

**INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR THE STUDY OF DEUTEROCANONICAL AND COGNATE LITERATURE**

**International Conference
Siracusa - June 22–25, 2026**

***Cultural Bridges
between Deuterocanonical Literature and the Greco-Roman World***

Venue

Istituto Superiore di Scienze Religiose *San Metodio* (www.sanmetodio.eu)
Via della Conciliazione n. 6, 96100 Siracusa, Italy

Monday, 22 June 2026

from 16:00 Arrival and Registration at the Venue

17:00–18:00 Opening Session

17:00–17:05 DIONISIO CANDIDO, *Welcome*

17:05–17:15 RENATE REIF, *Introduction*

17:15–18:00 MAREN NIEHOFF, *Flavius Josephus as a Bible Exegete in Rome*

18:00–19:00 Buffet with local specialties

19:00 Visit to the Cathedral and Walking tour in Ortigia



Tuesday, 23 June 2026

9:00–12:00 Session 1

9:00–9:30 JEREMY CORLEY, *Ben Sira And Greek Literature: A Survey*

9:30–10:00 SEVERINO BUSSINO, *Did Ben Sira refer to the Greek Poet Theognis? A Study of Potential Correlations within a Hermeneutical Framework*

10:00–10:30 STEFAN BEYERLE, *A Cosmic God—Ben Sira and the Stoic Hymn of Cleanthes*

10:30–10:45 Coffee Break

10:45–11:15 MATTHEW GOFF, *“Enjoy Wine—But Not Too Much.” The Book of Ben Sira on Wine and Banquets* (Reader: Stefan Reif)

11:30–12:20 Visit to the Cathedral

12:30–13:30 Lunch

15:30 Visit to the Catacombs of St. John



17:00 Light meal

19:00 Performance of *The Persians*, a tragedy by Aeschylus, at Greek Theater*



Wednesday, 24 June 2026

9:00–12:00 Session 2

- 9:00–9:30 NURIA CALDUCH-BENAGES, *Watching Over Daughters: Cultural Parallels Between Ben Sira and Greek Patriarchal Thought*
- 9:30–10:00 STEFAN REIF, *The Linguistic Impact of the Classical World on Rabbinic Liturgy*
- 10:00–10:30 ROLAND DEINES, *The Jewish Fascination with Alexander: Traces and Reasons*
- 10:30–11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00–11:30 FRIEDRICH REITERER, *Virtue as an Intercultural Phenomenon*
- 11:30–12:00 RENATE REIF, *Purple – More Than Just a Colour?*

12:30–13:30 Lunch

14:00–15:00 Visit to the Archdiocesan Library and Museum, and Swabian Chapel



15:00–16:00 Session 3

- 15:00–15:30 MARTINA KORYTIAKOVÁ, *μή συμπεσέτω σου τὸ πρόσωπον (Jdt 6:9) in Light of the Greek Cultural Influences*
- 15:30–16:00 FRANCIS M. MACATANGAY, *Jewish and Greco-Roman Backgrounds for Raphael in the Book of Tobit*

16:00–18:00 ISDCL Business and Celebration Meeting

18:00–18:30 Buffet with fruits

Thursday, 25 June 2026

9:00–11:00 Session 4 (Junior Scholars)

- 9:00–9:30 MARKO DOROSH, *Where Does It Come From? Semantic Development of ἐρμηνεύω in Classical Greek Literature and the Bible*
- 9:30–10:00 PAOLO CRISTIANO, *“Just a Spark.” An Exegetical and Theological Study on Sir 42:15–43:33*
- 10:00–10:30 CHARLOTTE OBEID, *Thirst and Water: Metaphors as Bridges Between Ben Sira and Greek Literature*
- 10:30–11:00 LUCAS BRUM TEIXEIRA, *“In the Furthers Part of the Tomb, We Saw Her Hanging by the Neck” (Antigone, 1221). The Theme of Female Suicide in Sophocles’ Tragedies and in Tobit. Is Sarah as Counterfigure to Antigone?*

11:00–11:30 Closing Session

DIONISIO CANDIDO, *Conclusions and Farewells*