

2010 COMMENCEMENT
OF

*St Vladimir's
Orthodox Theological Seminary*



SATURDAY
MAY 22, 2010
2:00 PM

St Vladimir's Seminary
575 Scarsdale Road, Yonkers, NY

SATURDAY, MAY 22, 2010

Commencement Exercises

Moleben

Processional

Opening Prayer: “Troparion for the Three Hierarchs”

Opening of the Commencement Exercises

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah, President of the Board of Trustees

Welcoming Remarks

The Very Rev. Dr John Behr, Dean

Conferral of Honorary Degrees

Commencement Address

Mr Albert P. Foundos: “Where My Treasure Is”

Conferral of Degrees to the Class of 2010

The Saint Basil the Great Award for Academic Achievement

Fr Andrew Cuneo, Christopher Evan McGarvey, Fr Theophan Whitfield

Valedictory Address

Fr Andrew Cuneo

Introduction into the Alumni Association

The Very Rev. David Barr, Association President

Salutatory Address

Michael Soroka

Concluding Remarks

The Very Rev. Dr Chad Hatfield, Chancellor

Closing of the Commencement Exercises

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Jonah, President of the Board of Trustees

Closing prayer: “It is truly meet”

Recessional

Commencement Reception on the Lawn

..... *Class of 2010*

Candidates for the Master of Divinity degree

Sdn Justin AJAMIAN

Fr Ephraim ALKHAS

Fr John BALLARD (*cum laude*)

Fr Peter CARMICHAEL

*“The Meek Shall Inherit the Land” (Psalm 37:11):
A Theological Essay on Morality and Land Tenure Economics*

Fr Benedict CHURCHILL (*cum laude*)

Fr Andrew CUNEO (*Valedictorian, summa cum laude*)

*A Commentary on the Rites of the Divine Liturgy by Nicholas Cabasilas:
The “Lesser Commentary”*

Justin DUMOULIN

Christopher EID

The Antiochian-Syriac Pastoral Agreement of 1991

Fr Simeon B. JOHNSON

*Slavophiles and Their Legacy:
A Nineteenth Century Movement and Its Continued Impact*

Fr Sean A. LEVINE (*cum laude*)

*Paul’s Gospel and Christ’s Kingdom:
The Role of the Love of Neighbor in the Good News*

Christopher Evan MCGARVEY (*summa cum laude*)

Still Not Satisfied: Orthodox Theology and Anselm’s Cur Deus Homo

Fr Rares Claudiu ONOFREI

*Building the Body of Christ: The Anatomy of Theosis
According to Saint Symeon the New Theologian*

Thomas George PARTHENAKIS

Fr Peter ROBICHAU (*cum laude*)
*From District to Diocese:
An Examination of the Founding
and Missionary Methods of the OCA Diocese of the South*

Fr Daniel TALLEY
*Heart, Hearth, Earth:
American Orthodoxy and the New Agrarian Mission*

Anthony WESTERMAN

Fr Theophan WHITFIELD (*summa cum laude*)
*“Have Mercy on Me, O God”:
A comparison of Psalm 51 in Masoretic Hebrew and Septuagint Greek*

Candidates for the Master of Arts (Theology) degree

Andreea Norica BĂLAN (*cum laude*)
*Cleansing the Theologian Through Theology:
Gregory Nazianzen’s Orations 27 and 28*

James Loxley COMPTON (*cum laude*)
*Oikonomiae Sacramentum:
The Mystery of the Economy in Tertullian’s Against Praxeas*

Courtney J. JONES
*The Ecclesiological Vision of Saint Cyprian of Carthage in De Ecclesiae Catholicae
Unitate: Applications, Interpretations, and Implications*

Joseph S. OLAS
*Archimandrite John Namie:
His Influence on the Spiritual Life of the Antiochian Archdiocese of North America*

Vasilios RODITIS (*cum laude*)
*Should Christians Fear Death?:
Reflections on the Office at the Parting of the Soul from the Body*

Alexandra SAFCHUK
Orthodox Christian Formation Through Education

Mary TICKEL
*Koinonia ton Hagion / Communio Sanctorum:
Harry Potter and the Communion of Saints*

Candidates for the Master of Theology degree

Adrian BUDICA

*Scripture, Abba, Hearer:
The Inspired Word in the Apophthegmata*

Fr Vitaly DUDKIN

*The Pastoral Implications of the Eucharistic Ecclesiologies
of Nicholas Afanasiev and John Zizioulas*

Dean GJORCESKI

*Dwelling Place of the Soul and Mind:
The Role of the Heart in the Macarian Homilies*

Fr Darko SPASOJEVIC

*Gennadios Scholarios:
Divine Essence and Divine Energies*

Jacob VAN SICKLE

Basil's Moralia

Mariam CEENA VARGHESE

*A Guide to the Liturgical Services of the Orthodox Syrian Church:
Translation and Analysis*

His Grace, The Right Reverend BASIL

BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF WICHITA AND MID-AMERICA
SELF-RULED ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

DOCTOR OF DIVINITY (D.D.), HONORIS CAUSA

Bishop Basil was born and raised in Monessen, Pennsylvania. He received his M.Div. from St Vladimir's Seminary in 1973, and is recognized for outstanding work in pastoral, youth, and liturgical music ministries.

Following his graduation from St Vladimir's, Bishop Basil served as pastoral assistant at St George Church in Detroit, Michigan, and subsequently as Director of the Department of Youth Affairs for the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America (AOCANA). At that time he also taught contemporary Byzantine Chant at St Vladimir's.

In 1980, he was ordained to the priesthood by Metropolitan Philip at St Anthony Church in Bergenfield, New Jersey, and in 1988, he was elevated to the dignity of archimandrite by Metropolitan Philip at St George Church in Wichita, Kansas. Bishop Basil received monastic tonsure to the Lesser Schema at the Patriarchal Stavropegic Monastery of St John the Baptist in Tolleshunt Knights by Maldon, Essex, England, during the night between January 19 and 20, 2003, at the hands of the monastery's abbot, Archimandrite Kyrill.

He was consecrated to the episcopacy on May 31, 1992, at St George Cathedral in Wichita, Kansas, by Metropolitan Philip, Metropolitan Elias (Audi) of the Archdiocese of Beirut; Bishop Antoun (Khoury), titular bishop of Seleucia and auxiliary of the Archdiocese of North America; and the late Archbishop Michael (Shaheen) of Toledo, Ohio, auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of North America. In October 2003, His Grace became a diocesan bishop and, since his enthronement on December 15, 2004, he bears the title of Bishop of the Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America.

Bishop Basil co-chaired the Joint Orthodox Church in America (OCA)–AOCANA Canonization Commission, which led to the glorification of Bishop Raphael (Hawaweeny) of Brooklyn in 2000. His Grace oversaw the publication of the book containing St Raphael's *Vita*, *Akolouthia* and *Akathist* (Antakya Press, 2000). He also arranged the hymnography for St Raphael to Byzantine melodies, and directed the Clergy Brotherhood Choir that recorded an audio CD of the hymns for the feast of St Raphael (Antakya Press 2001).

Commencement Speaker

Mr Albert P. Foundos

DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS (D.H.L.), HONORIS CAUSA

Albert Foundos emigrated from Albania to the United States with his family in 1948. After completing high school he earned a degree in Chemical Engineering from City College of N.Y. where he also earned an M.B.A., after serving as a Captain in the U.S. Army.

Mr Foundos is a General Partner of TFF Limited Partnership, engaged in real estate investments, and President of Cigar Oasis, Inc., a manufacturer of electronic humidifiers. Mr Foundos founded Fluid Data, Inc. in 1972 and served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer through the years while growing the company to 150 employees with operations in New York, London, and Houston until the company was sold in 1995.

Currently, Mr Foundos is also the Chairman of Lamsia Corporation in Albania, which he founded with his brother Louis to help create jobs after the fall of communism. Since the early 1990s the factory has expanded and now employs over 400 people. During his time in Albania, Mr Foundos developed a close relationship with its primate, Archbishop Anastasios. Their cooperative effort to promote Orthodoxy in Albania culminated with the recent opening of the Orthodox Cathedral in the center of the capital, Tirana.

Generous with his time, energy, and monetary resources in many organizations over the years, Mr Foundos is also dedicated in his service to St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. First becoming a Trustee in 1982 under the tenure of Fr Alexander Schmemmann, he has acted as Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee since 1989, and still serves in this capacity. His leadership talents were put to brilliant use as the Co-chair of the seminary's first major capital campaign, resulting in a tremendous expansion of the campus facilities. He is currently the longest serving elected member to the seminary's Board of Trustees.

Throughout his life, Mr Foundos has been a devoted member of St Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church in Queens, serving on the parish council and holding a variety of leadership and fundraising positions. He has always worked tirelessly to deepen his faith and share it with others.



St Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary

575 SCARSDALE ROAD
YONKERS, NY 10707-1659

www.svots.edu