
Timothy G. Patitsas, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of Ethics

Director of the MTS Program

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

In my role as Asst. Professor of Ethics at Holy Cross, I have accumulated 20 years experience teaching, mentoring, and designing study abroad experiences in Greece, Turkey, Palestine, and Israel. My book, *The Ethics of Beauty*, has sold over 8,000 copies and was listed as one of the most important books of the last century on the Close Reads podcast. In almost five years as Interim Dean of Hellenic College, I led development of an innovative Core Curriculum and helped save the college from closure.

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Systematic Theology - 2003

The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC

Dissertation

Title: "The King Returns to His City: An Interpretation of the Great Week and Bright Week Cycle of the Orthodox Church." This dissertation studies the intersection of liturgy, the urbanism of Jane Jacobs, and the study of complex organic order. This interdisciplinary approach generated new insights on the Christian approach to gender, economics, political philosophy, and soteriology.

Dissertation Director: Robin Darling Young, Ph.D.

M.Div. - 1994

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology - Brookline, MA

B.S.F.S. - 1988

Georgetown University School of Foreign Services - Washington, DC

Area of Concentration: Science, Technology, and International Affairs

Minor: International Economics

Language Certification: German; Modern Greek

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Director of the MTS Program

Holy Cross Seminary- Brookline, MA

SEPTEMBER 2025 - PRESENT

- Student Advising, Curriculum Design, Assessment

Interim Dean of Hellenic College

Hellenic College - Brookline, MA

JANUARY 2020 - JULY 2024

- Co-managed efforts that took Hellenic College from academic probation in December 2019 to full ten-year accreditation awarded in March of 2023.
- Guided the redesign of the Hellenic College Core curriculum, with new emphases on Boston-based courses, exposure to all faculty and all majors, and cross cultural service work.
- Created the first-ever assessment plans for all six majors and the Core curriculum.
- Forged new partnerships with Suffolk, Fisher, Regis, and College Year in Athens

Director of the Religious Studies Program

Hellenic College - Brookline, MA

January 2020 - July 2024

- Directed the Academic Program Review of 2022
- Spearheaded redesign, transition of the program into a Theology major in 2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology - Brookline, MA

FALL 2005 - PRESENT

- Courses taught: Ethics, Social Ethics, Bioethics, Theological Aesthetics, Orthodox Action, Social Ministries, Science Economy & Liturgy, Seminar on the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Dogmatics I, Dogmatics II, Rhetoric & Justice in Six Early Fathers, Pleasure & Pain, Ethics & Elders, Christian Discipleship: Biblical, Ethical, and Pastoral Perspectives, Ethics & the Apostolic Fathers

Adjunct Professor for Business & for Theology

Hellenic College - Brookline, MA

FALL 2005 - PRESENT

- Courses taught: Literature & Ethics, Business Law & Ethics, Economics and Theology, Literature & Ethics: C.S. Lewis, Sociology, Ethical Decision Making

in a Globalized Economy, Spirituality & Scripture, Religious Studies Senior Seminar, Great Religious Ideas/Theories & Methods for the Study of Religion

Special Envoy for the St. Helen's Pilgrimage

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology - Brookline, MA

2006 - 2021

- Redesigned the study-travel program in Greece, Mount Athos, Israel, Palestine, Albania, and Constantinople
- Executed project planning, administration, and on-site leadership of the annual six-to-nine week-long study abroad program of the seminary
- Negotiated Part B partnership with College Year in Athens

Adjunct Professor of Religion and Philosophy

Marymount University - Arlington, VA

SPRING 2001 - SPRING 2002

Adjunct Professor of Theology, Canon Law, and Church History

St. Nicholas Orthodox Seminary - Seoul, Korea

FALL 1996

Ph.D. Thesis Advisor

John Hopkins University School of Nursing - Baltimore, MD

2016 - 2018

- Weekly tutorials for two years with an Orthodox Christian student writing a doctoral thesis in community nursing

BOOKS

The King Returns to His City. Contract pending with The Catholic University of America Press.

The Ethics of Beauty. Mayesville, Missouri: St. Nicholas Press, 2019.

Providing an accessible take on the dramatic dialogue genre of classical philosophy, I composed questions and answers and formatted the material as a series of interviews.

ARTICLES & BOOK REVIEWS

Foreword: Tikhon Pino, *Contraception and the Orthodox Church, with the 1937 and 1978 Encyclicals of the Church of Greece*. Patristic Nectar Publications, 2025

“The Beauty-First Way of Knowing: Some General Observations on the Role of the Aesthetic in Accurate Cognition and in the Practice of Christian Spirituality,” in *Analele Universității din București. Filosofie* Vol. LXXIII – Nr. 1, 2024, p. 71-81.

Excerpts Reprint: “The City as Liturgy: An Orthodox Theologian Corresponds with Jane Jacobs About a Gentle Reconciliation of Science and Religion,” in *ANTA Archives of New Traditional Architecture* - Spring 2023, Issue No. 5, p. 198-205.

Foreword: *Fr. Artemy Vladimirov: Life in the Resurrection*. Maysville, MO: St. Nicholas Press, 2023.

Book Review: "Simplicity and Humility in Late Antique Christian Thought. Elites and the Challenges of Apostolic Life (Jaclyn L. Maxwell)." *The Journal of Theological Studies* 73, no. 1 (2022): 385-87.

"Three Christian Approaches to the Challenge of Mass Media," in *Evangelist, Shepherd, and Teacher: Studies in Honor of Archbishop Demetrios of America*, Holy Cross Orthodox Press, 2020.

"Theophany, Liturgy, and the Appearance of Marriage at Three Fractal Levels," co-authored with Melissa Likiardopoulos. Edited by David C. Ford, Mary S. Ford, and Alfred K. Siewers. *Glory and Honor: Orthodox Christian Resources on Marriage*. St. Vladimir's Seminary Press (2016).

Scholarly Essay Composed in Interview Format: "Chastity and Empathy: Eros, Agape, and the Mystery of the Twofold Anointing: An Interview in Three Parts," in *A Journal of Orthodox Faith and Culture Road to Emmaus*, Vol. XVI, No. 1 Winter 2015 (#60) p 3-62.

Scholarly Essay Composed in Interview Format: "A Feeling for Beauty: The Aesthetic Ground of Orthodox Ethics" in *A Journal of Orthodox Faith and Culture Road to Emmaus*, Vol. XV, No. 2 Spring 2014 (#57) p 3-41.

Book Review: "They who Give from Evil: The Response of the Eastern Church to Moneylending in the Early Christian Era (Brenda Llewellyn Ihssen)." Edited by Dr. Graham Gould and Dr. Katherine Dell. *The Journal of Theological Studies* New Series 65 (2014): 731-733.

Scholarly Essay Composed in Interview Format: "The Opposite of War is not Peace: Healing Trauma in the *Iliad* and in Orthodox Tradition" in *A Journal of Orthodox Faith and Culture Road to Emmaus*, Vol. XIV, No. 1 Winter 2013 (#52).

"Man, Divided: Nature vs. Will in Contemporary Bioethical Anthropology," in *Bioethics: Need for a Paradigm Shift*, ed. Fadi Georgi, Balamand Theological Conferences 2, Beirut: Daccache Printing House, 2012.

"The Hospitality of Abraham: Orthodox Ethics and Reproduction" in *A Journal of Orthodox Faith and Culture Road to Emmaus*. Vol. XIII, No. 2 Spring 2012 #49.

Scholarly Essay Composed in Interview Format: "Remembering Tikas: A Pilgrimage to Loutra" in *A Journal of Orthodox Faith and Culture Road to Emmaus*, Vol. XII, No. 3 Summer 2011 (#46), p 56-62.

"Organic Complexity and the Healing of Our Epistemology," in *Holistic Healing in Byzantium*, ed. John T. Chirban, 2010.

"The City as Liturgy: An Orthodox Theologian Corresponds with Jane Jacobs About a Gentle Reconciliation of Science and Religion," in *Legacy of Achievement: Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, Festal Volume of the 25th Anniversary of his Consecration to the Episcopate*, ed. George Dion. Dragas, 2008.

“St. Basil’s Philanthropic Program and Modern Microlending Strategies for Economic Self-Actualization,” in *Wealth and Poverty in Early Church and Society*, ed. Susan R. Holman, 2008.

“The Marriage of Priests: Towards an Orthodox Christian Theology of Gender,” *St. Vladimir’s Theological Quarterly*, 51:1, 2007.

“The Current Planning Process: Its Roots and Results,” 2001 on the website of Christopher Alexander; <http://www.patternlanguage.com/townplanning.timpatitsas.htm> (formerly).

INVITED ADDRESSES

April 6, 2024: “A Beauty-First Approach to Classical Education.” Talk co-sponsored by St. George Classical Academy & the Orthodox Church of St. John the Russian, Ipswich, Mass.

December 28, 2023: “The Relentless Pursuit of Beauty.” Talk given at St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church in Stafford, Virginia.

May 1, 2023: “Uniting the Mind and the Heart: ‘Beauty-First’ in Education and in the Christian Life.” Talk recorded for regular use in intern orientation at Project Mexico in Rosarito, Mexico.

October 22, 2022. “Beauty and Complexity.” Presentation at the P’On Dialogues Conference on Building Community: Lessons from 25 Years of New Urbanism.” Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina.

January 13, 2022: “The Healing Power of Beauty.” Talk delivered for the Orthodox Youth Directors of North America.

June 3, 2021: “The Two Pentecosts: Beauty, Creation, and Culture in Liturgy.” Talk delivered remotely to the St. Vladimir’s Orthodox Theological Seminary Online Summer Music Institute.

March 8, 2019: “Shame, Gender, and the Marriage of Priests.” Talk delivered at the Conference on “Chastity, Purity, Integrity: Orthodox Anthropology and Secular Culture in the 21st Century.” Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary. Jordanville, NY.

February 21, 2019: “Statement on the Sanctity of Life: A Response to the Reproductive Health Act passed by the New York State Legislature on January 22, 2019.” Recorded Address on behalf of Hellenic College Holy Cross.

October 27, 2017. Keynote Address - “Trauma: Proposing a Theological and Ethical Definition of Traumatic Experience.” Invited Address at Trinity Western University Department of Psychology. Vancouver, British Columbia.

October 26, 2017. “The Role of Beauty in Science, and in Making Sense of Information: Why the Beauty-First Approach to Information Really is Best.” Invited Address at Trinity Western University Faculty of Natural and Applied Sciences. Vancouver, British Columbia.

March 10, 2016, “The Ethical Justification for Christian Rights and Freedom.” Institute for Christian Rights and Freedom. Naples, Fla.

April 26, 2014. “Orthodox Christian Perspectives on Work.” Boston Theological Institute Workshop.

October 2001. “The Divine Liturgy as Coronation and Wedding” Keynote speaker. Eastern Church Traditions and Celebrations Seminar. Notre Dame College of Ohio, South Euclid, Ohio

May 2001. “Who’ is the Meaning of Life.” Keynote Speaker. Baccalaureate. Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Fall 1998. “The Acquisition of the Holy Spirit.” St. Matthew’s Roman Catholic Church, Chevy Chase, MD.

Fall 1997. “The Orthodox Concept of Hypostasis: The Perspective from Korean Religion.” Camp Nazareth Retreat Center. Mercer, PA.

DOCUMENTARY FILMMAKING AND PILGRIMAGE MEDIA:

Co-Founder Beauty First Films, 2019

- A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Portland, Oregon, dedicated to making inspiring educational films about pilgrimage.

Co-Director and Co-Producer of “Amphilochios: Saint of Patmos”

- 30-minute documentary short. Official selection at seven film festivals, including both the San Francisco and the Los Angeles Greek Film Festivals.

Co-Designer of the Liturgical Seasons Calendar, annually from 2020 through 2026

- Presenting time by liturgical seasons rather than by months. Past destinations: Jerusalem, Patmos, Kodiak and Spruce Islands, Ireland, Serbia, Mount Athos, France.

PODCAST APPEARANCES:

2025, November: Scriptorium Podcast with Jim Skedros, Church Historian

2025, October: Patterns for Life & the Diner Podcast, with Lisa Rose & Laura E. Wolfe, Orthodox Christian Charlotte Mason Educators

2025, August: Gospel Simplicity Podcast with Austin Suggs, Theologian

2025, August: The Athos Diet Podcast with Dr. Peter Patitsas, Emergency Medicine

2025, June: Barrel Aged Faith with Cassian King

2025, March: Golgonooza Podcast with Cornelia Tsakiridou, Philosopher

2024, December: The Athos Diet Podcast with Dr. Peter Patitsas, Emergency Medicine

2024, December: Golgonooza Podcast with Seraphim O'Keefe, Iconographer

2024, December: Trauma-Informed Church Kids Podcast with Spencer Owen, Licensed Mental Health Counselor

2024, November: Doomer Optimism Podcast, with Ashley Colby, Environmental Sociologist & Michael Sellas, Regenerative Farmer

2024, October: Golgonooza Podcast with Andrew Gould, Architect

2024, September: Chuong Nguyen Podcast

2024, September: Holy Cross Connection with Nicholas Botsolis

2024, August: Golgonooza Podcast with Fr. Nicholas Loudovikos, Theologian

2024, August: Golgonooza Podcast with DC Schindler, Theologian

2024, August: The Nathan Jacobs Podcast with Nathan Jacobs, Philosopher

2024, April: The Symbolic World with Jonathan Pageau, Icon Carver & Philosopher

2024, March: Golgonooza Podcast with Jordan Hall, Philosopher of Technology

2024, March: The Protecting Veil Podcast with Herman Middleton, Author

2023, December: The Ethics of Beauty III: "The Reconciliation of Men and Women in Christ" with Christine Perrin of Schole Communities.

2023, July: The Cassidy van der Kamp Podcast

2023, May: The Ethics of Beauty II: "Social Justice and Beauty" with Christine Perrin of Schole Communities

2023, March: Luminous: Conversations on Sacred Arts Podcast with Peter Bouteneff, Theologian

2023, January: The Ethics of Beauty with Christine Perrin of Schole Communities

2022, December: Heavy Things Lightly Podcast with John Heers, Philanthropist

2022, September: Counterflow with Buck Johnson

2022, August: Golgonooza Podcast with Joseph Schaefer

2022, April: Holistic Christian Life Podcast

2022, April: The Athos Diet Podcast with Dr. Pete Patitsas, Emergency Medicine

2021, November: *Amon Sül* Podcast with Richard Rohlin

2020, November: The Symbolic World with Jonathan Pageau, Icon Carver & Philosopher

2020, May: Hope in Source Podcast with Henry Zhu, Software Engineer

2020, May: Everyday Orthodox with Elissa Bjeletivich

2019, June: *Orthodoxy Live* with Fr. Evan Armatas

2019, March: Hope in Source Podcast with Henry Zhu & Nadia Eghbal, Software Engineers

PUBLICATIONS FOR THE POPULAR PRESS

Foreword: Anthony Linderman, *A Year in the Company of Angels*. Ancient Faith Publishing, forthcoming in 2026.

“Pilgrimage and the Fallen,” on the Beauty First Films Substack, October 2025.

“The Pilgrimage Archipelago,” on the Beauty First Films Substack, September 2025.

“Compline at Tharri,” on the Beauty First Films Substack, August 2025.

“The Sunday Pilgrimage,” on the Beauty First Films Substack, July 2025.

“The King Returns to His City,” on the Beauty First Films Substack, April 2025.

“Encountering Athos,” on the Beauty First Films Substack, March 2025.

“The Christians of Bethlehem,” in the Orthodox Observer, Nov/Dec 2019.

“Facts about the Feast of the Universal Exaltation of the Cross,” on the Beauty First Films Blog, September 2019.

“A Pilgrimage in Time,” on the Beauty First Films Blog, August 2019.

“My Children, I don’t want Paradise without you...” on the Beauty First Films Blog, August 2019.

“We Look at Time a Little Differently,” on the Beauty First Films Blog, August 2019.

“Praying for a President,” in The Orthodox Observer, April 2016.

“Let us Pray to the Lord.” *Praxis*, Spring 2015, vol 14:3 from the Department of Religious Education.

“Bind the Warrior’s Wounds,” in *The Orthodox Observer*, Fall 2014.

“Beauty and the Grammys,” in *The Orthodox Observer*, Feb/Mar 2014.

“Orthodox Ethics: A Eucharistic Life” in *The Orthodox Observer*, Feb/Mar 2013.

“What’s Up with the Father’s Son?” in *The Orthodox Observer*, June 2007.

RETREATS, SERMONS, & PARISH TALKS

March 5-7, 2021. “The Beauty of Lent.” Retreat at St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church. Loveland, Colorado.

December 27, 2019. “The Light Shines in Darkness.” Keynote Address: Orthodox Campus Fellowship Annual Retreat. Ligonier, Penn.

September 17, 2019. Short address for Constitution Day. Holy Cross Chapel. Brookline, Mass.

November 9-11, 2018. “The Spiritual Beauty of Architecture.” Retreat at St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church. Beaverton, Oregon.

September 17, 2018. Short address for Constitution Day. Holy Cross Chapel. Brookline, Mass.

March 8, 2018. “Trauma: Proposing a Theological and Ethical Definition of Traumatic Experience.” Holy Apostles Greek Orthodox Church Book Week. Westchester, Illinois.

December 28, 2017. “Nativity in Bethlehem.” Joy of All Who Sorrow Orthodox Church. Indianapolis, Indiana.

November 9, 2017. “Beauty will Save the World.” Orthodoxy on Tap. Brockton, Mass.

October 14, 2017. “Beauty and Information in Spiritual Life.” YAL Retreat. Newport, Rhode Island.

October 13, 2017. “Beauty and Information in Science.” YAL Retreat. Newport, Rhode Island.

September 17, 2017. Short address for Constitution Day. Holy Cross Chapel. Brookline, Mass.

March 4-5, 2017. “Human Dignity and the Icon.” Retreat at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church. Williamsburg, Virginia.

February 16, 2017. Short address to the fifth graders of The Park Street School. Boston, Mass.

February 21, 2017. "Personal Remembrances of His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople on the Occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Enthronement." Holy Cross Seminary.

December 15, 2016. "Consumerism and Christmas." Orthodoxy on Tap. Peabody, Mass.

October 27, 2016. "Friendship and Salvation." Orthodoxy on Tap. Boston, Mass.

April 21, 2016. "May the Lord remember your Archpriesthood in His kingdom: Meditations on the Third Anniversary of the Abduction of the Two Syrian Bishops." Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology Chapel.

April 15-17, 2016. "Bright Sadness: Lent and the Beauty-First Way." Retreat for Young Adult League of the San Francisco Metropolis. Life Giving Spring Monastery. Dunlap, California.

December 28, 2015. "The Pure of Heart are the New Martyrs: A Talk on Orthodox Chastity."

October 24, 2015. "A Path Appears. Combatting Human Trafficking." Sponsored panel at Hellenic College Holy Cross. Brookline, Mass.

October 3-5, 2014. "Beauty, Goodness, Truth: Trauma, the Iliad, and an Orthodox Perspective on Healing the Soul. Three talks for the Organization 'Orthodox Women in Healing Ministries.'" Dormition of the Mother of God Orthodox Monastery. Rives Junction, Michigan

September 23, 2014. "St. Silouan and St. Sophrony: Remembrances of Life in Essex." Holy Cross Campus talk. Brookline, Mass.

April 4-6, 2014. "Three Obstacles to Mature Manhood." Retreat at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Clearwater, Fla.

March 19, 2014. "Pascha and the Renewal of Creation." Parish Talk at St. Philip Greek Orthodox Church. Nashua, New Hampshire.

February 21, 2014. "Living Communally in the City." Holy Resurrection Bulgarian Orthodox Church. Allston, Mass.

August 14, 2013. Homily for the Dormition. Assumption of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church. Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

October 5, 2010. "The Call to Holiness." Short talk delivered at Sts. Constantine & Helen Greek Orthodox Church. Andover, Mass.

September 27, 2007. "Ethics and the Environment." Campus Activities Board Symposium, Hellenic College Holy Cross.

May 1, 2006. “The DaVinci Code: An Orthodox Response.” Talk delivered at Holy Archangels Greek Orthodox Church. Watertown, Mass.

September 2002. “St. Silouan, 1866-1938: Reflections at the 64th anniversary of his repose.” Orthodox Women in Healing Ministries, Washington, DC

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Publishing 101: What to Expect, What to Do – ATS Webinar for New Faculty, 2015

AWARDS AND HONORS

Teacher of the Year, Holy Cross (2010, 2011, 2015)

Johannes Quasten Full-tuition Scholarship, Catholic University (1994)

Faculty Award in Systematic Theology, Holy Cross (1992)

Phi Beta Kappa and Summa Cum Laude, Georgetown University (1988)

Alpha Sigma Nu Jesuit Honor Society (1988)

FELLOWSHIPS

Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty | Oct. 2014 - Dec. 2014 |
Researched a monograph on the social ethics of Jane Jacobs

Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology | Sep. 2004 - Jun. 2005 |
Scholar In-Residence

NASA's Office of External Affairs | Sep. 1986 - Jun. 1987 |
Internship in Space and International Affairs

COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology

- Assessment
- Field Education
- Admissions
- MDiv Redesign
- Accreditation Self-Study

BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

The Russian Orphan Opportunity Fund (2012 - Present)

The Road to Emmaus Foundation | Founding Board Member (2015 - Present)

The Center for Byzantine Material Arts | Founding Member (2015 - 2021)

The Missions Institute of Orthodox Christianity (2011 - 2016)

LANGUAGES

Modern Greek – High Proficient

German – Proficient

Russian – Introductory (speaking and writing)

Classical Greek – Proficient (reading)

Latin – Proficient (reading)

French – Proficient (reading)

CITIZENSHIP

United States of America

Hellenic Republic