

COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTIETH

Commencement



AT TEN-THIRTY O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

FRIDAY, THE TWENTY-SEVENTH OF MAY

TWO THOUSAND AND SIXTEEN

READING OF THE DEGREE

by the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College

Q.B.F.Q.S.

*Et Rei Publicae Literariae Bene Vertat
Collegii Sanctae Crucis S. J. Vigornii
Praeses et Professores
Has Literas Inspecturis S.P.*

Illud apud politiores gentes veteri consuetudine invaluit, ut qui doctrinae laude praestent post studiorum emensum curriculum sollemni iudicio ad certos honoris evehantur gradus. Quod insigne decus studiisque fovendis adjumentum ne huic nostro Sanctae Crucis S. J. Vigornii Collegio deesset, sapienti Reipublicae Massachusettensis Concilio et auctoritate cautum est. Quare cum _____ studiis naviter peractis factoque periculo ea qua par est scientia praeditum/praeditam se nobis probaverit, ei Artium Baccalaureatum atque adjecta jura omnia et privilegia decernimus attribuimus et rite adeptum honorem gratulamur. His insuper eum/eam instruimus literis Collegii sigillo nostraque manu firmatis, quae promeriti collatique honoris certam legentibus fidem faciant.

die vicesimo septimo Maii anno bis millesimo sexto decimo



As an augury of good fortune and prosperity, and
as a boon to the Republic of Letters!

To all who shall read this document, greetings from the President and Faculty of the College of the Holy Cross, of the Society of Jesus, in Worcester. It has been a time-honored custom among the more cultivated peoples to distinguish by recognized titles of honor those who have completed a prescribed course of study and exhibited to the satisfaction of qualified examiners marked excellence in learning. And provision has been made by the learned and authoritative General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts that the power of granting this distinction, as an aid to learning, should be vested in this our College of the Holy Cross, of the Society of Jesus, in Worcester.

Wherefore, since “ _____ ” having successfully completed this course of study and undergone the prescribed examinations, has shown himself/herself to us to possess the required measure of learning, we confer and bestow on him/her the degree of Bachelor of Arts, with all the rights and privileges pertaining thereunto, and congratulate him/her on the distinction so justly attained. Furthermore we present him/her this diploma, signed by our own hands and authenticated by the Seal of the College, to certify to all readers that he/she has merited and received this honor.

The twenty-seventh day of May, 2016

THE FOUNDING OF HOLY CROSS



From the beginning of his tenure as the second Bishop of Boston, Benedict Joseph Fenwick longed to establish a Catholic college within the boundaries of his all-New England diocese. Catholics in great numbers, fleeing religious persecution and famine, and seeking economic opportunity, were pouring into the region. He recognized the need to educate them and to provide priests for his growing number of parishes as a major challenge of his episcopacy.

An alumnus of Georgetown College, Bishop Fenwick later served twice as president of his alma mater. As a Jesuit, his religious life had been marked with a certain academic mentality that prepared him well to undertake the establishment of a college. He was enterprising and courageous. And he knew that he could call upon the resources of his fellow Jesuits of the Maryland Province if and when he needed them to staff a school.

The location in Worcester was fortunate. Other sites had been considered, but here, in 1836, Rev. James Fitton purchased 52 acres of land and began an academy for boys. The academy prospered but Fr. Fitton's pastoral responsibilities in Worcester, Rhode Island, and Connecticut left him neither time nor energy to manage a boarding school, and he gladly conveyed the property and buildings to Bishop Fenwick for his college. The Bishop's letters record his enthusiasm for the project as well as its location.

"Next May I shall lay the foundation of a splendid College in Worcester. ...It is calculated to contain 100 boys and I shall take them for \$125 per an. & supply

them with everything but clothes. Will not this be a bold undertaking? Nevertheless I will try it. It will stand on a beautiful eminence & will command the view of the whole town of Worcester."

He gave the College the name of his cathedral church, the Cathedral of the Holy Cross. The cornerstone was put in place with great solemnity on June 21, 1843 and on the second day of November, with six students aged 9 to 19, the first classes were held. The College held its first Commencement in 1849.

Within three years, the enrollment had increased to 100 students. In spite of very limited finances, the College was beginning to grow until, in the summer of 1852, a catastrophic fire destroyed it. Were it not for the insistence of Bishop John B. Fitzpatrick, who had succeeded Bishop Fenwick, and the tireless labors of Father Anthony F. Ciampi, S.J., the fourth president, the Jesuits would have abandoned the project and returned to Georgetown. Funds were raised to rebuild the College, and in 1853, it opened for the second time.

Petitions to secure a Charter for the College from the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts were denied in 1847 for a variety of causes, including anti-Catholicism on the part of some legislators. Nonetheless, the College conducted its business and awarded its diplomas, which were signed by the president of Georgetown. Finally, with the energetic support of Governor John A. Andrew, the Charter for College of the Holy Cross was officially granted on March 24, 1865.

ORDER OF EXERCISES



INTRODUCTION OF THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

Frank Vellaccio, *Senior Vice President of the College*

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Pomp and Circumstance, Op. 39, by Sir Edward Elgar

NATIONAL ANTHEM

by John Stafford Smith, arr. Eric Culver

INVOCATION

Marybeth Kearns-Barrett, *Director of College Chaplains*

READING OF THE DEGREE

Margaret N. Freije, *Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College*

DEGREES IN COURSE ARE CONFERRED

Rev. Philip L. Boroughs, S.J., *President of the College*

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

Emily R. Conn

HONORARY DEGREES ARE CONFERRED

Rev. Philip L. Boroughs, S.J., *President of the College*

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Ann Dowd

Richard J. O'Reilly, M.D.

The Honorable Harry K. Thomas, Jr.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

The Honorable Harry K. Thomas, Jr.

BLESSING

Most Rev. Robert J. McManus, D.D., *Bishop of Worcester*

ALMA MATER

RECESSIONAL

Five American Marches:

The Aviators March, by John Philip Sousa; *Commando March*, by Samuel Barber;

Circus March, by Charles Ives; *Gum Suckers' March*, by Percy Grainger;

The Liberty Bell, by John Philip Sousa

MARSHAL-IN-CHIEF

Patricia M. Ring

ASSISTANT MARSHALS

John T. Anderson

M. Estrella Cibreiro-Couce

Francisco Gago-Jover

Patricia E. Kramer

Shawn L. Maurer

MARSHALS OF THE FACULTY

Alo Basu

Renee Beard

Miles Cahill

Lawrence Cahoone

Predrag Cicovacki

Mary Conley

Helen Freear-Papio

Jon Henner

Richard Herrick

Jim Kee

Anthony Kuzniewski

Alice Laffey

Esther Levine

Richard Matlak

Susan Rodgers

Ann Sheehy

Charles Weiss

THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIAL BAND

Eric Culver, *Conductor*

PRELUDE MUSIC

Fanfare for the Common Man, by Aaron Copland;

First Suite in E-flat, Op. 28, No. 1, by Gustav Holst;

Motet, *Tu es Petrus*, by Giovanni da Palestrina, orch. Eric Culver

HONORARY DEGREES



DOCTOR OF FINE ARTS

Ann Dowd

A premed student at Holy Cross, Ann Dowd '78 discovered her passion and life's work in her acting classes and performing in Fenwick Theatre on campus. After graduation, she continued her study of acting in Chicago and received her MFA from DePaul University. Now living in New York, she has worked steadily as an actor on stage, in film, and on series television for more than 30 years. In recent years she has received widespread acclaim, particularly after her 2013 award-winning role in the independent film "Compliance," for which she received the National Board of Review Award for best supporting actress and shared the Virtuoso Award for break-out performance of the year. Her roles in the prestige cable series "True Detective" and "The Leftovers" have also been acclaimed.

Her many film roles include work in "Philadelphia," "Garden State," "Marley & Me," "The Manchurian Candidate," "Flags of Our Fathers" and "Side Effects." In 1993 she received the Clarence Derwent Award for her Broadway debut performance in the play "Candida" starring Mary Steenburgen. She also received three Joseph Jefferson Awards for excellence in Chicago theater ("The Normal Heart" in 1987, "Kennedy's Children" in 1984 and "A Different Moon" in 1983).

She has served on the board of LearningSpring School, a New York City school for children on the autism spectrum in grades K-8. She also teaches in the acting program at CAP21 (Collaborative Arts Project 21), a New York City professional musical theatre training conservatory and Off-Broadway theatre company.

DOCTOR OF SCIENCE

Richard J. O'Reilly, M.D.

A world-renowned pioneer in the development of bone marrow transplantation techniques as a lifesaving treatment of bone marrow deficiencies, leukemia and other blood disorders, Richard J. O'Reilly, M.D., '64 was the first to conduct a successful bone marrow transplant involving an unrelated, compatible donor — an approach now used successfully on well over 2,500 cancer patients annually. In addition, he co-developed an approach now used throughout the world to effectively treat children born with severely compromised or nonexistent immune systems. In the 1970s and 1980s, such children were known as "bubble babies" and typically died within a year. O'Reilly developed a transplant method that allows for these children to receive a curative transplant from a half-matched parent or sibling.

After studying biology at Holy Cross, O'Reilly received his medical degree from the University of Rochester and continued his training in pediatrics with a medical internship at the University of Minnesota Hospitals and a pediatric residency and fellowship in infectious diseases at Children's Hospital/Beth Israel in Boston. He joined the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York in 1973 and now holds the position of Chairman of the Department of Pediatrics as well as the Claire L. Tow Chair in Pediatric Oncology Research.

Widely published, O'Reilly has been honored by the American Society for Clinical Oncology and received lifetime achievement awards from both the American Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation and the Pediatric Blood and Marrow Transplant Consortium. He was awarded the 2000 Boerhaave Medal from Leiden University in The Netherlands, a 2008 Holy Cross *Sanctae Crucis* Award, and the 2011 Timothy Gee Humanity in Medicine Award from the Lauri Strauss Leukemia Foundation. In 2015 he was appointed Science Advisory Council Chair for CureSearch for Children's Cancer and, most recently he was named the inaugural recipient of The Society of Memorial Sloan Kettering Prize for his outstanding contributions to the field of pediatric oncology.

HONORARY DEGREES



DOCTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE

The Honorable Harry K. Thomas, Jr.

A witness to and participant in some of the most important global events of the past three decades, The Honorable Harry K. Thomas, Jr. '78 is the United States Ambassador to the Republic of Zimbabwe. He has received many honors from the State Department during his 32-year diplomatic career, in which he served as U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines (2010-2013) and to Bangladesh (2003-05) before his appointment to serve in Zimbabwe in 2015. His earlier posting included service in the U.S. embassies in New Delhi, India; Harare, Zimbabwe; Kaduna, Nigeria; and Lima, Peru. He also served as Executive Secretary of the United States Department of State, Director General of the U.S. Foreign Service, Director of the State Department Operations Center, Director for South Asia on the National Security Council Staff and Special Assistant to the then-U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

In 2013, “in recognition of his invaluable contribution to deepening the relations between the Philippines and the United States,” Thomas received the Order of Sikatuna with the rank of Grand Cross, Silver Distinction from the president of the Philippines Benigno Aquino III. The State Department has presented him with multiple awards including for his political reporting in Nigeria; for working to bring the Peace Corps to Zimbabwe; and for his role in the aftermath of the 1998 bombings of the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. He also received the State Department’s Distinguished Service Award, along with other awards for his leadership, management and mentoring.

Thomas majored in political science at Holy Cross, and received an M.S. degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University. Immediately before his Zimbabwe post, he was diplomat in residence at Arizona State University.

THE COLLEGE SEAL



The College's seal identifies Holy Cross as an educational institution founded by Rev. Benedict J. Fenwick, S.J., second Bishop of Boston. The outer circle of the seal states in Latin "College of the Holy Cross, Society of Jesus, Worcester, Massachusetts."

The inner shield contains an open book, which is a symbol of learning, and a cross of gold symbolizing the Christian faith. The Latin motto "In Hoc Signo Vinces," meaning "in this sign you shall conquer," has been attributed to King Constantine the Great, the Roman emperor noted for his tolerance of Christians. According to some historians, King Constantine had a dream or vision of a flaming cross in the sky with this inscription on the

day preceding his decisive victory over Maxentius at the Milvian Bridge on Oct. 28, 312. This victory led to his capturing Rome and convinced him of the importance of Christianity.

The cross divides the lower part of the shield into quarters, which are alternately red and sable, the colors on the ancient shield of Worcester, England.

The upper part of the shield has in its center the emblem of the Society of Jesus, a blazing sun with the letters IHS, the first three letters of Jesus' name in Greek. On either side is a martlet, reminiscent of those on the ancestral crest of Bishop Fenwick.

THE COLOR PURPLE



There are two theories of how College of the Holy Cross chose purple as its official color. One suggests it was derived from the royal purple used by King Constantine the Great (born about 275 A.D., died in 337 A.D.) as displayed on his labarum, or military standard, and on those of later Christian emperors of Rome.

The other story is attributed to Walter J. Connors, an 1887 graduate, and was printed in the October 1940 issue of the *Alumnus*. According to the account, there

was a disagreement during the 1870s between Holy Cross students from Massachusetts and those from Connecticut concerning the colors of the school's baseball uniforms. The students from Massachusetts purportedly favored the crimson of Harvard, while those from Connecticut favored the deep blue of Yale. Legend has it that a fellow student with a sense of diplomacy resolved the dispute in the chemistry lab, where he mixed copper sulphate (blue) with iron oxide (red) to produce the color of purple.

THE COLLEGE MACE



Originally used as a weapon of war, the mace was an emblem of physical strength in the Middle Ages. Its look changed with its purpose: Maces were once heavy clubs with spike-covered metal balls attached to the ends or swinging from short chains. By the 16th century, maces were decorated with jewels and precious metals and no longer used as weapons. Today, the mace is viewed as a symbol of intellectual authority and is often carried during ceremonial academic and ecclesiastical processions.

At Holy Cross, it is tradition for the College's registrar to carry the mace while leading processions at the baccalaureate Mass, commencement, special academic convocations, and at inaugurations of the College's presidents.

Holy Cross' own intricately designed, hand-crafted silver mace was presented to the College in 1984 by blacksmith

Kenneth Lynch Sr., the late owner of Connecticut-based ironwork firm Kenneth Lynch & Sons. It replaced a wood and metal mace that was a gift of the Class of 1940, now stored in the College's Archives and Special Collections. In a 1984 edition of *Crossroads*, the precursor to Holy Cross Magazine, Lynch explained that he gifted the mace because two of his brothers were Jesuit priests, and he was a great admirer of Holy Cross. (Lynch also worked on the wrought iron fence along College Street).

The gleaming result measures more than three feet in length with three layers of polished silver covering its bronze base. The names of the College presidents and their years of service are inscribed on the head of the mace, which features a cross-topped dome. The bottom of the mace bears the College's seal.

ALMA MATER

OH, HEAR THY VOICES ONE IN SONG
HOLY CROSS, O HOLY CROSS.
THY SPIRITS LOYAL, TRUE AND STRONG
HOLY CROSS, O HOLY CROSS.
THY PURPLE BANNER FLOATS ON HIGH,
WHILE SONGS OF PRAISE SWELL TO THE SKY,
THY HONORED NAME SHALL NEVER DIE,
HOLY CROSS, O HOLY CROSS.

Words: Augustine P. Conniff, Class of 1902
(Revised 19 Jan. 1976)

Tune: *My Maryland*



COLLEGE OF THE
Holy Cross