

Acknowledgements

The study could not have been undertaken, let alone completed, without the generosity of a great many individuals and organisations, only some of whom can be mentioned here. The necessity to consult manuscripts or images of manuscripts was fundamental to the project. I would like to record my special thanks to His Eminence Aristarchos, Archbishop of Constantina and Secretary General of the Patriarchal Offices, who graciously gave me access to images of the three manuscripts in the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate Library, Jerusalem. Also to His Beatitude Nourhan Manougian, Patriarch of Jerusalem, for permitting me to research in the St. T'oros library within Armenian Apostolic Patriarchate, Jerusalem. For assistance in arranging both visits, I am indebted to the Rt Rev'd Stephen Venner, late Bishop to the Forces.

I am grateful to the Bodleian Library and the British Library for access to manuscripts. And for access to microfilm or digital images, I could not have completed this project without the kind assistance of Father Justin of St Catherine's Monastery, Mount Sinai, the Courtauld Institute in London, the Biblioteca Academiei Române, Institut de Recherche et d'Histoire des Textes, and the Institute for Textual Scholarship and Electronic Editing at Birmingham University.

My research was only able to take the course it did through generous financial support. The support of the Research Degrees Panel of the Church of England, the Fr Benson Scholarship awarded by the Fellowship of St John Trust Association, and St Stephen's House enabled me to undertake this project alongside my training for ordination at St Stephen's House, Oxford. A Squire and Marriott Bursary and assistance provided by the Most Rev'd Dr Barry Morgan, late Archbishop of Wales and Bishop of Llandaff, assisted with funding my research after leaving St Stephen's House. Grants provided by the Polonsky Foundation, the Dolabani Fund for Syriac Studies, and the St George's Trust enabled me to travel to libraries and conferences abroad, without which my research would have been poorer.

I am also indebted to my recently retired bishop, the Most Rev'd Dr Barry Morgan, for allowing me time to complete the initial doctoral project research during my curacy, and to the clergy and people of the Rectorial Benefice of Whitchurch, Cardiff, for their support. More recently, the good people of the Benefice of Swansea St Peter (Cockett) have indulged my enthusiasm as I revised and updated my thesis for publication.

The continual encouragement, enthusiasm and wisdom of my supervisor, Prof. Alison Salvesen, gave me the confidence and imagination to undertake this project. I am grateful for Prof. Salvesen's example of generosity in scholarship and friendship. Further I am grateful to my doctoral examiners, Professor Lucas van Rompay and Dr Ida Toth, for their detailed engagement with my work, which was of great benefit.

This study would never have reached print without the generous encouragement and enthusiasm of Professor Jack Levison, the wonderful support of Aaron Sanborn-Overby and the whole DeGruyter team, and the book's reviewer. Needless to say, all errors and deficiencies remain entirely my own responsibility.

Finally, I would like to thank my long-suffering wife Charlotte and our children Martha and Peter. Their patience, love and enthusiasm supported me during research and revision.