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UNIVERSITÄT  
BERN

Faculty of Theology  
Institute of Old Catholic Theology  
Länggassstrasse 51, 3012 Bern

**Study Day with Prof. Dr. John Behr (University of Aberdeen)**  
**Divine Flesh: Human Being in Early Christianity and Today**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

On **September 13, 2021**, the Institute of Old Catholic Theology of the University of Bern together with the Institute for New Testament Studies holds a study day for **doctoral students** from Swiss universities who do their research in the fields of theological as well as philosophical and social anthropology. The event aims to gather doctoral students to examine and discuss key anthropological concepts both in early Christian and contemporary discourses. This project is financially supported by the Fund for the Promotion of Young Researchers and is organised in the framework of the bigger SNF project “Image of God and Abyss of Desires”.

The study day is led by **Prof. Dr. John Behr** who holds the Regius Chair in Humanity at the University of Aberdeen. What distinguishes Prof. Dr. John Behr’s work is his interdisciplinary approach to theological endeavour. While being primarily a patristic scholar, he is also involved in doing systematic theology by engaging with Scripture, the tradition of the church, and continental philosophy. His last monograph — *John the Theologian and His Paschal Gospel: A Prologue to Theology* (OUP, 2019) — proposes a non-trivial reading of the fourth Gospel, while boldly reinterpreting the concept of the incarnation. His penultimate work was a two-volume edition and translation of Origen’s *De principiis*, including an extensive introduction that gives the reader an original and fresh look at the text (OUP, 2017).

The study day includes a **doctoral colloquium**, at which students will present some results of their doctoral projects and enjoy expert advice from Prof. Dr. John Behr as well as feedback from fellow researchers. To apply for participation in the colloquium, please email an abstract (300-400 words) of your presentation to [ilya.kaplan@theol.unibe.ch](mailto:ilya.kaplan@theol.unibe.ch) by **August 16, 2021**. The successful candidates will be asked to pre-circulate their papers and/or handouts no later than one week before the event. The time for the presentation and discussion of each paper is limited to 30 minutes. The working language of the study day is English. Meanwhile, since the participants are invited to take part in a masterclass, at which Gregory of Nyssa’s *De opificio hominis* will be discussed, knowledge of Ancient Greek is also expected.