

COLLEGE OF THE HOLY CROSS

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SECOND

Commencement



AT TEN-THIRTY O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

FRIDAY, THE TWENTY-FIFTH OF MAY

TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN

READING OF THE DEGREE

by the Provost 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 judicio 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 adjuncta 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 quinto Maii anno bis millesimo octavo 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-fifth day of May, 2018

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



ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Pomp and Circumstance, Op. 39, No. 1-4, Edward Elgar/Retford/ed. Alfred Reed

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Sung by Ketti Jane Muschler

INVOCATION

Marybeth Kearns-Barrett '84, *Director of College Chaplains*

READING OF THE DEGREE

Margaret N. Freije, *Provost and Dean of the College*

DEGREES IN COURSE ARE CONFERRED

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

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

VALEDICTORY ADDRESS

Taylor Kingston Pels '18

HONORARY DEGREES ARE CONFERRED

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

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Ellen S. Dunlap

David Patrick Ryan, M.D. '88

Michele Norris

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Michele Norris

BLESSING

Rev. William R. Campbell, S.J. '87, *Vice President for Mission*

ALMA MATER

RECESSIONAL

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

Lynna Gabriela Avila-Bront

John Axelson

Melissa Boyle '00

Thomas Cecil '68

Helen Freear-Papio

Mark Freeman

Paul Galvinhill

Elizabeth O'Connell-Inman '79

Suzanne Kirschner

Jennifer Lieb

Virginia Ryan

May Sim

THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONIAL BAND

Steven Riley, *Conductor*

HONORARY DEGREES



DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

Ellen S. Dunlap

As president of the American Antiquarian Society, a position she has held since 1992, Ellen S. Dunlap was at the helm of the Worcester-based historical organization when it was awarded the 2013 National Humanities Medal by President Barack Obama for the organization's role in "safeguarding the American story." Founded in 1812 by Revolutionary War patriot and printer Isaiah Thomas, the American Antiquarian Society is both a learned society and a major independent research library of pre-twentieth century American history and culture.

Prior to joining the American Antiquarian Society, Dunlap held positions of director of the Rosenbach Museum and Library in Philadelphia, and research librarian at what is now the Harry Ransom Center at University of Texas at Austin. Dunlap was instrumental in the founding of the Philadelphia Consortium of Special Collections Libraries in 1985 and has served as chair of the Worcester Cultural Coalition, which she helped to found in 1995. She served as president of the board of the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities from 2002 to 2004, and is a former chair of the Nonprofit Support Center, a program of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, where she also served as board member and clerk. Dunlap received both her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas at Austin.

DOCTOR OF SCIENCE

David Patrick Ryan, M.D. '88

A leading figure in the research and treatment of gastrointestinal cancers, David Patrick Ryan, M.D. '88 is chief of the division of hematology and oncology at the Massachusetts General Hospital and clinical director at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center. He is also a Professor of Medicine at the Harvard Medical School. Ryan is a graduate of College of the Holy Cross and Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, and was a resident at NY Presbyterian/Columbia University and a fellow in hematology-oncology at the combined Massachusetts General Hospital/Brigham and Women's Hospital/Dana-Farber Cancer Institute program. He is a member of the American Association for Cancer Research, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. He sits on the editorial board of Clinical Cancer Research and The Oncologist.

Ryan, alongside Vicki Jackson, M.D., the chief of palliative care at Massachusetts General Hospital, and award-winning journalist Michelle D. Seaton, recently wrote a book, "Living with Cancer: A Step-by-Step Guide for Coping Medically and Emotionally with a Serious Diagnosis." In the book, Ryan takes a whole-person approach to patient care, which has been the cornerstone of his career, combining information for patients and families on oncology as well as palliative care. Ryan has strong family ties to Holy Cross with his wife Carol '88, son Christopher '16, brother John Ryan '83, sister Sheila Ryan Ring '84, brother Edward "Ted" Ryan '90, sister-in-law Paula K. Ryan '90, brother Donal Ryan '91, brother-in-law John A. Markey, Jr. '86, sister-in-law Lynne F. Markey '88, sister-in-law Jennifer M. Golden '90, brother-in-law Dennis Golden '89 and sister-in-law Kara M. Ryan '96 having graduated from the College.

HONORARY DEGREES



DOCTOR OF JOURNALISM

Michele Norris

An Emmy and Peabody Award-winning journalist, Michele Norris is one of the nation's most recognized voices in radio. She served as NPR's first African-American female host of its flagship program "All Things Considered," and from 2002 to 2015, she interviewed world leaders, American presidents, Nobel laureates, leading thinkers, groundbreaking artists and even astronauts traveling in outer space.

While working at NPR, Norris created The Race Card Project, an initiative to foster a wider conversation about race in America, by inviting people to submit comments on their experience of race in six words. The project was spurred by the publication of Norris' family memoir, "The Grace of Silence," where she examines how America talks about race in the wake of the Obama presidential election, and explores her own family's racial legacy. In 2017, The Race Card Project became the cornerstone of The Bridge, a new initiative of the Aspen Institute, a program on race, identity and inclusion.

Prior to her tenure at NPR, Norris served as an ABC News Correspondent based in Washington D.C. where she covered the White House. She also spent time as a print reporter, serving as a staff writer for The Washington Post, The Chicago Tribune and the Los Angeles Times. She has also written for Time and National Geographic magazines.

Norris attended the University of Wisconsin and graduated from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She currently resides in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Holy Cross alumnus Broderick Johnson '78.

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 on the book is associated with Constantine the Great. According to Eusebius of Caesarea (chapter 28, *Life of Constantine*, dated 339) God had sent the Emperor a vision of a cross of light in the heavens with an inscription "in hoc signo vinces" (in this sign you will conquer). Shortly thereafter, Constantine defeated his co-emperor Maxentius at the battle of the Milvian Bridge in 312 to become sole

emperor of Rome. In 313, he proclaimed the Edict of Milan, which allowed Christians freedom of worship. The breadth of the Emperor's tolerance was clear: "to no one whatsoever should we deny liberty to follow either the religion of the Christians or any cult of his own free choice."

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 that it was derived from classical Roman tradition that clothed a triumphant general in a solid purple toga during his state celebration. Thus the Emperor Constantine was dignified by the "purple." As a corollary, the imperial family had exclusive control of an Egyptian quarry that produced purple porphyry stone for portraits and funerary monuments.

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