

Canadian Society for Patristic Studies – Annual Meeting 2026 Program

(as of May 8, 2026)

All sessions will take place at St. Augustine’s Seminary downtown campus (Alumni Hall, 121 St. Joseph St.) in Toronto, Ontario.

All times are provided in EDT (Eastern Daylight Time).

A **(V)** after a presentation’s title indicates that the presentation will be delivered virtually.

DAY 1 — TUESDAY, MAY 26

12:00–12:15 — **President’s Greeting (Plenary, Room A)**

12:15–2:15 Parallel Session 1

ROOM A Panel 1 — Ascetism and Emotions	ROOM B Panel 2 — Martyrdom and Early Christian Identity
<i>Ivan Bodrožić (University of Split)</i> Asceticism as Therapy for Human Wounds According to St. Jerome’s Epistles	<i>Mona Tokarek LaFosse (University of Toronto)</i> Polycarp the Martyr: Definitely Not a Weary Old Man
<i>Alice Candy (Saint Paul University Ottawa)</i> How Do We Solve a Problem Like Macrina?: Exploring Gregory of Nyssa’s Account of Macrina’s Early Life (V)	<i>Marcin Wysocki (The John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin, Poland)</i> Fathers in the Acts of the Christian Martyrs
<i>Fabrizio Vecoli (Université de Montréal)</i> La thérapie des émotions dans la littérature ascétique d’Antiquité tardive (IVe-VIe s.) (V)	<i>Katherine E. Milco (Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology)</i> How My Perspective on Early Christian Martyrdom Shifted After Investigating Contemporary Coptic Martyrdom in Egypt
<i>Philippe Therrien (Université Laval)</i> La représentation des émotions dans les récits de quête de connaissance. L’exemple des <i>Homélies pseudo-clémentines</i>	<i>Grayden McCashen (University of Notre Dame)</i> The Mind, Soul, and Inclusivity in Early Christian Community

2:15–2:30 — **Coffee Break**

2:30–4:00 Parallel Session 2

ROOM A Panel 3 — Augustine I	ROOM B Panel 4 — Developments in 2nd Century Christianity
<i>Zinan Zhang (KU Leuven)</i> Conversion, Delay, and Silence: Augustine and the Imperial Crisis after 386	<i>Eric Créghneur (Université Laval)</i> Le chair du Christ selon Apelle, disciple de Marcion
<i>Anne-Isabelle Bouton-Touboulic (Université de Lille)</i> Masculin/féminin et la question des genres de vie chez saint Augustin	<i>Lorne R. Zelyck (University of Alberta)</i> The Reception and Rejection of the <i>Protevangelium of James</i> in the Early Church
<i>Pascaline Turpin (Université Catholique de Lille)</i> The Metaphysics of the Devil in Saint Augustine: Ontology, Psychology, and Praxis of the Devil. The Devil as an “Experiential” Angel (V)	<i>Andrius Valevicius (Université de Sherbrooke)</i> “The Seven Daughters of the Spiritual Life” in the <i>Shepard of Hermas</i>

4:00–4:15 — **Coffee Break**

4:15–5:15 — **Annual General Meeting (Plenary, Room A)**

6:00 — **Banquet (at Donatello Restaurant on Elm St.)**

DAY 2 — WEDNESDAY, MAY 27

9:00–11:00 Parallel Session 3

ROOM A Panel 5 — Polyphony of Theologies	ROOM B Panel 6 — Patristic Exegesis
<i>Wendy E. Helleman (University of Toronto)</i> Marius Victorinus on the Trinity as 'Double Dyads'	<i>Krisztián Fenyves (Pázmány Péter Catholic University)</i> Jerome’s Veritas Hebraica and the Dynamics of Jewish-Christian Exegetical Encounter (V)
<i>Benedetto Neola (Universiteit Leiden)</i> Naming God: Eunomius, the Cappadocians, and the Shadow of Neoplatonism (V)	<i>Tiphaine Lorieux (KU Leuven)</i> The Exegesis of Gennadius of Constantinople through His Commentary on Hosea (V)
<i>Xavier Morales (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile)</i> La personnalité de Dieu, une question non posée par les Pères de l’Église?	<i>Alex Michael Trew (Tyndale University)</i> Job’s συμπόσιον: The Figure of Job as Philosopher in the Homilies of Gregory of Nyssa and John Chrysostom (V)
<i>Arthur Urbano (Providence College)</i> Dressing like God: A Sartorial Theology in the Paedagogus of Clement of Alexandria (V)	<i>Agata Sowińska (University of Silesia, Poland)</i> Papyrus Berolinensis Graeca 9794: An Anthology of Prayers and Its Hermetic Element (V)

11:00–11:15 — **Coffee Break**

11:15–12:45 Parallel Session 4

ROOM A Panel 7 — Donatism in North Africa: Roots and Reception	ROOM B Special Session — Patristic Studies on Christianity Outside the Latin & Greek Speaking World I
<i>Aaron Debusschere (Université Saint Paul University)</i> <i>Ratio Unitatis: Cyprian's View of Peter's Role in the Unity of the Episcopate</i>	<i>Andrew N. A. Youssef</i> An Evaluation of Coptic Orthodox Objections to Gregory Palamas's Doctrine of Deification
<i>Emanuele Piazza (Università degli Studi di Catania)</i> The Donatist Schism: Reflections from the Fifth and Sixth Centuries by Augustine of Hippo and Gregory the Great (V)	<i>Timothy Pettipiece (Carleton University)</i> Mission and Mimesis: The Literary Erasure of Manichaeism in the Syriac Christian World (V)
<i>Jennifer Otto (University of Lethbridge)</i> Donatists Reconsidered	<i>Paul Robinson (McMaster Divinity College)</i> The Radiance Who Makes Everyone Shine: Deification as Beautification in Ephrem the Syrian's Hymns on Paradise

12:45–2:00 — **Lunch (on site) / Student Lunch (Room B)**

2:00–4:00 Parallel Session 5

ROOM A Special Session — Crisis, Trauma & Therapeia	ROOM B Special Session — Reception of Patristics I
<i>Jimmy Chan (Alliance Bible Seminary)</i> Polyphonic Therapeia in Augustine: Psalm 41(42) in <i>Confessiones</i> , <i>Enarrationes in Psalmos</i> , and <i>De civitate Dei</i>	<i>David Cholewa (Newman Theological College)</i> The Neoplatonic Foundations of Aquinas's Metaphysics: Being and Participation as grounded in Pseudo-Dionysius's <i>On the Divine Names</i> (V)
<i>Naoki Kamimura (Tokyo Gakugei University)</i> The medicinal image and the care of souls in the correspondence of Augustine	<i>Alexander Ferrant (Newman Theological College)</i> Adoro Te Devote: A Case Study of the Christian Neoplatonism of Pseudo-Dionysius in the Thought of Thomas Aquinas (V)
<i>Susan Holman (Valparaiso University)</i> Crisis Therapeutics in Theodore of Petra	<i>Monika Frazer-Imregh (ELTE University Budapest)</i> Arguments for the Immortality of the Human Soul: Ficino's References to Augustine in Chapters 5, 6, and 7 of Book XII of Platonic Theology (V)
<i>Constantin-Ionut Mihai ("Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iasi)</i> Distress, Trauma, and Therapy in Origen's <i>Contra Celsum</i> (V)	<i>Oliver Francesco Brenna (Università Statale di Milano)</i> John Ridewall and the Reception of Augustine's <i>De Civitate Dei</i> (V)

4:00–4:15 — **Coffee Break**

4:15–6:15 Parallel Session 6

ROOM A Special Session — Reception of Patristics II	ROOM B Special Session — Patristic Studies on Christianity Outside the Latin & Greek Speaking World II
<i>Riccardo Macchioro (University of Toronto)</i> The New Life of Greek Fathers in the Medieval West: New Investigations into the Reception of Basil, John Chrysostom, and John Damascene	<i>Irene Gobbi (Pontifical Gregorian University Rome)</i> A Council Against the Empire: Ephesus and the Anti-Chalcedonian Identity in Coptic and Ge'ez Sources (V)
<i>Rachelle Haddad (St. Mary's University, UK)</i> Rewriting John Damascene: (Mis)use of Patristic Authority on Papal Primacy in the Eighteenth-Century Levant (V)	<i>Syed A. H. Zaidi (Butler University)</i> The Reception of Augustine of Hippo in the Thought of Yaḥyā ibn 'Adī
<i>Bogdan Bucur (St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary) (V)</i> L'«exégèse christophanique» dans l'hymnographie byzantine: un défi pour la recherche sur les auteurs patristiques des IV ^e et V ^e siècles	<i>Iliia Korchagin (Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary)</i> Exporting the Gospel Along the Silk Road: How Commerce and Politics Evangelized Central Asia
	<i>Austin McCredie (University of Pennsylvania)</i> The Necrosima: A Neglected Pseudo-Ephrem Collection

DAY 3 — THURSDAY, MAY 28

8:30–10:00 Parallel Session 7

ROOM A Special Session — Then and Now (and In Between): Sociologies of Knowledge in Early Christianity and the "Study of Religion". A Celebration of the Life and Work of Harold Remus I (a joint seminar with the Canadian Society of Biblical Studies)	ROOM B Predissertation Workshop I
Starts at 9:00 a.m.	<i>Pablo Fernández-Garay (Universidad de Cantabria Inicio)</i> Le règne de Valentinien III (425-455): perspectives historiques et juridiques (V)
<i>Nikayla Reize (Trinity Bristol College / St. Mary's University)</i> Barnabas, Jubilee Ethics, Social Location and the Stakes of Religious Identity	<i>Jonathan Dobek (Newman Theological College)</i> Connecting St. Augustine's Imago Dei to St. Anselm's Understanding of Truth (V) <i>Maja Rončević (University of Split)</i> The Concept of Friendship Between the Classical Ideal and the Evangelical Realization in Jerome's Epistles during the First Period of His Life (347–382)
<i>Lincoln Blumell (Brigham Young University)</i> Teaching the Psalms: Didymus the Blind and the Pedagogy of Christian Knowledge	<i>Luis Esquivel Navarrete (Newman Theological College)</i> Call, Struggle, Holiness: The Lives of Anthony of the Desert and Benedict of Nursia (V) <i>Alfonso Menanno (University of Vienna)</i> A Scholastic Synthesis of Patristic Angelology: From Basil the Great to The Angelic Doctor (V)

10:00–10:30 — Coffee Break

10:30–12:00 Parallel Session 8

ROOM A Special Session — Then and Now (and In Between): Sociologies of Knowledge in Early Christianity and the “Study of Religion”. A Celebration of the Life and Work of Harold Remus II (a joint seminar with the Canadian Society of Biblical Studies)	ROOM B Panel 8 — Augustine II
<i>Tony Burke (York University)</i> When the Miracle Worker Breaks Bad: Invoking Jesus in Anathema and Maledictions	<i>Benoît Benhamou (Aix-Marseille Université)</i> Mémoire et intertextualité: Augustin lecteur d’Origène
<i>Robert Revington (McMaster Divinity College)</i> Which Books and Scholars Have Been the Most Influential in Contemporary Canadian Biblical Studies?: Analyzing the Results of a 2024 Survey	<i>Sean Ulrich (Newman Theological College)</i> Creation in Progress? The Origin of Restlessness in St. Augustine’s <i>Confessions</i> (V)
ENDS AT 11:30 a.m.	<i>Kevin Muico (Newman Theological College)</i> Uera Amicitia: Augustine on Friendship in <i>The Confessions</i> (V)

12:00–12:45 — Lunch (private)

12:45–1:15 — Student Essay Prize (Plenary, Room A)

1:15–2:15 — Book Reviews (Plenary, Room A)

Mona Tokarek LaFosse, *Honouring Age: The Social Dynamics of Age Structure in 1 Timothy*
(review by Steven Muir)

John Solheid, *Pedagogy of the Heart: Grammar, Philosophy, and the Christian Reader in Origen’s Greek Homilies on the Psalms* (review by Charles Meeks)

2:15–4:15 Parallel Session 8

ROOM A Special Session — Classics and Patristics at the Crossroads (a joint session with the Classical Association of Canada)	ROOM B Special Session — Reception of Patristics III
<i>Nathan A. Scott (The Toronto School of Theology)</i> Augustine’s Mouth Has Two Sides: Augustine’s Nuanced Engagement with Epicureanism in his Epistula 118	<i>Pablo Irizar (Newman Theological College)</i> French Phenomenology’s Neo-Thomist Augustine (V)

<p><i>Sean Hannan (MacEwan University)</i> Reinterpreting Augustinian Peregrinatio through the Lens of Roman Law</p>	<p><i>Darren E. Dahl (Newman Theological College)</i> Approaching an Iconic Site: Jean-Luc Marion's Reception of Augustine (V)</p>
<p><i>Christian Raschle (Université de Montréal)</i> Of Physicians and Theologians: Isidore of Pelusium on the Immortality of the Soul (V)</p>	<p><i>Peter Steiger (Chaminade University of Honolulu)</i> The Reception of Patristics in Japan (V)</p>
<p><i>Jean-Félix Aubé-Pronce (University of Quebec in Montreal)</i> Reading the Latin Josephus through Transmission: Tracing the Earliest Reception (4th-9th c.) (V)</p>	

4:15 — **Conference Close**