



# HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX SEMINARY

PO Box 36, JORDANVILLE, NEW YORK 13361

## HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX SEMINARY 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

*Your Continuing Support Strengthens Our Mission*

### MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Dear Friends and Benefactors!

During recent years Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary has embarked down a remarkable path in pursuit of new accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE). It is with great satisfaction that we can now begin to acknowledge the countless returns of working with this renowned agency. Today we clearly see with new eyes the urgent need for our institution's mission in so many places around the world, as well as the strength with which it must continue to expand its educational vision and strategic goals.

I hope that this is remembered as a truly exciting moment in the history of HTOS. It stands for nothing less than a decisive turning point and critical spark within its steady emergence into very challenging and wide educational waters, bringing it rapidly growing spiritual and cultural recognition by so many more individuals than ever in the past. —*May the Good Lord strengthen your heartfelt generosity! There has never been a better time to support this magnificent effort.*

With continuing gratitude for everything made possible by your donations,

Nicolas Schidlovsky, Ph.D., Dean and CEO

### 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Once again, it is with joy and gratitude that I share with you, for the second year in a row, the seminary's Annual Report for Calendar Year 2025, reflecting the progress and growth of Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary. The continuing and consistent generosity of many benefactors is the primary reason why the seminary is able, not simply to continue to exist, but to grow and prosper.

In our 2024 Annual Report, we shared our (then recently revised) mission statement. It is worth re-stating this again:

*"Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary prepares its students for service to the Church, emphasizing spiritual formation and the pursuit of intellectual and cultural knowledge in accordance with the standards and traditional teachings of Orthodox Christianity."*

This mission remains possible largely, if not exclusively because there are many of the faithful who understand the importance of a theological education combined with the sound spiritual and liturgical formation of the young men studying here who will, God willing, serve the Holy Orthodox Church in the years to come.

## ENROLLMENT AND ORDINATIONS

In recent years, **Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary has continued to experience significant growth**, welcoming new students and celebrating the ordinations of both current seminarians and alumni alike.

**In 2023-24**, the seminary had **78** students enrolled between all of its programs. There were **28 students** studying on campus, which included **19 undergraduate (18 B.Th. and 1 C.P.S.) and 9 graduate (M.Div.) students**. In addition, there were 50 students studying remotely. Eleven on-campus students and 1 CTS student graduated on June 9, 2024, having completed their studies in preparation for service in the Church.

- **In 2024-25**, enrollment increased to **88** total students. There were **29 students on campus**, including **16 B.Th. students and 13 M.Div. students**, and 59 students studying remotely in the CTS program. Commencement at the conclusion of the 77<sup>th</sup> academic year took place on June 15, 2025, at which we graduated five (5) students, including two (2) undergraduate and three (3) graduate students.
- **In 2025-26**, total enrollment increased to **92**, which includes **35 students studying on campus**, and 57 students studying remotely. This academic year, we welcomed 13 new on-campus seminarians, including 6 undergraduate and 7 graduate students. The 35 on-campus students include **19 B.Th - undergraduate and 16 M.Div. - graduate students**. This is the largest contingent of M.Div students we've had on campus since the program was launched over seven years ago for the 2018-19 academic year.

**In calendar year 2025 alone, 9 seminarians and/or alumni entered or advanced in the clerical ranks:**

- **Six (6) were ordained to the Holy Priesthood.**
- **Four (4) were ordained to the Diaconate (three of whom were then also ordained to the Holy Priesthood)**
- **Two (2) were set aside as Subdeacons**

Combining that with the ordinations that had taken place in 2023 and 2024 of our recent alumni and current student body, we have seen a total of **25 ordinations** including 12 new priests, 11 deacons, and 2 subdeacons.

Three of these young men are still studying here, whereas the others are already serving parishes across the country and beyond, assisting the faithful and preparing to succeed senior clergy, many of whom are also alumni of this fine institution.

Your generosity ensures that these students receive the theological education, pastoral training, and spiritual guidance necessary to serve the Church with wisdom and humility.

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

Your support ensures that our students receive a **rigorous and spiritually enriching education** through our degree and certificate programs.

- **Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.)** – Our 4 year on-campus undergraduate program which prepares students for ordination, for furthering of their academic pursuits, and for lay leadership.
- **Master of Divinity (M.Div.)** – Our 3 year on-campus graduate program which offers advanced training for Orthodox clergy and Church leaders.
- **Certificate in Pastoral Studies** – Our 2 year on-campus program which provides essential theological and pastoral formation for those preparing for service in the Church.
- **Certificate in Theological Studies** – Our independent-study which is a flexible program for clergy and laity, and open to both men and women who are seeking deeper theological understanding.
- **Online Education Program for Laity** – This is an initiative to provide theological education to Orthodox Christians, catechumens, and inquirers through self-paced online courses.

Through these programs, the Seminary continues to serve its mission of properly forming knowledgeable and faithful servants of the Church.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: YOUR ROLE IN GROWING THE SEMINARY

### Holy Trinity Seminary Patrons Program

During 2024, one of our development goals was to increase annual unrestricted revenue by increasing the number of **monthly donors** whose ongoing support provides the Seminary with reliable and sustainable funding. To achieve this, we established the **Holy Trinity Seminary**

**Patrons**, a dedicated group of benefactors who make a monthly financial commitment to the seminary's mission.

As of the end of calendar year 2025, we've reached **112 monthly donors** (comprised of individuals, parishes, and charitable family foundations) that brings the seminary over \$7,400/month in unrestricted revenue. This is a remarkable testament to the generosity and faithfulness of our supporters. These gifts now average \$66/month and range from **\$5 to \$400 per month**.

Our goal for 2026 is to **reach 200 monthly benefactors** with an **average gift of \$85/month**, which would then **total \$17,000 per month**.

Monthly giving is one of the most effective ways to support the seminary, ensuring that students receive the theological education and spiritual formation necessary to serve the Church. If you are not yet part of this initiative, we invite you to join us.

### **The Jordanville Seminary Annual Fund: A Growing Impact**

The **Jordanville Seminary Annual Fund** remains the primary source of operational funding for the Seminary. Through the generosity of our donors, we have seen **consistent growth** in annual giving over the past four years:

- 2022: 1,077 gifts totaling \$260,097.77
- 2023: 1,222 gifts totaling \$414,149.92
- 2024: 1,577 gifts totaling \$477,598.63
- **2025: 2,033 gifts totaling \$525,224.89**

This growth reflects an increasing awareness of the seminary's mission and the generosity of those who recognize its vital role in the life of the Church. However, to ensure long-term sustainability, **our goal is to grow the Annual Fund by an additional 47.5%, and to consistently raise \$1,000,000 per calendar year**. Accomplishing this would ultimately alleviate any remaining financial burden on the Monastery, and would provide the financial stability needed to increase the support of existing faculty, hire new faculty, maintain facilities, and enhance student programs.

### **Scholarships and Student Financial Aid**

The financial burden of theological education should never be a barrier to those called to serve the Holy Orthodox Church. Because of your support, the seminary has been able to expand its scholarship and bursary programs, ensuring that students can focus on their training without the overwhelming pressure of tuition and room and board costs.

In 2017, the Seminary had only received three primary sources of scholarship funding, totaling approximately \$93,500 per year. Over the past seven years, through the generosity of new and dedicated benefactors, this number has grown substantially. In calendar year 2025, the Seminary

received **\$421,251.18 including donations and bequests** to support the scholarship (merit-based) and bursary (need-based) programs.

Today, the Seminary offers awards from a range of scholarship and bursary funds, including:

- **The Protopresbyter Valery Lukianov Scholarship**
- **The Metropolitan Philaret Memorial Scholarship**
- **The FFA Prince Vladimir Galitzine Memorial Scholarship**
- **The Colonel George Codrea, USMC Memorial Scholarship**
- **The Tsar-Martyr Nicholas II Scholarship**
- **The Bishop Mitrophan Memorial Award**
- **The Holy Trinity Seminary Bursary Fund**
- **The St. Mardarije Scholarship**
- **The Archbishop Vitaly (Maximenko) Memorial Scholarship**
- **The Protodeacon Nicholas V. Lukianov Memorial CTS Scholarship**
- ***The Metropolitan Hilarion Memorial Scholarship – newly established for the 2025-26 academic year***

### **Scholarship Growth and Financial Aid Distribution**

Because of the generosity of our supporters, the Seminary has been able to significantly expand financial aid for students:

- **2022-23: \$190,095 awarded** in scholarships and bursary funds.
- **2023-24: \$230,640 awarded** in scholarship and bursary funds.
- **2024-25: \$251,580** awarded in scholarship and bursary funds

Relative to tuition and room and board costs, we have implemented a modest increase for the current 2025-26 academic year.

In recent years, the annual cost of undergraduate (B.Th.) tuition alone was \$9,000 per year and graduate (M.Div.) tuition was \$10,000 per year.

For the current 2025-26 academic year, undergraduate (B.Th.) tuition has increased to \$11,000 per year (up 22.2%), and graduate (M.Div.) tuition has been increased to \$13,000 per year (up 30%).

As a reference for comparison, during the last academic year 2024-25, and for several years prior, the fee schedule was as follows:

2024-25	BTh or CPS	MDiv	CTS
Tuition	\$4,500/semester	\$5,000/semester	\$150/credit
Room and Board	\$2,995/semester	\$2,995/semester	n/a
<u>Books and supplies</u>	<u>\$150/semester</u>	<u>\$200/semester</u>	<u>\$100/semester</u>
Semi-Annual Total	\$7,645/semester	\$8,195/semester	Based on Credits
Annual Total	\$15,290/year	\$16,390/year	Based on Credits

For the current 2025-26 academic year, the current fee schedule is now:

<b>2025-26</b>	<b>BTh or CPS</b>	<b>MDiv</b>	<b>CTS</b>
<b>Tuition</b>	<b>\$5,500/semester</b>	<b>\$6,500/semester</b>	<b>\$200/credit</b>
<b>Room and Board</b>	<b>\$3,500/semester</b>	<b>\$3,500/semester</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b><u>Books and Supplies</u></b>	<b><u>\$200/semester</u></b>	<b><u>\$300/semester</u></b>	<b><u>\$150/semester</u></b>
<b>Semi-Annual Total</b>	<b>\$9,200/semester</b>	<b>\$10,300/semester</b>	<b>Based on Credits</b>
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>\$18,400/year</b>	<b>\$20,600/year</b>	<b>Based on Credits</b>

With constantly rising costs in all areas, and the subsequent need to increase tuition and room and board rates, the need for financial aid continues to grow, so that increased offerings from our scholarship and bursary funds will be critical in ensuring that all qualified students can attend the Seminary regardless of financial circumstances.

Our goal is to increase our fundraising in this area to **raise \$500,000 per year in scholarship and bursary funding**. By increasing the funds we have in reserve, we can continue to admit and support seminarians who are preparing for service to the Holy Orthodox Church.

Bear in mind that even with these increases, the revenue from tuition and room and board covers less than 50% of the actual cost per on-campus student studying here. That is why **the Jordanville Seminary Annual Fund remains so important to support**.

## **ACCREDITATION AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary was granted Candidate Status by Middle States Commission of Higher Education (MSCHE) on June 26, 2025.** Candidate Status grants an institution recognition as an accredited institution. All degrees which are awarded by the Seminary from the date of June 26, 2025 are recognized as accredited degrees by MSCHE. The Seminary

applied in fall of 2022, after learning that its former accreditor would not be renewing its status as a USDE-approved accreditor. The award for Candidate status begins a process for a full self-study, which all accredited institutions are required to do periodically. This process will take approximately three years in total, culminating with a decision by the Commission whether to grant permanent accreditation status.

## SEMINARY LIFE AND ENGAGEMENT

Beyond academics, life at the Seminary is shaped by prayer, attendance at and participation in the Divine Services, fellowship, and engagement with the broader Orthodox community.

- **Participation in Orthodox Conferences** – Seminarians regularly attend events such as the **St. Herman's Youth Conference**, where they connect with fellow Orthodox Christians and encourage others to consider a calling to seminary.
- **Orthodox Inter-Seminary Movement (OISM)** – This is a bi-annual gathering of students from the major Orthodox Christian seminaries, wherein the seminarians assemble for prayer, lectures, networking, and fruitful discussions. The most recent one was hosted here at Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary in Jordanville from November 14-16, 2025. The thematic focus at this recent gathering was "Ethnicity and Orthodoxy in America," engaging with the pastoral issues surrounding ethnic roots and missionary work. Attendees included seminarians from Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary (ROCOR), St Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary (OCA), Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology (GOA), and Christ the Savior Seminary (ACROD-NA). OISM has played a positive role in the formation of many pastors in the past, and we are committed to continuing our involvement in this beneficial and blessed endeavor.
- **Monastic Life as part of the Formation** – As part of their spiritual formation, students live alongside the monastic brotherhood at Holy Trinity Monastery, gaining insights into the ascetical and liturgical life of the Church.

Through these experiences, our seminarians deepen their faith and prepare for a lifetime of service to the Holy Orthodox Church.

## FUTURE VISION: PREPARING FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF GROWTH

While the progress of recent years has been encouraging, **there remains much to be done** to ensure that our Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary remains a thriving institution for decades to come.

For 2026 and beyond, our key goals include:

- **Expanding the Holy Trinity Seminary Patrons** program to **200 monthly benefactors** with a monthly revenue totaling **\$17,000/mo.**
- **Growing the Jordanville Seminary Annual Fund** to consistently raise **\$1,000,000 per year** to support operations and growth.

- **Increasing** donations to our **Scholarship and Bursary funds** to provide **\$500,000** in funding towards student aid per year.
- **Producing** a new recording of the **Holy Trinity Seminary Choir** to share the beauty of Orthodox sacred music.
- **Encouraging** consideration to arrange for **Planned Giving** through our **“Joyful Givers Legacy”** initiative
- **Launching a capital campaign** for the construction of a **new seminary dormitory**, a project which is necessary to move forward to provide far better undergraduate student accommodations, as well as prepare us for future growth.

These initiatives reflect the Seminary administration’s commitment to academic excellence, spiritual formation, and service to the Holy Orthodox Church. However, none of this can be accomplished without the continued and increased support of our faithful benefactors.

### **With Gratitude for Your Support**

As we reflect on the blessings of this past year, we recognize that none of this would be possible without you.

- **Your gifts continue to sustain our seminary.**
- **Your prayers uphold our students, faculty, and administration.**
- **Your overall support ensures the future of Orthodox leadership.**

Thank you for this support; past, present, and future. With God’s help, and with your ongoing prayerful and financial assistance, you are working side by side with us as co-laborers for the Seminary.

Together, we can work to sustain and to grow the Seminary to continue its mission to intellectually and spiritually form the Orthodox Church’s future clergy, scholars, and lay leaders.

In Christ,

Protodeacon Michael Pavuk

Director of Development

Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary