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# Liturgy and the Emotions in Byzantium

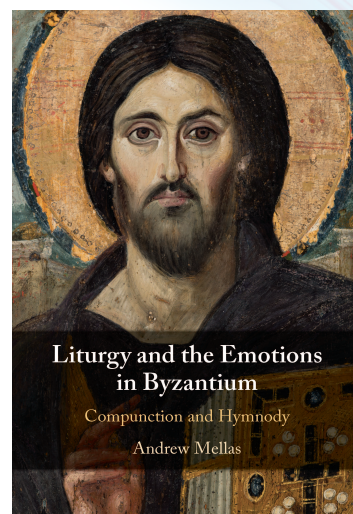
Compunction and Hymnody

**Andrew Mellas**

*St Andrew's Greek Orthodox Theological College, NSW*

This book explores the liturgical experience of emotions in Byzantium through the hymns of Romanos the Melodist, Andrew of Crete and Kassia. It reimagines the performance of their hymns during Great Lent and Holy Week in Constantinople. In doing so, it understands compunction as a liturgical emotion, intertwined with paradisaical nostalgia, a desire for repentance and a wellspring of tears. For the faithful, liturgical emotions were embodied experiences that were enacted through sacred song and mystagogy. The three hymnographers chosen for this study span a period of nearly four centuries and had an important connection to Constantinople, which forms the topographical and liturgical nexus of the study. Their work also covers three distinct genres of hymnography: kontakion, kanon and sticheron idiomelon. Through these lenses of period, place and genre this study examines the affective performativity of hymns and the Byzantine experience of compunction.

Acknowledgments; Abbreviations; 1. Introduction; 2. The liturgical world of compunction; 3. Romanos the melodist; 4. Andrew of crete; 5. Kassia; Conclusion; Glossary; Bibliography; Index.



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