

**GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.
NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT
2026 NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS CONVENTION
CLEVELAND, OHIO, JUNE 29 – JULY 2, 2026**



Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology Committee

Chair: Philippa Condakes

Committee Members: Christine Balidis	Carrie Michale
Vickie Demos	Athena Kalyvas
Despina Denne	Jeannie Ranglas
Mari Lou Diamond	Diane Saphos
Theone Dickos	Bessie Ziozis
Calliope Galatis	

June 2026

Over the last two years, the committee has continued to work for the students, faculty and staff of the School. We have worked to get to know the students and continue to educate them on the mission of the Philoptochos and the role that it plays in the life of the Church. This has been a major focus of the committee.

For the last two years, 2025 and 2026, we hosted the graduating Seminarians at the Philoptochos Center of Philanthropy. As part of the students' visit to the Archdiocese, the students have been invited for fellowship and dinner. This event has offered us the opportunity to share our mission and work with the students. The evening has been attended by the students, our Philoptochos Spiritual Advisor, His Grace Bishop Athenagoras, various members of the HCHC Committee, and staff from the PCOP. The program has focused on topics that help them to understand the ways that Philoptochos reaches out to our communities and that we are there to help them in their service to the Church. Topics have included Social Services and domestic violence, outreach, humanitarian relief, the CMF Luncheon, and the Project and Grants review process. These dinners have given us the opportunity to hear their stories and concerns as well. They have also expressed their gratitude for the assistance that Philoptochos has given them during their time at the School. We hope that we have instilled in them that Philoptochos will be there for them throughout their service to the church and beyond.

Philoptochos has continued to support the students at HCHC with our annual scholarships. Over the last two years we have awarded over \$189,000 in scholarships to more than 60 students. The recipients are chosen with the assistance of Michael Kirchmaier, Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships at Hellenic College Holy Cross. The students have all been approved by the Financial Aid Office, have a proven financial need, have contributed to the life of the School and the Church, and have a GPA of at least a 3.0.

In May of 2025 and 2026, we have had a delegation of Philoptochos members who have attended the 83rd and 84th Commencement ceremonies. Our National President, Debbie George, has addressed the graduating class. Graduation weekend is a wonderful time to experience the life on Campus and the beautiful setting of the School on the Holy Hill. It gives us an opportunity to be a part of the HCHC Community and connect with the students. It is another time for us to see the

students who have visited the PCOP and wish them well on their journey. This past graduation on May 16, 2026, we were happy to be in attendance when our own Jeannie Ranglas received an honorary doctorate in Humanities in recognition of the dedication and support that she has shown over the years. Jeannie is an inspiration to us all and an example of how we can all make a difference in the lives of the students. In her honor, the National Philoptochos will be donating an additional \$10,000 in scholarship funds to support women students at the School.

It is still a goal of the Committee and the Philoptochos to have more of a presence on Campus and get to know even more students, not just the graduating seminarians. This would be an informational meeting or synaxis with the entire student body to help expose all students to the mission of Philoptochos and how we can all work together. We hope to educate the students on the support that Philoptochos can provide for the clergy, the entire parish and beyond.

Thank you to all of the Philoptochos members and chapters for their continued support for our students and seminarians. They are the future of our Church and we must stand with them to build a strong foundation. It has been an honor and privilege to serve on the Hellenic College Holy Cross School of Theology Committee. Thank you to all of our committee members for their work and support during these past two years.

Respectfully submitted,

Philippa Condakes, Chair
Hellenic College Holy Cross Committee