valuables in the Roman Catholic churches of the province and in the Evangelical Lutheran church of Smolensk took place peacefully.

Keywords: famine relief; church valuables; seizure of valuables; resistance of the population; Smolensk province; Orthodox churches; Roman Catholic churches; Evangelical Lutheran church.