

HCHC



GOA/D. Panagos photos



Graduating seminarians and Hellenic College graduates with Archbishop Demetrios, Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, Metropolitan Gerasimos of San Francisco, HCHC President Fr. Christopher Metropoulos, Dean James Skedros, Dean Demetrios S. Katos, Dr. Thomas Lelaon, Board of Trustees Vice Chairman; Consul General of Greece Iphigenia Kanara, other school officials, faculty and trustees.

At 74th Commencement

HCHC Graduates 55; Honors Three Prominent Individuals

BROOKLINE, Mass. - Fifty-five students received degrees on May 21 from Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology.

Twenty students received Bachelor of Arts degrees from Hellenic College and 30 received a Master in Theological Studies or a Master of Divinity from Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. Five students earned a Certificate in Byzantine Music.

Nearly 500 people attended commencement ceremonies, including Archbishop Demetrios; Consul General of Greece in Boston, Ifigenia Kanara; members of the HCHC Board of Trustees, honorees, graduates and their families.

HCHC President Fr. Christopher T.

Metropulos, D.Min, delivered the salutation. Dr. Thomas C. Lelon, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, delivered greetings and congratulations from the Board of Trustees.

The Holy Cross St. Romanos the Melodist Byzantine Choir performed several selections during the program.

Valedictorians Sarah E. Hunt, Hellenic College, and Deacon Lucas L. Christensen, Holy Cross, each addressed their classmates, offering words of encouragement for the future and gratitude for the academic and spiritual education they received at HCHC.

Consul General Kanara delivered the keynote address in both Greek and English.

Drawing on her own personal experiences she urged the graduates to embrace what she believes are the most profound life lessons and why they are important to her personally, professionally and spiritually.

Honorary Degrees

HCHC awarded honorary degrees to three people for their extraordinary accomplishments and dedication to the Christian Orthodox Church and their Hellenic heritage.

Metropolitan Sotirios (Trambas) of Pisidja, who was unable to attend the ceremony, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. He was the first Metro-

politian of the Ecumenical Patriarchate's Orthodox Metropolis of Korea, serving from 2004-08.

The Metropolitan's Diakonia in Christ has yielded not only new churches and monasteries, but countless baptisms and spiritual conversions among the people of Korea and Asia. His spiritual writings and sermons have enlightened the hearts and souls of all who with humility and love of Orthodoxy seek to come to a deeper understanding of Jesus Christ and the All-Holy Trinity.

He sent a videotaped message thanking HCHC for its gracious honor and praised the school for all it has accomplished.

Honorary Doctor of Humanities Degree recipients were Andreas G. Tzakis, MD, Ph.D, and George M. Marcus.