

NINTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF COPTIC STUDIES:
FIFTH (AND FINAL) ANNOUNCEMENT

The purpose of this announcement is to communicate some additional practical information.

All Congress participants are invited to attend **mass at the Patriarchate** cathedral on Sunday morning. Now we have been advised to arrive at the Patriarchate at about 8:30 am for this event (a service that can last for up to three hours). For the occasion, a bus will leave from the Sonesta Hotel at 8:15 am. If you want to ride that bus, please sign up for it at Congress registration in the hotel on Saturday (4:00–8:00 pm). The bus will return to the hotel at the end of the mass.

During the day on Sunday there will be a program of Arabic-language lectures at the Patriarchate, 10:00 am to 3:15 pm. For details, see the attached program.

On **Sunday evening**, it is planned for two buses to take Congress participants from the Sonesta Hotel to the Patriarchate, one departing at 6:30 pm (for those who want to be sure to have time to register before the Opening Ceremony at 8:30 pm), and another departing at 7:15 pm. Buses will return to the hotel after the Opening Ceremony.

On **Monday morning**, it is planned also for two buses to take Congress participants from the Sonesta Hotel to the Patriarchate, one departing at 8:15 am (for those who want to be sure to have time to register before the plenary session at 9:00 am), and another departing at 8:30 am. Details about bus transportation back to the hotel will be announced at the beginning of Monday's plenary session.

Please note that it will be very important for registered participants in the Congress to display their **name badges** at all times while they are at the Coptic Patriarchate. You will receive your name badge when you first register for the Congress, on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday (or later, if it must be so).

A note to **those of you who have pre-paid your Congress registration fee**: thank you very much! The people who will run the Congress registration now have the information about who has pre-paid (and how much they have paid), and so it should not be necessary for you to prove that you have already paid. Nevertheless, printed receipts were mailed out to you at the beginning of this week, even though we are aware that the time might be too short for them to reach you. Therefore, the IACS Secretary (Stephen Emmel) will have with him photocopies of those receipts, just in case. If you need to have a copy of your receipt, or if you have any other difficulties in this respect, please approach the IACS Secretary about it.

We have been told that there is **wireless internet** available in the building where the midday and afternoon sessions of the Congress will be held (in the building of the Bishopric of Social Services at the Patriarchate), with free access to anybody who has their own laptop computer, which of course must be equipped with wi-fi.

There will be a printed copy of **the program** in your registration packet, but for your interest, attached to this announcement you will find a .pdf version of the schedule for Monday through Saturday morning. (The program for the Opening Ceremony on Sunday night will be distributed at registration.)