

ST. SYMEON OF THESSALONIKA
The Liturgical Commentaries

This volume contains an edition and facing English translation of Ἐρμηνεῖα περὶ τοῦ θείου ναοῦ (*Explanation of the Divine Temple*) and “Περὶ τῆς ἱεραῆς λειτουργίας” (“On the Sacred Liturgy”), the two commentaries on the pontifical (hierarchical) Byzantine Divine Liturgy by St. Symeon of Thessalonika († 1429). This edition is based on MS Zagora 23, which contains extensive corrections and additions apparently added to the text by the author himself. The book opens with a historical and theological foreword on liturgical commentaries and mystagogy by Archimandrite Robert Taft. The introduction surveys the life and career of St. Symeon, analyzes the structure and theology of the commentaries, and concludes with an account of technical and editorial questions. The index includes references to names, places, and topics in Symeon’s text and in the introduction and traces key terms in the commentaries in both Greek and English.

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ST. SYMEON OF THESSALONIKA

The Liturgical Commentaries

Edited and translated by

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PONTIFICAL INSTITUTE OF MEDIAEVAL STUDIES

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MANUFACTURED IN CANADA

This book is dedicated
with affection and admiration to
Right Reverend Archimandrite Robert F. Taft, SJ, FBA,
my friend, my teacher, my mentor,
my colleague, my brother Jesuit,
and fellow Byzantine priest.

He has taught us so much
in his writings and lectures
and more by example.

ΜΗΘΥΜΑ ἘΜΕ ΛΕΓΤΑ!

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Abbreviations

For complete details on published works listed here, please consult the bibliography.

- BAS Byzantine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
CHR Byzantine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
DOP *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*
E St. Symeon of Thessalonika, *Ἐρμηνεία περὶ τοῦ θείου ναοῦ*
(*Explanation of the Divine Temple*)
JAS Liturgy of St. James
L St. Symeon of Thessalonika, “Περὶ τῆς ἱερᾶς λειτουργίας” (“On
the Sacred Liturgy”)
OCA *Orientalia Christiana Analecta*
OCP *Orientalia Christiana Periodica*
ODB *The Oxford Dictionary of Byzantium*, ed. by Alexander P. Kazhdan
ODCC *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, ed. by Frank L. Cross
and Elizabeth A. Livingstone
PG *Patrologia Graeca*
PHW *Politico-historical Works of Symeon Archbishop of Thessalonica*
(1416/17 to 1429), ed. by David Balfour
PL *Patrologia Latina*
REB *Revue des études byzantines*
SC *Sources chrétiennes*
ThW *Ἁγίου Συμεῶν ἀρχιεπισκόπου Θεσσαλονίκης (1416/17–1429)*
Ἔργα Θεολογικά (Theological works of St. Symeon, Archbishop
of Thessalonika, 1416/17–1429), ed. by David Balfour
Z Zagora (Greece), Zagora Public Library, Manuscript 23