

PRESIDENTIAL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2015 | Volume I, Issue 5



Dear faithful supporters of our beloved school,

I pray you and your family are well as we enter the Nativity season. The school has been bustling with activity, as you will read and see in this month's Presidential Newsletter. Our Nativity Appeal is in the mail and hundreds of people have already responded to assist the school as we prepare the next generation—better yet, the next army of soldiers for Christ—both lay and clergy. If you have not yet made your Christmas gift, now is the time to do so. If you desire to make a year-end gift, now is the time to do so. In essence, we need

your help and in earning your trust we promise to put your hard-earned gifts to the school to good work. We as a faith community have only one—yes, you read correctly—one college, school of theology, and seminary in the western hemisphere. Thus there is no better place to invest your effort, your time, talent, and treasure than HCHC.

As you celebrate the Nativity season with your family, please know that everyone on the Holy Hill sends you their greetings and prayers for a blessed Christmas. May the Christ Child bless you and inspire you all of the days of your life.

A blessed Nativity to you. Merry Christmas.

Rev. Christopher T. Metropulos, DMin
 President

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ALTAR ITEMS NEEDED

The focal point of all we do at HCHC is the Holy Cross Chapel, built decades ago through the generous donations of GOYANs around the country. In visiting the chapel and praying in the holy altar, I noticed that we are in need of new items to adorn the altar and to assist in the serving of the various services. In the place where the future priests of our Archdiocese and of other jurisdictions learn their vocation, we must provide them with every tool necessary. A full listing of needed items is included as an insert in this newsletter. If you feel you would like to contribute to assist us in this sacred project, please contact my office directly at 617.850.1280.

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COMMUNITY SERVICE ENGAGEMENT



This month we remember first and foremost the living and deceased victims of the terrible and tragic terrorist attacks in France, Lebanon, and Beirut. May God remember them all in His Kingdom.

As I conclude my first semester at Hellenic College Holy Cross, I find myself continually inspired by the community, in particular, its service engagement – the rhythmic embrace of the life and teachings of Our Lord and Savior, as chanted and read in our daily services.

I am speaking of the dedicated and loving staff and faculty of our schools and the Office of Vocation and Ministry (OVM) that tirelessly advance classes, discussions, and opportunities to participate in works that express the Orthodox Christian faith both inside and outside our campus gates.

This past month, I traveled with Presvytera Chrysoula Kourkounti to the US Dept. of Veterans' Affairs Boston Healthcare System to meet Chaplain Douglas Falls and see firsthand the experiences and influence of our students on the courageous men and women who have sacrificed so much for our freedom. Our students, through their work, honor and thank them, and we cannot be more proud.

Equally impressive and penetrating is the work of the HCHC Missions Committee and its "Liturgy on the Streets" initiative, where, in the darkness and cold of dawn, students seek, meet, and care for the homeless of the Boston area. I congratulate and thank all of those who volunteered for allowing me to participate in their most recent outreach.

On campus, Dr. Timothy Patitsas and the Green Initiative Student Club lead efforts to raise continued awareness and promotion of environmental initiatives so vital to the present and future life of our property and operations.

Having resided in Vancouver, British Columbia, for the past eight years prior to coming to HCHC, my love and passion for the outdoors and environmental protection could not be stronger. For me, following the example of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch BARTHOLOMEW, it is a centerpiece for my Orthodox Christian faith.

In his latest book, *On Earth as in Heaven* (Fordham University Press, 2012), His All Holiness marries the ecological dilemma of modern times with "the moral crisis" of humanity, further saying that it is our obligation as Orthodox Christians "to examine and explore ways and means by which we may sensitize and influence the desires and attention, *especially of our students*, to this most urgent issue." As Chief of Staff, I challenge myself regularly to see what more we, as a

community, can do in terms of recycling, water and waste management, energy efficiency, and the protection of the plants and animals that are entrusted to us, both now and into the future. Can we, while prayerfully investigating the construction of a new student center and campus master plan, challenge ourselves to higher levels of environmental operations efficiency and design that not only honor the Gospel, but build upon and lead our relationship with local society? Some ideas include:

- a rich, living wall of flora in our new student center
- a manmade nesting perch for our resident red-tailed hawks
- birdhouses
- beehives – essential for pollination
- calculated tree planting initiatives
- vineyards
- community gardening spaces
- food recycling to those in need
- wellness areas
- frisbee golf recreation courses
- solar and environmentally responsible communications structures

Can we develop new courses and programs of study on the subjects of sustainability and the environment, "programs of practical application," as further expressed by His All Holiness?

Our commitment to community is spread further internally and externally by the expanded understanding of our Church through the physical and virtual growth of our Holy Cross Bookstore. With the introduction of symposia, student necessities, and an ever-increasing selection of books and religious items, I hope it can become a place for students and visitors to visit regularly.

Thank you to Michael Tishel and Fr. Eugen Pentiuic for their outstanding, interactive talks on St. Porphyrius and the messianic prophecies, respectively, to conclude our Fall HCHC Bookstore Symposium Series.

As we prepare to celebrate the Holy Incarnation of Our Lord and Savior, and look forward to the new year, let us not, in the words of the Gospel, "hide the light" of all of the wonderful things that we are accomplishing and can and will accomplish, through God's grace, in the time to come. Our community, though small in number, is so sizable in its impact. It begs to be experienced and shared!

A Blessed Nativity and happy and safe New Year to you and all of your friends and loved ones! Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Sincerely,

Kevin N. Kovalycsik
Chief of Staff

HOLY CROSS BOOKSTORE SYMPOSIA

Holy Cross Bookstore Symposia continue to serve the HCHC community and the Pan-Orthodox community of Boston. On Wednesday, November 18, Michael Tishel, CrossRoad Director and Office of Vocation & Ministry Assistant Director, gave a presentation on the life and teachings of Saint Porphyrios of Kavsokalyvia. Michael's presentation inspired us all to fall in love with Christ rather than merely do our religious duty.

After the event, the Bookstore treated attendees to free Greek coffee and desserts while celebrating the opening of a new snack section featuring high-quality treats that students love. The Bookstore's next Symposium will be on Tuesday, December 1, at 7pm. It will feature Holy Cross faculty member Rev. Dr. Eugen Pentiu. Fr. Eugen's talk will help us prepare for the Nativity of Christ by looking at Old Testament prophecies of the Messiah.



BOOKSTORE REOPENING



Holy Cross Bookstore has reopened, with a selection of toiletries, snacks, ice cream (Ben & Jerry's, Magnum, and more) and coffee, including Greek coffee, Starbucks, and Dunkin' Donuts. Play tavli while enjoying your coffee. New operating hours, books/icons, Under Armour merchandise, and specials will be announced in the coming weeks. Stay tuned!

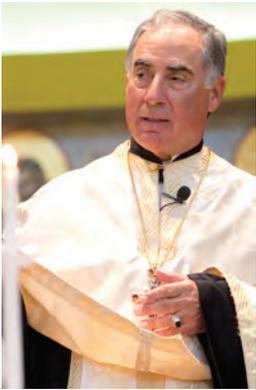
PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



Congratulations to the winners of the Presidential Inauguration Photo and Video Contest! Students showcased their creativity by taking and sharing photos and videos with and of Fr. Chris during the historic event and were awarded gift cards to local establishments for their efforts. Pictured here are first-place winners Sarah Livick-Moses and Yianni Magoulias, second-place winners Claire Barden and Bradley Delmar, Senior Designer Melanie Pappas, who coordinated the contest, and Chief of Staff Kevin Kovalycsik. Not pictured is third-place winner, Bailie Henry. Check out all of the entries by searching **#HCHCInauguration** on Facebook and Instagram!

HONORING OUR VETERANS: FR. MILTON D. GIANULIS

In honor of Veterans Day, we are proud to feature an alumnus who has honored our country. Fr. Milton D. Gianulis, Captain, CHC, USN (Ret), served as a chaplain in the US Navy for 26 years. His personal awards include a Legion of Merit, three Meritorious Service Medals, a Joint Service Commendation Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Fleet Marine Force Service Medal, and two Humanitarian Service Medals.



By Fr. Milton D. Gianulis

BA '76, MDiv '80

As a military chaplain, my Orthodox faith was strongly tied to my identity and was key to my ministry in a non-Orthodox environment. Being well-grounded in Orthodox theology and praxis helped me with those I served and those with whom I served—fellow chaplains. My Orthodox faith not only informs me, but gives me the history, traditions, and theology to be

a credible witness and even lead those of other faith groups. My course work on liturgical theology and dogmatic theology at Holy Cross were of the greatest benefit in my ministry after graduation. While serving in isolated areas, you need to be self-reliant and capable of delivering the sacraments and doing so properly. The military training necessary to serve as a chaplain was given by the Navy, while the education and training needed for the priesthood was from Hellenic College Holy Cross.

I initially graduated and served in parish ministry. That is where my heart was. While serving at Annunciation Church in Memphis, I learned from a recruiter something I did not know: I could be a reservist and not a “weekend warrior.” Chaplains do their reserve drills on days other than Sunday. So, on January 6, 1989, I was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Chaplain Corps, United States Naval Reserve. Five years later, I acceded to active duty.

I grew as a person tremendously at Hellenic College Holy Cross, in the parish priesthood, and as a Navy chaplain. I hope that HCHC will promote the opportunity of military chaplaincy to current students as a wonderful way to serve Christ.

A Navy chaplain serves to provide for those of his own faith in environments such as war zones, ships at sea, isolated duty

stations, and elsewhere. This work also includes facilitating worship for those of other faith backgrounds, offers spiritual counseling for those of any or no faith background, and serves as a special adviser to the command, with direct access to the Commanding Officer.

I have served at two Training Commands: Recruit Training Command and The Basic School of the Marine Corps. I deployed to the war zone three times: on Carrier Air Wing Three aboard the USS Harry S. Truman (CVN-75) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; on the USS Iwo Jima (LHD-7) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; and as an augment to 1st Marine Division to Afghanistan. After 26 years, I completed my Navy career as the Command Chaplain for the Marine Corps Training and Education Command, supervising the Religious Ministry Teams for all Marine Corps boot camps, secondary schools, combat training centers, and the Marine Corps University.

On April 1, 2015, His Eminence Metropolitan Evangelos of New Jersey assigned me as the presiding priest of St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Williamsburg, VA. In addition to serving as the current parish priest, I enjoy spending time with my wife, the former Constance M. Manuel, and our four daughters, Stephania Charalambides, Dr. Elena Bruno, Marianthi Gianulis, and Jamie Agnew; and our four grandchildren.

I grew as a person tremendously at Hellenic College Holy Cross, in the parish priesthood, and as a Navy chaplain. I feel I am continuing to grow now as a retired chaplain serving in a brand-new mission parish.

I am proud of my alma mater. I received a good education at HCHC because I took advantage of the high quality of professors and environment. I hope that HCHC will promote the opportunity of military chaplaincy to current students as a wonderful way to serve Christ. Through service to Christ as a chaplain, I have returned to parish ministry a stronger priest and leader. I am a proponent of diverse ministries and would be happy to share this alternative to our graduates. I encourage young men who want a challenge to consider ordination and ministry as military chaplains and would welcome the opportunity to share more with current seminarians and graduates.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: FIONA STERLING



Fiona Sterling ('16, BA) successfully completed her internship at the Maine Department of Education. Sterling was admitted on a competitive basis as one of four interns on the Maine Learning Technology Initiative (MLTI).

MLTI Director Mike Muir said, "Our interns were a significant addition to our team this summer. We were able to hand off important tasks and projects to each with a minimum of direction, and they were self-starters in getting the tasks done. Among other things, Fiona took on communication and design tasks, and has sorted out important agreements needed with emerging and new districts."

To learn more, please visit <http://mainedoeneews.net/2015/09/10/summer-interns-at-maine-doe>.

FACULTY PROFILE: REV. DR. EUGEN PENTIUC

Fr. Eugen J. Pentiu, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Old Testament and Semitic Languages, was very busy during the summer, combining significant academic research with ecumenical involvement and dialogue. Fr. Pentiu spent five weeks at the École biblique et archéologique française in Jerusalem to complete his work for the B.E.S.T. (acronym for *La Bible en ses traditions / The Bible in Its Traditions*), a scholarly enterprise undertaken by the École biblique. His contribution, "The Book of Hosea: a New Translation with Notes," will, once finished, be published along with other works completed thus far as the very first achievements of this ongoing digital Study Bible project. Fr. Pentiu's multifaceted scholarly expertise, especially his highly recognized philological skills, his interpretive insights, both based on fresh textual criticism and anchored in tradition, and his enthusiasm were greatly appreciated by his colleagues in Jerusalem. Fr. Olivier-Thomas Venard, OP, Vice-Director of École biblique and B.E.S.T. Project Director: "His presence among us and our collaboration provides us one more opportunity to appeal to our Orthodox scholar-brothers, inheritors of such a rich hermeneutical and theological tradition, to join us in retrieving the Bible as has been read for two thousand years, while we are passing it on to the digital era."

Following his stay in Jerusalem, Fr. Pentiu was invited to attend the 23rd International Ecumenical Conference on Orthodox Spirituality in Bose, Italy, where he gave a talk on



forgiveness in the Old Testament. His paper was entitled "Forgiveness in the Old Testament: Joseph and His Brothers." Attentive to Scripture and to the Orthodox spiritual tradition, the conference proposed a series of reflections on forgiveness. How can God's forgiveness be announced today? How can wounded memory be healed? Where can the joy of pardon between Churches and between men be found? What are today the places of Christian forgiveness? How are justice and pardon to be seen in the public and historical dimension? Representatives of all the Orthodox Churches, of the Catholic Church, of the Church of England, and of the Churches of the Reform, biblical scholars, patrologists and theologians, monks of the East and of the West, philosophers and writers from around the world participated in the conference.

CROSSROAD ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD



Alumni of the CrossRoad Summer Institute are ensuring that the relationships and education of CrossRoad remain a central part of their lives throughout their twenties and beyond!

On Friday, November 6, 2015, ten members of the CrossRoad Alumni Advisory Board came together from across the country for their inaugural retreat, hosted by the Office of Vocation & Ministry at Hellenic College Holy Cross. With energy and enthusiasm, they put their heads together to develop a new mission and vision statement for the CrossRoad Alumni Network. Each member offered fantastic ideas for new initiatives to implement in 2016 in love for and service to the alumni community, Christ, and their neighbor. The OVM looks forward to working with this group to better serve our 600+ alumni!

PRESIDENTIAL FINANCIAL SUMMIT

A two-day Presidential Financial Summit was held on the campus of HCHC last month. Members of the Board of Trustees Finance and Institutional Advancement Committees, and members of HCHC Senior Management met with experts in fundraising, institutional advancement, and marketing for two full days to review and enhance the institution's fundraising goals for the next eighteen months.

The first day of the Summit focused on enhancing the school's annual giving program by refining the narrative of the school's compelling mission and expanding the reach of that message through electronic communications and social media. By the end of the first day, the group emerged with substantive and specific goals for HCHC's multifaceted and integrated annual giving program. Our annual giving program is critical for bridging the gap between tuition dollars and the operating budget, supporting academic programs, providing for faculty

development, and making necessary campus improvements. With this in mind, the work done that day produced the plans and goals that will form the foundation upon which all additional HCHC fundraising will be built.

The second day was spent reviewing exciting plans for a magnificent student center, made possible by the largest single gift in the history of Hellenic College Holy Cross. The extremely generous anchor gift by Mr. George J. Kostas has set into motion a vigorous and comprehensive planning process for what will soon be the largest capital campaign in the history of HCHC, making the dream of the George and Angelina Kostas Student Center a reality. Although this campaign is still in its quiet phase, the truly inspirational details of the campaign were ironed out on the second day of the Presidential Financial Summit!

HELEN MAHANIC SKOUFIS AND PETER J. SKOUFIS SCHOLARSHIP FUND



On November 11, 2015, Hellenic College Holy Cross President Rev. Christopher T. Metropulos met with George Predaris of Rye, NH, and John Rozos of Poland Spring, ME, nephews of the late Peter and Helen Skoufis, to receive the initial endowment of the Helen Mahanic Skoufis and Peter J. Skoufis Scholarship Fund.

Mr. Skoufis, the son of Greek immigrants, was born in Bangor, ME. After serving in the Army Air Forces during World War

II, he became a Foreign Service Officer with the US State Department with posts in South Africa, London, Paris, and Rome. Mrs. Skoufis, the daughter of Ukrainian immigrants, was born in Nanty Glo, Pennsylvania. They were married at St. Stefanos Cathedral in Paris, France, in 1949. They resided in Washington, DC in retirement.

In their wills, Mr. and Mrs. Skoufis very generously created and endowed scholarships at several colleges and seminaries, in addition to bequests to their hometown churches and many charitable organizations.

THIRD BOSTON BYZANTINE MUSIC FESTIVAL



On November 13 and 14, 2015, the Mary Jaharis Center for Byzantine Art and Culture, with the New York Life Center for the Study of Hellenism in Pontus and Asia Minor, presented the third Boston Byzantine Music Festival. This year's concerts, lectures, and workshops highlighted the influence of Byzantine music on modern and contemporary music in the East and West.

The festival began with a stimulating lecture in the Archbishop Iakovos Library Reading Room, Hellenic College Holy Cross, by the acclaimed musicologist and composer, Fr. Ivan Moody. His talk traced the deep and abiding influence of Byzantine and other Orthodox chant traditions on the work of a number of contemporary composers, including Michael Adamis, Arvo Pärt, Alexander Raskatov, John Tavener, and Fr. Moody himself.

That music came to the fore in the Friday night concert held at the First Church in Cambridge. Choral compositions by Pärt, Tavener, and Moody were interlaced with post-Byzantine ecclesiastical compositions and performed by the Boston

Choral Ensemble and Holy Cross St. Romanos the Melodist Byzantine Choir. Given the shocking events that occurred that same evening in France, the music struck a deep nerve with the audience.

On Saturday, the festival shifted gears from high culture to folk. Panayotis League led a workshop entitled "Medieval Greek Folk Songs, Alive and Well" in the Archbishop Iakovos Library Reading Room. Mr. League taught participants to sing and play *paraloges*, which are narrative songs of medieval origin that remain popular on the islands of Kalymnos and Crete.

The festival concluded in lively form with a second concert at the First Church. The musical group Rebetoparea and the renowned singer Gregory Maninakis presented an evening of rebetiko. Once again, Holy Cross St. Romanos the Melodist Byzantine Choir provided an historical counterpoint by singing selections that constitute the pre-history of rebetiko, which is connected to the ecclesiastical music of medieval and post-medieval Constantinople.

PHOTOS BY CAROLINE ALDEN PHOTOGRAPHY





WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

November 11, 2015



HELLENIC COLLEGE HOLY CROSS

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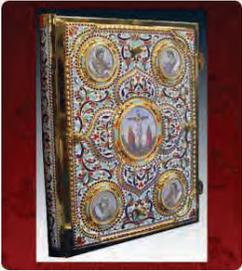
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ALTAR ITEMS NEEDED



Silver Plated Gospel
with Enamel Icons (2)
\$5,500



Silver Plated
Chalice Set (2)
(1 donated)
\$2,500



Liturgical Fans (4)
\$2,000



Silver Plated Altar
Candlesticks
\$1,000



Blessing Cross
\$800



Zeon
\$800



Holy Altar Tabernacle
\$3,250



Baptismal Font with
Chrome Plated Cover
\$2,500



Silver Plated Sprinkler
\$500



Silver Plated
Censer (2)
\$1,000



Bronze Standing
Candlestick with Hook
and Bowls for Censer
\$800



Silver Plated Standing
Bread Bowl (2)
\$1,100



Silver Plated Holy
Week Censer
\$750



Silver Plated Holy
Myron Container
\$500



Altar Candles (4)
\$2,000



Silver Plated
Processional Cross
\$750



Silver Plated
Holy Epistle (2)
\$1,000



Altar Lamp
\$700



Bishop's Staff
\$2,000