

David Drillock
Professor of Liturgical Music, *emeritus*

Professor David Drillock—the very name is synonymous with Liturgical Music in the United States and with the institution of St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary. A conductor, arranger, and beloved teacher, and a pillar and bulwark of institutional stability and integrity, Professor David Drillock has done more than anyone else in the past century to advance the cause of both.

From his early years, Professor Drillock exhibited exceptional talent in mathematics and music, talents he multiplied considerably during his long tenure at St. Vladimir’s Seminary: “to whom much is given, much is expected.” Graduating as a Master of Divinity from St. Vladimir’s and as a Master of Sacred Music from Union Theological Seminary, Professor Drillock served over forty years his alma mater as Provost and Professor of Liturgical Music.

Delving deep within the venerable traditions of Znamenny, Kievan, Byzantine, Carpathian, Serbian, and Bulgarian chant, as well as the great tradition of Russian choral composition, Professor Drillock brought these ancient treasures to life for contemporary worshippers, teaching generations of students with enthusiastic warmth, erudition, and sensitivity, producing music books that have become foundational worldwide, and directing the choirs of St. Vladimir’s Seminary, recording nine remarkable liturgical music CDs.

Still active in retirement—teaching music and training choir directors, conducting choir workshops, teaching the spiritual and theological foundations that unite text and music in prayer, serving as the Chair of the Department of Liturgical Music and Translations of the Orthodox Church in America—Professor Drillock continues to multiply the many gifts given to him. A man of enormous heart, impeccable character, and immense talent, who conducts and teaches with inspiration, majesty, and prayer, Professor Drillock is one of the outstanding musical resources and inspirations in liturgical music and worship in the Orthodox Church.

In view of all these accomplishments, it is with a great sense of honor that the Board of Trustees and Faculty of St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary, by unanimous decision and by the power vested in them by the Board of Regents of the State of New York, bestow upon Professor David Drillock the degree of Doctor of Sacred Music (D.S.M.), *honoris causa*.