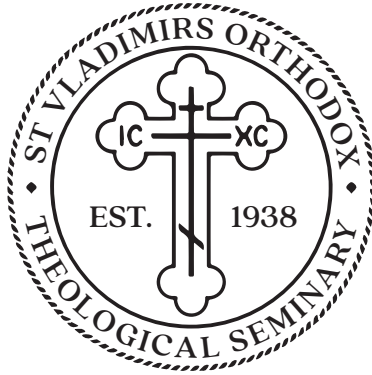




ST VLADIMIR'S



ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



2024

COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024



1:30 PM





Commencement Exercises

*Please silence all mobile phones
and other electronic devices.*

During the Procession: The Troparion of Pascha

Opening of the Commencement Exercises

THE MOST BLESSED TIKHON, Archbishop of Washington,
Metropolitan of All America and Canada, and Chairman of
the Board of Trustees

Welcoming Remarks

THE VERY REV. DR CHAD HATFIELD, President

Conferral of Honorary Degrees

DR IONUȚ-ALEXANDRU TUDORIE, Academic Dean

DR ROBERT P. GEORGE

Doctor of Canon Law

THE VERY REV. DR PATRICK HENRY REARDON

Doctor of Divinity

Salutatory Address

MS NAOMI DEHAAN

Commencement Address

DR ROBERT P. GEORGE

Conferral of Degrees on the Graduates of the Class of 2024

DR IONUȚ-ALEXANDRU TUDORIE, Academic Dean

Conferral of the St Macrina Award

MS KRIPAYA VARGHESE, President of the Student Council

Valedictory Address

THE REV. DR RENISH GEEVARGHESE ABRAHAM

Exapostilarion of Pascha

by Alexander Glazunov (arr. for women's trio by Jaime Rall and Dn Harrison Russin)

St Vladimir's Seminary Chorale,
directed by Dn Harrison Russin

Kontakion for the Departed and Memory Eternal

by Fr Ivan Moody
St Vladimir's Seminary Chorale,
directed by Dn Harrison Russin

Troparion of Pascha

Russian Old Ritualist Chant (transcribed and arranged by Alexander F. Ruggieri)
St Vladimir's Seminary Chorale,
directed by Dn Harrison Russin

Closing Remarks

THE MOST BLESSED TIKHON, Archbishop of Washington,
Metropolitan of All America and Canada, and Chairman of the Board
of Trustees

Closing Prayer: "Shine, Shine, O New Jerusalem"

Recessional: The Troparion of Pascha

A reception follows.

*The SVS Press Bookstore will remain open after the Commencement Exercises.
Directions are posted on campus.*



The Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The valedictorian, who delivers the valediction, or parting words, at commencement, is normally the student who has earned the highest grade point average, with consideration also being given to performance in all other aspects of seminary life. The salutatorian, who delivers the salutation, or greeting, at commencement, is normally the student who has earned the second-highest grade point average, with consideration also being given to performance in all other aspects of seminary life. Commencement speakers must have completed at least forty-eight credits at St Vladimir's Seminary as full-time degree candidates. Neither the valedictorian nor the salutatorian is required to write a thesis.

2024 Honorary Doctorate Recipients

Dr Robert P. George, *Doctor of Canon Law*



DR ROBERT P. GEORGE is McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and Director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University. He has frequently been a visiting professor at Harvard Law School, teaching philosophy of law and related subjects.

A graduate of Swarthmore College, Professor George holds MTS and JD degrees from Harvard University and the degrees of DPhil, BCL, DCL, and DLitt from Oxford University.

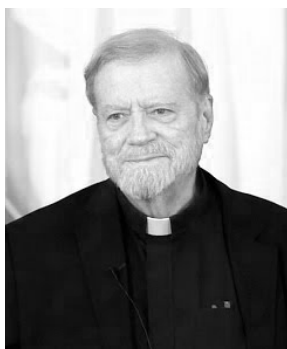
He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at Swarthmore and received a Frank Knox Fellowship from Harvard for graduate study in law and philosophy at Oxford. He holds twenty-two honorary degrees, including doctorates of law, letters, ethics, science, divinity, humane letters, civil law, law and moral values, humanities, and juridical science.

In addition to his academic service, Professor George has served as Chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. He has also served on the President's Council on Bioethics, as a presidential appointee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights, as the U.S. member of UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Science and Technology, and is a former Judicial Fellow at the Supreme Court of the United States, where he received the Justice Tom C. Clark Award.

He serves on the boards of the Templeton Foundation Religion Trust, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, the Ethics and Public Policy Center, the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation, and the Center for Individual Rights, among others.

Dr George is the author of multiple books and articles, is a Senior Editor of Touchstone Magazine, has been invited to speak at many prestigious events, and is the recipient of numerous distinguished awards and medals.

The Very Rev. Patrick Henry Reardon, *Doctor of Divinity*



FR PATRICK HENRY REARDON is a renowned speaker and teacher, a prolific scholarly writer, and a retired pastor in the Antiochian Orthodox Church; he resides in Chicago with his wife, Denise.

Fr Patrick received master's degrees from The Pontifical Atheneum of St Anselm (Rome) and the Pontifical Biblical Institute (Rome), and continued clerical studies at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Louisville, KY). After joining the Orthodox

Church in 1988, he also studied at St Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary (South Canaan, PA).

Past teaching assignments include Bellarmine College (Louisville, KY), Nashotah House Theological Seminary (Nashotah, WI), Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry (Ambridge, PA), Chatham College (Pittsburgh, PA), and Community College of Allegheny County, PA.

After multiple pastoral assignments as an Episcopal priest, Fr Patrick joined the Orthodox Church and was ordained to the diaconate in 1990 and the priesthood in 1992. He pastored St Anthony Orthodox Church in Butler, PA, from 1992 to 1998, and All Saints Orthodox Church in Chicago, IL, from 1998 to 2020. In 2008, he was elevated as an Archpriest of the Antiochian Orthodox Church.

Fr Patrick has given numerous conference presentations and retreats in the U.S. and Europe and has published a multitude of books, articles, editorials, and reviews, including contributions to the St Vladimir's Theological Quarterly. Fr Patrick is also a Senior Editor of Touchstone Magazine.

The Class of 2024

CANDIDATES FOR THE MASTER OF DIVINITY DEGREE

THE REV. DR RENISH GEEVARGHESE ABRAHAM (*valedictorian
of the class of 2024; summa cum laude; commendation for thesis;
commendation for service to the community*)
Christ and Kenosis in Select Novels of Fyodor Dostoyevsky
DR PETER BOUTENEFF, advisor

THE REV. JOSHUA BIRDSALL (*commendation for service to
the community*)
*How Do We Understand Gender?: An Exploration of the Marriage
Service as a Path into the Church's Understanding of Male and Female*
THE REV. DN DR MATTHEW VEST, advisor

SUBDEACON ROHAN DANIEL

DN GAREN HAMAMJIAN (*commendation for service to the community*)
*T'ēodoros Kesarats'i: An Introduction and Translation of a 12th
Century Martyrology*
DR ROBERTA ERVINE, advisor

MR. HENRY NAM HARDWICK

THE REV. SPYRIDON ICKES
Ligonier, Pennsylvania and Canonical Orthodox Unity
DR IONUȚ-ALEXANDRU TUDORIE, advisor

THE REV. GIORGI LOMSADZE
*The First Printed Georgian Hieratikon (1710): Historical Context and
Its Rite of Prothesis*
THE REV. DN DR VITALY PERMIAKOV, advisor

MR SAMUEL ANTHONY LOPOSKY (*cum laude; commendation for service to the community*)

The Order for the Burial of a Priest: Historical Continuity and Holy Tradition

THE REV. DN DR VITALY PERMIAKOV, advisor

SUBDEACON SEMAYON LUKOSE

MRS AMBER ROSE PRATHER (*summa cum laude*)

Light in the Darkness: A Vision of Healing for Victims of Sexual Violence

THE REV. DN DR MATTHEW VEST, advisor

MR ANDREW PRATHER (*magna cum laude*)

Uncoerced, Unilateral, Bona Gratia Dissolution of Marriage for Monasticism in Byzantium from the Fourth to the Fourteenth Centuries

DR IONUȚ-ALEXANDRU TUDORIE, advisor

THE REV. PETER RIES (*magna cum laude; commendation for service to the community*)

Laughing All the Way to Theosis: An Essay on Humor's Place in the Spiritual Life

THE VERY REV. DR BOGDAN G. BUCUR, advisor

THE REV. DN JUXHIN SHKURTI

SUBDEACON RYAN THOMAS

CANDIDATES FOR THE
MASTER OF ARTS DEGREE

MOTHER VERONICA ABASKHAROUN (*commendation for service to the community*)

Abbot Macarius of St John the Baptist Monastery and the Restoration of the Scriptural Mind

DR MICHAEL LEGASPI, advisor

MS NAOMI DEHAAN (*salutatorian of the class of 2024, summa cum laude, commendation for service to the community*)

Concentration in Theological Scholarship and Research

Words as Windows onto Mysteries: Orthodox Poetics in Jacob of Serugh

THE REV. DN DR HARRISON RUSSIN, advisor

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The Origins and Purpose of the Jesus Prayer

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MR MIHAIL GOLIC

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Proto-Cerinthians in Galatia: Reexamination of Walter Schmithals's Analysis of the Singular Problem of the Epistle to the Galatians

DR JOHN BARNET, advisor

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Origins of the Burial Rite in Early Christian Communities of Rome

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MR CHRISTOPHER LAUGHLIN

The Doctrine of the Trinity and Its Practical Application for Priestly Ministry

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MR DOMINIC MOURAD

The Relationship Between Poetry and Theology in the Syriac Orthodox Church

DR IONUȚ-ALEXANDRU TUDORIE, advisor

MS ANDJELKA STANKOVIC

Concentration in Theological Scholarship and Research

Moral Dilemma of Abortion and the Gospel According to Matthew: The Paradigm of Exceeding Righteousness

DR JOHN BARNET, advisor

MISS KRIPAYA VARGHESE (*commendation for service to the community*)

The Silence of Women in the Malankara Orthodox Church

DR ALBERT ROSSI, advisor

MR MIHAILO VLAJKOVIC (*commendation for service to the community*)

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The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America: A Canonical Comparative Analysis from Humble Beginnings Till the Present Day

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Holy Land as Inner Spiritual Landscape: The Journey of St Gregorios of Parumala to Jerusalem. Translation with Introduction and Notes

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MR LEO SHERIDAN GRABOWSKI (*commendation for thesis;
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Nicholas Cabasilas' Oration on the Passion: A Translation and Study

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Orthodox Action: Towards an Orthodox Social Theology

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*Orthodoxy and Otherness: Byzantine Unionism as Catalyst for
Orthodox Identity Formation in the Thirteenth Century*

DR IONUȚ-ALEXANDRU TUDORIE, advisor

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THE REV. ABEY GEORGE

*An Antidote to Anger: Practicing Spiritual Watchfulness in Healing the
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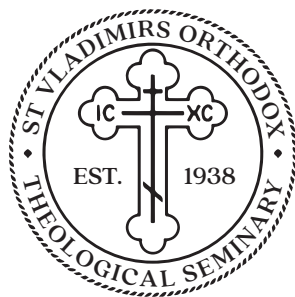
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