

His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America visits Hellenic College Holy Cross for Feast Day



His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of America honored the Hellenic College Holy Cross community with a two-day visit September 13 and 14 to celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

His Eminence, who is Chairman of HCHC's Board of Trustees, presided at services in Holy Cross Chapel, beginning with Great Vespers on Sunday, September 13. Joining him at the Holy Altar were His Eminence Metropolitan Methodios of Boston, His Grace Bishop Joachim of Amissos, His Grace Bishop Ilia of Philomelion (Albanian Orthodox Diocese of America), and clergy members of the HCHC faculty. The service was followed by the traditional ceremony of Rassophoria and Stavrophoria, at which seminarians entering their final year of study receive the *exorasson* and those entering their second year receive a special cross.

On Monday, September 14, His Eminence was joined for Orthros and the

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy by His Grace Bishop John (Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America), as well as by His Grace Bishop Joachim, His Grace Bishop Ilia, and clergy faculty. In his final words to those assembled, His Eminence said, "Here at our seminary and college, on this holy hill, you are called to become children of light. Everything you study, everything you teach, everything you learn has a single purpose and dedicated mission: for you to be illumined with the light of Christ...May this year of studies, of your worship, your life in common that is yet possible in this time of pandemic, be one in which your foremost teacher is the Cross of Christ."

Due to COVID-related safety protocols, the HCHC campus is currently closed to visitors. However, all of the services were live-streamed, allowing students who are not in residence this semester and many of the faithful around the country to attend virtually. The services are now archived on the [school's website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

[Source](#)