

## **James Constantine Skedros**

---

### **EDUCATION**

Th.D. 1996 Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA (History of Christianity)  
Th.M. 1988 Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA  
M.T.S. 1987 Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA (Christianity and Culture)  
B.A. 1985 University of Utah, Middle Eastern Studies (Honors, *cum laude*)  
B.A. 1985 University of Utah, Political Science

### **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

Acting Dean, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, January 2006-September 2006  
Acting Dean, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, September 1998-April 2002  
Acting Senior Officer, Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology,  
September 1999-August 2000  
Assistant Director, Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute (Berkeley, CA), September  
1996-August 1998

### **TEACHING**

Hellenic College and Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology:

Michael G. and Anastasia Cantonis Professor of Byzantine Studies and Professor of  
Early Christianity, September 2007 to present

Associate Professor of Early Christianity, September 1998-August 2007

Adjunct Associate Professor (Hellenic College), Byzantine History, September  
1998-August 2007

Harvard Divinity School: Lecturer on Greek, September 2000-present

Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA): Assistant Professor of Orthodox Studies,  
September 1996-August 1998

### **PUBLICATIONS**

#### Books

*St. Demetrios of Thessaloniki: Civic Patron and Divine Protector (4th-7th c. CE)*. Trinity  
Press International: Harrisburg, PA, 1999.

### Chapters in a Book

“Shrines, Festivals, and the ‘Undistinguished Mob.’” In D. Krueger, ed., *Byzantine Christianity. A People’s History of Christianity*. Vol. 3. Fortress Press, June 2006.

### Articles

“St. Demetrios and Faith Healing in Thessalonike.” In John. T. Chirban, ed., *Holistic Healing in Byzantium*. Brookline, MA: Holy Cross Orthodox Press, forthcoming.

“The *Heroikos* and Popular Christianity in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century C.E.” In E.Aitken and J. McClean, eds., *Philostratus’s Heroikos, Religion, and Cultural Identity*. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature, 2004.

“The Cappadocian Fathers on the Veneration of the Martyrs.” *Studia Patristica*. Papers presented at the Thirteenth International Conference on Patristic Studies held in Oxford. Vol. 37. Leuven: Peeters, 2001.

“Civic Religion and St. Demetrios in Seventh-Century Thessaloniki.” *Thessaloniki: Center of Orthodox Theology. Perspectives in Today’s Europe*.” Thessaloniki: Aristotle University Press, 2000.

“Response to David Woods, ‘Thessalonica’s Patron: St. Demetrius or Emeterius?’” *Harvard Theological Review* 93:3 (2000) 235-39.

“Selections from the Canons of the Council in Trullo (692 CE).” In R. Valantasis, ed., *Religions of Late Antiquity in Practice*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000.

“The Holiness of the Church: A Second Century Perspective.” In *Rightly Teaching the Word of Your Truth: Essays in Honor of Archbishop Iakovos*. Edited by N.M. Vapouris. Brookline, Massachusetts: Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 1995.

“The Works of Jesus: John 10, 22-39.” *Bulletin of Biblical Studies New Series*, 10 (July-December 1991): 51-57.

### Dictionary Entries

*Cambridge Encyclopedia of Christianity*, s.v. “Christianity in Greece”; “Christianity in Macedonia”; “Mount Athos” (forthcoming)

*Encyclopedia of Religion and War*, 2004, s.v. “The Constantine Period.”

*Encyclopedia of Religion and American Cultures*, 2003, s.v. "Greek Orthodoxy";  
"Orthodox Christianity."

*The Blackwell Dictionary of Eastern Christianity*, 1999, s.v. "Orthodoxy in America."

### Reviews

Thomas FitzGerald, *The Orthodox Church*. *Greek Orthodox Theological Review* 44  
(1999) 726-30.

St. Romanos the Melodist, *On the Life of Christ: Kontakia*, translated with and introduction by Archimandrite Ephraem Lash, and Romanos the Melodist, *Sacred Song from the Byzantine Pulpit*, translated with an introduction by R.J. Schork. *Christian Spirituality Bulletin* 5 (1997) 33-34.

N.S. Hatzinikolaou, *Voices in the Wilderness: An Anthology of Patristic Prayers*. *Greek Orthodox Theological Review* 38 (1993) 390-92.

### **ACADEMIC PAPERS**

"Civic and Ecclesiastical Identity in Christian Thessalonike." Harvard Divinity School, Cambridge, MA, May 13, 2007

"The Suffering of Martyrdom." Pappas Patristic Institute Third Annual Conference, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA, October 12-14, 2006

"The Saints: An Embodied Presence of God's Peace." International Conference on Violence and Christian Spirituality, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA, October 27-29, 2005

"Martyrs and Heroes in Clement of Alexandria and Origen." Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, November 20-23, 2004 San Antonio, Texas

"Healing in the Cult of St. Demetrios." Holistic Healing in Byzantium: Epistemologies and Methodologies, Center for the Study of World Religions, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, May 7, 2004

"The Greek Fathers on the Lives of the Saints." *Patristica Bostoniensia* (BTI Patristic Group), Weston Jesuit School of Theology, Cambridge, MA, December 18, 2003

"Give me your Blessing. Spiritual and Ecclesiastical Authority in Byzantine Hagiography." Annual Meeting of the Orthodox Theological Society in America, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological School, Crestwood, NY, May 30, 2003.

"Dionysos, Kabeiros, and St. Demetrios: Continuity and Conflict in Thessaloniki." Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, Denver, CO, November 20, 2001.

“Documenting Parish Histories.” Conference on the Orthodox Parish in America, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA, September 28, 2000

“Orthodoxy and Heresy in Byzantium: The Politics of Empire.” American Academy of Religion New England/Maritimes Spring Regional Conference, Brown University, April 14, 2000.

“Ritual and the Panegyris: A Byzantine Institution Revisited.” Byzantine Studies Conference, College Park, Maryland, November 6, 1999.

“Saint Demetrios, Byzantine Patron and Protector.” Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA. May 27, 1998

“‘Holy One of God Intercede for Us.’ Towards an Orthodox Hermeneutic of Hagiography.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, San Francisco, November 24, 1997.

“St. Demetrios of Thessaloniki: A Cult without Relics.” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Washington, D.C., November 20, 1993.

#### **GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND HONORS**

Technology Grant, Lilly, Inc., Information Technology for Theological Education (digitization of personal slide collection for use in classroom), Sept. 2005-Aug. 2006

Provost’s Instructional Technology Content Fund, Web Resources for Elementary New Testament Greek at HDS, Harvard University, Summer 2004

Teaching and Learning Grant, Association of Theological Schools, 1997-98

In-Resident Fellowship, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, 1995-96

Fulbright Scholar (Greece), 1992-93

Fredrick Sheldon Traveling Fellowship, Harvard University (Greece), 1992-93

Member, American School of Classical Studies, Athens, 1992-93

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Taylor Scholarship, 1988-1990

Phi Beta Kappa, 1985

#### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

American Academy of Religion (member since 1995)

Society of Biblical Literature (member since 1995)

Byzantine Studies Conference (member since 2000)

American Society of Church History (member since 2000)

## **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

Member, Committee on Faculty Development, Association of Theological Schools of the United States and Canada, 2002-1005

Co-Chair, Eastern Orthodox Studies Group, American Academy of Religion, 2001-2006

Secretary, Orthodox Theological Society of America, 2001-2005

## **LANGUAGES**

Classical, Hellenistic, and Medieval Greek; Latin; German, French, and Arabic (reading knowledge); Modern Greek (near fluency)

## **INVITED LECTURES/RETREATS**

“The Impact of Hellenism on the Early Church.” St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Hartford, CT, April 29, 2007

“Orthodoxy and Islam.” Lenten Lecture Series, Taxiarchae Greek Orthodox Church, Watertown, MA, March 7, 2006

“The Da Vinci Code, Gospel of Judas, and the Early Church: Who is Telling the Truth?” St. Demetrios Day Lecture, Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute, Berkeley, CA, October 24, 2006

“The Church in the First Three Centuries.” A four-part lecture series, St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester, MA, October-November, 2006

“The Orthodox Church and the State.” St. Catherine Greek Orthodox Church, Braintree, MA, March Lenten Retreat, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Weston, MA, March 25, 2006

“‘...a person fully alive’: A Call to Holiness.” Philoptochos Society Retreat, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Salt Lake City, Utah, March 18, 2006

“The Akathist Hymn.” St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, Lexington, MA, March 10, 2006

“Called to Holiness in the Marketplace.” St. Demetrios Women’s Retreat, Weston, MA, February 25, 2006

“St. John Chrysostom: Churchman and Exegete.” Weston Clergy Association Program: Great Spiritual Leaders of the Church, Methodist Church of Weston, Weston, MA, November 6, 2005

- “Ascesis, Sanctity, and the Environment.” Protection of the Environment Observance, The Rhode Island Fellowship of Orthodox Churches, St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church, September 18, 2005
- “The Family in the Early Church.” Summer Institute, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA, June 16-18, 2005
- “The Calling of the Cross.” Lenten Retreat, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Saco, ME, April 9, 2005
- “The Da Vinci Code and the Early Church.” St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Hartford, CT, February 13, 2005
- “The Feast of the Nativity in the Orthodox Church.” Christmas Lenten retreat, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Holyoke, MA, December 11, 2004
- “St. Gregory of Nyssa.” Weston Clergy Association Program: When We Were One: Great Christian Spiritual Teachers, St. Julia’s Parish, Weston, MA, November 14, 2004
- “Islam and Christianity: Historical Encounters.” Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Cathedral Center, Brookline, MA, September 12, 2004
- “From Christ to Constantine.” A one-week mini-course offered to students participating in the Crossroad Summer Program of the Office of Vocation and Ministry, Hellenic College, Brookline, MA, June 29-July 3, 2004
- “Saints of the Future.” Summer Institute of Theological Education, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA, June 19, 2004
- “The Three L’s: Live, Love, and Learn.” Graduation Speech, St. Sophia School, Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church, Holladay, UT, May 26, 2004
- “Orthodox Faith and the Movie: ‘The Passion of Christ’.” Orthodox Christian Fellowship All-College Lenten Retreat, Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, Cambridge, MA, March 20, 2004
- “The Spirit of Forgiveness, a Reflection.” Clean Monday Lenten Retreat, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School, Brookline, MA, February 23, 2004
- “What do we Really Believe? The Nicene Creed as a Guide to the Christian Life.” Three-part lecture series, St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester, MA, October-November 2003
- “From Pentecost to the First Ecumenical Council.” St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Hartford, CT, October 5, 2003

- “The Holy Spirit in the Early Church.” Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Cathedral Center, Brookline, MA, September 17, 2003
- “Orthodoxy and Islam.” Y.A.L. National Conference, Baltimore, MD, July 3, 2003
- “Women in Early Christianity.” Orthodox Christian Fellowship, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, May 2, 2003
- “Repentance in the Orthodox Tradition.” St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester, MA, April 14, 2003
- “The Three Hierarchs: From Persecution to Freedom.” Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, Celebration of Greek Letters, Manhattan Club, New York City, January 30, 2003
- “Shaping the Ecumenical Futures. A Conversation with Younger Theologians.” Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Council of Churches, Weston, MA, January 22, 2003
- “Christmas: An Epiphany.” Christmas Lenten Retreat, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, November 15, 2002
- “The Theotokos in the Life of the Church: Significant Historical Moments.” Summer Evening Institute, Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, Brookline, MA, August 7, 2002
- “From Prophets to Archbishops: The Historical Identity of the Orthodox Church.” Lenten Retreat, St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church, Weston, MA, April 13, 2002
- “The Early Church: A Paradigm for Today.” Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Fitchburg, MA, March 22, 2002
- “The Historic Christian Church.” Orthodox Christian Fellowship, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, February 26, 2002
- “The Ecumenical Implications of Baptism.” Annual Meeting of the US Conference of the World Council of Churches, Boston, MA, February 2002
- “Understanding Islam through the Eyes of an Orthodox Christian.” Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, Cranston, RI, January 12, 2002
- “The Byzantine Legacy: How the Byzantine Experience Shapes our Faith.” St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Hartford, CT, November 17, 2000

“To Worship God in Spirit and Truth: Orthodox Christianity as Revealed in its Worship.”  
Six lectures given at St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Cathedral, Worcester, MA,  
October-November 1999

“The Lives of the Saints: Do They Matter?” Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church,  
Memphis, TN, March 10, 1999

“The Time of Advent: A Gift and an Opportunity.” Annunciation Greek Orthodox  
Church, Woburn, MA, November 21, 1998

“Don’t Let the Light Go Out: Life after Easter.” Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek  
Orthodox Church, Cardiff-by-the-Sea, CA, June 6, 1998

“Orthodox Ecclesiology and the Papal Office,” Summer Program, University of San  
Francisco, San Francisco, CA, July 24, 1997

“The Gift of Time. A Balancing Act for Women.” Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox  
Institute, Berkeley, CA, March 22, 1997

“Eastern Christianity.” Middle East Studies Department, University of California,  
Berkeley, March 12, 1997