

**“ST. FRANCIS
& DOMINIC
A MYSTICISM
OF THE WORD
IN THE WORLD”**



**“THE UNFOLDING WORD: MYSTAGOGICAL PEDAGOGY IN MAXIMUS
THE CONFESSOR”**

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This presentation turns to Maximus the Confessor to explore the relationship between metaphysics and hermeneutics. The Logos, according to Maximus, “becomes thick” or “embodies” himself in the Incarnation, in creation, and in Scripture. Maximus regards interpretation as something that becomes possible because the Logos unfolds himself within the temporal fold of creation, where the Logos expands into human words. We come to know Christ, therefore, when through a life of virtue, we engage in natural contemplation of the logoi of creation, and so also discern the deeper, spiritual meanings of the divine Scriptures. Maximus’s metaphysic treats the Incarnation as taking place so that Christ may serve as our teacher through words and examples and so lead us into the ineffable secrets or mysteries that transcend human speech.