



# Affirming Creation's Goodness in a Time of Pandemic: Patristic Insights

Seminar series

Theologising in the shadow of a pandemic

An initiative of the SCD Theology Research Network



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**You are invited to the first in a series of seminars to be conducted in 2020-21 culminating in a conference to be held late in 2021.**

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**Abstract**

We, modern Christians, are both unrealistic and unreasonable. We expect only good things to happen. But not so in the natural world, as the present pandemic demonstrates. The early Christians were more realistic than this. They knew that the world, while good, is imperfect.

They also knew that there is a wild side to it, as to our own nature. As within, so without. They were convinced that only insofar as we tame our inner selves will there be hope for the world to become—in turn and in time—gentler, as happen around the saints. In this paper I consider several witnesses of the ancient Christian wisdom, seeking clues for a realistic appraisal of the natural world.

**Presenter**

Doru Costache lectures in patristics at St Cyril's Coptic Orthodox Theological College. His main research interest is in Christianity and culture.

Coauthor of *Dreams, Virtue and Divine Knowledge in Early Christian Egypt*. (Cambridge University Press, 2019).

**Date**

Thursday 28th May, 2020 | 2.00 - 4.00pm

**Location - via Zoom**

Contact: [neilo@scd.edu.au](mailto:neilo@scd.edu.au) for details

**Save the dates | Future seminars set for**

Friday 21st August, 2020 | 2.00 - 4.00pm

Friday 20th November, 2020 | 2.00 - 4.00pm

