



## JOHN BEHR

John Behr is Professor of Patristics at St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Yonkers, New York, where he teaches courses in Patristics, Dogmatics and Scriptural Exegesis. He also teaches at Fordham University, where he is the Distinguished Lecturer in Patristics. John hails from England, though his family background is Russian and German.

After completing his first degree in Philosophy in London in 1987, John spent a year studying in Greece. He finished his M.Phil. in Eastern Christian Studies at Oxford University

where he also completed his doctoral work. While working on his doctorate, he was invited to be a Visiting Lecturer at St. Vladimir's Seminary in 1993, where he has been a faculty member since 1995. Before becoming Dean in 2007, he served as editor of *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly*, and he still edits the *Popular Patristics Series* for SVS Press. John has been invited to speak all over the world and in all sorts of contexts, from a conference of Coptic bishops outside of Cairo to Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, with parish retreats all around the USA, as well as academic conferences from Oxford to Madrid to Chicago.

Behr's early work was on asceticism and anthropology, focusing on St. Irenaeus of Lyons and Clement of Alexandria (2000). He is writing a series of books on "The Formation of Christian Theology," two volumes of which have already appeared: vol. 1, *The Way to Nicaea* (2001) and vol. 2, *The Nicene Faith* (2003). On the basis of these two volumes, he published a synthetic work, *The Mystery of Christ: Life in Death* (2006). This was followed by an edition and translation of the fragments of Diodore of Tarsus and Theodore of Mopsuestia, setting them in their historical and theological context (2011). More recently he published a more poetic and meditative work entitled, *Becoming Human: Theological Anthropology in Word and Image* (2013) and a full study of St. Irenaeus: *St. Irenaeus of Lyons: Identifying Christianity* (2013). Most recently he has completed a new critical edition and translation of Origen's *On First Principles*, together with an extensive introduction (2017) and a study of the Gospel of John (2019).

His other passion is cycling, especially restoring and riding vintage bicycles. The Tour de France dominates the Behr family life during July, dictating the scheduling of important family events. John's wife, a Tour de France enthusiast, teaches English at a nearby college, and they have two sons and one daughter.