

# FR. PETER ALBAN HEERS

Assistant Professor of Holy Scripture ~ Holy Trinity Seminary ~ Jordanville, NY 13361

[frpeterheers@gmail.com](mailto:frpeterheers@gmail.com) \* [frpeterheers@hts.edu](mailto:frpeterheers@hts.edu)

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## PERSONAL DATA

Date of birth: August 19, 1971  
Place of birth: Dallas, Texas (USA)  
Marital status: Married to Presbyteria Kiriaki Dimitriadou Esq. (July 2, 2000)  
Children: Gregory (2001), Anastasia (2003), Panagiotis (2005), Stavros (2013), Aikaterina (2015)

## EDUCATION

- 2013 (June 26) **Doctor Theologiae (D.Th.)**  
**Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**, Thessaloniki, Greece  
*Title of Doctoral Thesis:* "The Baptism of Christians According to the Second Vatican Council's Encyclical *Unitatis Redintegratio*: An Orthodox Assessment"
- 2003-2005 **Graduate School of Theology**  
**Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**, Thessaloniki, Greece  
*Masters of Theology (Dogmatic and Ecumenical Theology)*  
· **Academic Papers:** *The Missionary Origins of Modern Ecumenism: Milestones Leading up to 1920*, an address prepared for the academic conference *The Mission of the Orthodox Church and The World Council of Churches* (Athens, May 15, 2005) sponsored by the Pan-Hellenic Union of Theologians, and *The Mystery of Baptism and the Unity of the Church* for the academic conference *Ecumenism – Origins, Expectations, Disenchantment* sponsored by the Department of Pastoral Theology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
- 1999-2003 **School of Theology**  
**Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**, Thessaloniki, Greece  
*Bachelor of Theology; graduated among the top of the class with 9.4 (out of 10) grade.*
- 1998-1999 **School of Modern Greek**  
**Aristotle University of Thessaloniki**, Thessaloniki, Greece  
*Diploma (Certificate of Completion)*
- Fall 1997 **University of California-Berkeley**  
*Followed classes in Ancient Greek for one semester*
- Fall 1997 **Diablo Valley Junior College (DVC)**  
*Followed classes in English Literature for one semester*
- 1989-1991 **University of Wisconsin-Madison**, Madison, Wisconsin (USA)  
*Completed two years toward a B.A.*
- 1985-1989 **Concord High School**, Concord, California (USA)

## CLERICAL STATUS and HONORS

- June 30, 2003 **Ordained to the Diaconate** by the Metropolitan of Kastoria of the Orthodox Church of Greece, His Eminence SERAPHIM
- November 2, 2003 **Ordained to the Priesthood** by the Metropolitan of Kastoria of the Orthodox Church of Greece, His Eminence SERAPHIM
- December 25, 2005 **Awarded the Office of Oikonomos** by the Metropolitan of Kastoria of the Orthodox Church of Greece, His Eminence SERAPHIM

April 13, 2014

**Made *Pneumatikos (Spiritual Father)*** by the Metropolitan of Ierissou and Agion Oros of the Orthodox Church of Greece, His Eminence THEOKLYTOS

July 20, 2014

**Made *Protopresbyteros*** by the Metropolitan of Ierissou and Agion Oros of the Orthodox Church of Greece, His Eminence THEOKLYTOS

## EXPERIENCE

### Priesthood

2003-2004

Priest of the Parish of All Saints, Kastoria, Greece

2004-2006

Priest serving the Monastery of St. Nicholas, Kastoria, Greece

2006-2017

Rector of the Parish of the Prophet Elias, Petrokerasa, Greece

2017-2018

Attached to the Monastery of the Holy Trinity Monastery, Jordanville, NY

### Assistant Professor

2017-2018

Assistant Professor of Holy Scripture, Holy Trinity Seminary, Jordanville, NY

May 2016-present

**Editor of an Online Journal of Orthodox Faith**

Founder and Editor of the Website: [www.orthodoxethos.com](http://www.orthodoxethos.com)

2002-present

### Translator of Theological and Spiritual Texts

- Revised and re-translated *The Epistles* of Elder Paisios the Hagiorite (2002-2003)
- First Draft Translation of *With Pain and Love for Contemporary Man* by Elder Paisios the Athonite (2003-2004)
- Co-Translator of *Elder Paisios the Athonite* by Elder Isaac (2008-2012); wrote the preface to the book. (See also below, under Uncut Mountain Press translations.)

2003-Present

### Select Lectures and Speeches

- **2003** – “**The Spirit of the Age We Live In**,” talk given to the parish of All Saints, Kastoria, Greece (December).
- **2004** – “**The Mystery of Baptism and the Unity of the Church**” an address prepared for the academic conference *Ecumenism: Origins, Expectations, and Disenchantment*, University of Thessaloniki, September 20-24, 2004.
- **2005** – “**The Missionary Origins of Modern Ecumenism: Milestones Leading Up to 1920**,” an address prepared for the academic conference *The Mission of the Orthodox Church and the World Council of Churches*, Athens, May 15, 2005.
- **2008** – “**Searching for the Pearl of Great Price in the Age of False Religions**,” a talk given at the Parish of the Prophet Elias, Petrokerasa, Greece (February).
- **2010** – “**Home Education: Survival for our Children and our Church in Perilous Times**,” a talk given to a gathering of clergy in Volos, Greece (January).
- **2011** – “**Understanding and Reaching Out to Protestants in Greece**,” an address given as part of the anti-heretical seminars sponsored by the Diocese of Glyfada (January).
- **2011** – “**Orthodoxy and Heterodoxy: The Spiritual Underpinnings**,” a talk given to the youth of the Brotherhood of Sotir, Thessaloniki (November).
- **2012** – “**Elder Paisios of Mount Athos**,” a talk given in 10 cities of the United States of America introducing the newly published English version of the Life of Elder Paisios by Elder Isaac (May-June).
- **2012** – “**Baptism and the Church in *Unitatis Redintegratio***,” an address given at the Holy Trinity Theological School, Jordanville, NY (April).
- **2012** – “**The Home – a Place of Hesychia**,” talk given to a gathering of faithful in London, Ontario, Canada, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (via skype).
- **2014** “**How I Became Orthodox**,” lecture given in Patra, Greece, in Greek: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B7E7efBnnKQ>
- **2014** “**Secularism, Church and Family Life**,” lecture given at the Holy Trinity Theological School, Jordanville, NY (November): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHmu-BOfk8>.
- **2015** “**The Heterodox, the Church and us**,” lecture given (in Greek) at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Missionary Conference of the Pan-Hellenic Orthodox Missionary Society, August 22, 2015: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1koAu\\_Ju6kI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1koAu_Ju6kI).

- **2016** “From the Second Vatican Council to the Pan-Orthodox Council,” lecture given (in Greek) at the Diakidio School for the People, Patra, Greece, March 18, 2016: <http://intv.gr/arxeio/ekdiloseis/item/apo-tin-v-vatikani-1965-stin-panorthodoksi-synodo-kriti-2016>.
- **2017** “The Council of Crete and the New Emerging Ecclesiology: An Orthodox Examination,” lecture given at the Diocesan Assembly of the Eastern American Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church Abroad, March 21, 2017: <https://orthodoxethos.com/post/the-council-of-crete-and-the-new-emerging-ecclesiology-an-orthodox-examination>

Feb. 2008 – present

### **Host of *Postcards from Greece* radio program on Ancient Faith Radio**

- 38 episodes (664 minutes) on a variety of issues, including: Life in A Greek Mountain Village, The Soul of Greece, Mt. Athos, Elder Paisios the Athonite, Sunday Gospel interpretation, Crisis in Greece, Security and the Mind of Christ, Why we Fall when we Fall, Religion and Revelation, Fr. Seraphim Rose in Greece, Phyletism and more. See: <http://ancientfaith.com/podcasts/postcards>.

2007- Present

### **Author**

2007: *The Missionary Origins of Modern Ecumenism: Milestones Leading Up to 1920*, Uncut Mountain Press.

2014: *Η ἐκκλησιολογική ἀναθεώρηση τῆς Βατικανῆς Συνόδου: Μία Ὁρθόδοξη διερεύνηση τοῦ Βαπτίσματος καὶ τῆς Ἐκκλησίας κατὰ τὸ Διάταγμα περὶ Οἰκουμενισμοῦ*, Uncut Mountain Press.

2015: *The Ecclesiological Renovation of Vatican II: An Orthodox Examination of Rome's Ecumenical Theology Regarding Baptism and the Church*, Uncut Mountain Press.

April 1999 to Present

### **Uncut Mountain Press, Translators & Publishers of Orthodox Christian Books Founder and Director**

- **Translated** (from Greek to English) **and Published** several books in English, including *The Truth of our Faith: Discourses from Holy Scripture on the Tenets of Christian Orthodoxy* by Elder Cleopa of Romania, and *Apostle to Zaire: The Life and Legacy of Blessed Father Cosmas of Grigoriou* (authored the introduction), *From I-ville to You-ville* by Mersine Vigopoulou. Translated a number of texts on various theological topics. ([www.uncutmountainpress.com](http://www.uncutmountainpress.com))
- **Also published by UMP:** *The Exomologetarion* by St. Nikodemos the Hagiorite, *Concerning Frequent Communion of the Immaculate Mysteries of Christ* by St. Nikodemos the Hagiorite, *Confession of Faith* by Saint Nikodemos the Hagiorite, *The Truth of our Faith Vol. II* by Elder Cleopa of Romania, *The Missionary Origins of Modern Ecumenism: Milestones Leading up to 1920*, *Patristic Theology* by Fr. John Romanides

April 1996 to  
January 1998

### **Divine Ascent: A Journal of Orthodox Faith Founder and Editor**

- Conceived, compiled, designed, and edited this theological journal which reached a circulation of roughly 3000. Direction of the journal was subsequently assumed by the abbot and brotherhood of St. John of San Francisco Monastery, Pt. Reyes, CA.

March 1995 to  
July 1996

### **Rose Hill College/Rose Hill Foundation, Aiken, SC Director of Recruitment and Publicity**

- Traveled extensively promoting, speaking and organizing on behalf of College.
- Authored and Designed Rose Hill College promotional brochure.
- Drafted and implemented recruitment and promotional campaign proposals.

### **Assistant to the President**

- Coordinated the President's meetings and appointments.

- Directed and organized several national conferences on education and religion.
- Assisted in the publication of the Rose Hill College Catalogue.

January 1994 to  
November 1994

**Project Mexico of the Orthodox Church, Tijuana, Mexico**

**Program Director**

- Conceived and implemented the "Quest for Perfection / Orthodox Basic Training" camp for youth and young adults which included instruction in the Orthodox Christian Faith and the construction of homes for the homeless families of Tijuana.
- Assisted in the direction and development of Saint Innocent Orphanage.

**Fund Drive Coordinator**

- Conceived and implemented the "Walk for Missions - Los Angeles" fund drive.

October 1993 to  
December 1993

**Columbus-Maryville Medical and Reception Center for Children, Chicago, IL**

**Family Educator**

- Cared for and instructed boys from broken homes, abusive and dysfunctional families and boys involved in gangs in basic life skills.
- Worked in a position which required great flexibility and patience in the face of the demands and conditions which an emergency shelter with a turnover in patients requires.

January 1991 to  
October 1993

**The CALL Network, Madison, WI**

**Founder and Director**

- Founded and directed a national collegiate outreach to women in crisis pregnancies. Students dedicated one school year or more to work at the CALL Network, traveling, organizing and developing local student groups committed to offering compassionate assistance to these women and children in crisis.
- Managed an office of six, traveled extensively giving lectures and speeches, and authored all direct mail letters, flyers, brochures and press releases.

**SKILLS**

- Languages:** Fluent in Modern Greek  
Read and Comprehend New Testament Greek without difficulty  
Fair comprehension of Ancient Greek
- Computer:** PageMaker 6.0, InDesign, Word, Power Point, Adobe Photoshop

**SCHOLARSHIPS & INTERESTS**

**Scholarships:** From the Republic of Greece, Ministry of Education and Religion, Department of Ecclesiastical Affairs, for Modern Greek Studies, Undergraduate and Post-Graduate Studies in Theology at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece (1998-2006).

**Interests:** History, Biography, Social Commentary, Pedagogy, and Philosophy.