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HCHC Hosts Archdiocese District Clergy Syndesmos Retreat



This past week, the Archdiocese District Clergy Syndesmos gathered with His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros for a deeply enriching retreat at our beloved Hellenic College and Holy Cross School of Theology in Brookline, MA. Fifty-seven clergy from across the Archdiocese District came together in prayer, fellowship, and thoughtful discussion, strengthening our shared commitment to serving Christ and His Church. The retreat featured two inspiring presentations that encouraged both spiritual and pastoral growth. Rev. Fr. George Parsenios, PhD, Professor of New Testament, offered a compelling talk on “Paul the Pastor,” providing insights into the Apostle’s pastoral heart and leadership.

Rev. Fr. Luke Veronis, ThM, Director of the Missions Institute of Orthodox Christianity at HCHC, followed with an engaging presentation on “Building a Healthy Parish Culture.” His talk underscored the importance of cultivating vibrant, Christ-centered communities through intentional leadership and pastoral care. The retreat not only deepened our understanding of these crucial topics but also strengthened the bonds among our brother clergy. The retreat concluded with the blessing of the Vasilopita by His Eminence for the staff and students of HCHC, as well as the District Clergy, offering a moment of shared joy and gratitude. May the New Year bring continued strength and inspiration to all who serve the Church. We

are grateful for the opportunity to gather at HCHC, a place so deeply connected to our formation and ministry, and we look forward to continuing these discussions in our parishes.

Fr. Elias Villis

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