



‘The Protevangelium of James: Past and Present’

A Day of Public Lectures

Tuesday, December 9, 2025 / 9:00 – 16:30
Paulus-Haus, Jerusalem (Damascus Gate)

A ‘prequel’ to the nativity narratives of Matthew and Luke, *The Protevangelium of James*, dated to the end of the 2nd century CE, fills in alleged gaps in the canonical accounts of Jesus’ and his mother’s births. The text describes the birth of Mary, the annunciation, the nativity of Jesus, the rescue of John the Baptist, and the death of his father, Zachariah, the high priest.

Speakers

- Prof. Dr. Patricia Rumsey, Poor Clares, Arkley London / 9:00
‘Mary – Semper Virginis?’
- Prof. Dr. Anthony Giambrone OP, Ecole Biblique / 9:30
‘Child Stars: *The Protevangelium of James* and Ancient Infancy Narratives’
- Prof. Dr. Serge Ruzer, Hebrew University, Jerusalem / 11:00
‘The Significance of the Jerusalem Temple in *The Protevangelium* vis-à-vis other early Christian attitudes/texts’
- Dr. Rina Avner, Jerusalem / 12:00
‘The Kathisma-Church: Archaeology and Traditions regarding Mary in Light of *The Protevangelium*’
- Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Angelika Neuwirth, Berlin/Jerusalem / 14:00
‘Receptions of Mary in the Quran and early Islam with regard to *The Protevangelium*’
- Dr. Rodney Aist, St Georges College, Jerusalem / 15:00
‘The Influence of *The Protevangelium* on the Christian Landscape of the Holy Land’
- Prof. Dr. Ralf Rothenbusch, DVHL, Jerusalem / 16:00
‘Murder in Jerusalem: The Shed blood of Zechariah in *The Protevangelium*, in Tradition and in Jerusalem’

All events are free and open to the public. A light lunch will be provided (13:00).

There is no registration, but RSVP is requested for our planning.

Contact Ralf Rothenbusch (r.rothenbusch@dvhl.de) or

Rodney Aist (coursedirector@sgcjerusalem.org).

Event Sponsors

Paulus-Haus / Deutscher Verein vom Heiligen Lande (DVHL)

St George’s College / The Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Holy Land