



The Prophet Elias Church

Address: 223 Church Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Phone: (831) 429-6500

Web: <http://www.propheteliassc.org>

Email: info@propheteliassc.org

Visiting Clergy

Phone: (831) 429-6500

Email: info@propheteliassc.org

Services Schedule

9:00 AM Sunday Orthros

10:00 AM Sunday Divine Liturgy

11:00 AM Sunday School - As announced

12:00 PM Sunday, Fellowship after Divine Liturgy

6:00 PM Paraklesis - TBD

6:00 PM Vespers - TBD

Bulletin for Sunday, January 26, 2025

Service Schedule

~ 2025 ~

Note: We are grateful to announce that Father John Takahashi will serve every Sunday of every month until further notice. Our prayers continue for his strength to help his Presvytera Robin and our Prophet Elias parish.

Sunday, Jan 26: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - **Blessing and Cutting of the Parish Vasilopita in church & Philoptochos Vasilopita Auction at Fellowship**

Sunday, Feb 2: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, Feb 9: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, Feb 16: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, Feb 23: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, Mar 2: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Forgiveness Sunday & 5-yr

Memorial for Yianni Chronopoulos

Monday, Mar 3 - Holy Lent Begins

Sunday, Mar 9: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Sunday of Orthodoxy

Sunday, Mar 16: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

Sunday, Mar 23: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Sunday of the Holy Cross

Sunday, Mar 30: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Sunday of St. John Climacus

Sunday, Apr 6: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

Sunday, Apr 13: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Palm Sunday

Holy Week - Apr 14 - Apr 19

Sunday, Apr 20: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - **Great and Holy Pascha**

Sunday, Apr 27: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Thomas Sunday

MEMORY ETERNAL

It is with great sorrow but with hope in the Resurrection that we announce the passing of **Panayis (Peter) Ballas**, the son of our beloved parishioner, Fotini Ballas. In addition to his mother, Peter is survived by his sister, Dena, his brother, Gerry and an extended family of nieces and nephews.

Services are planned for a traditional service in Kefalonia, Greece next summer at the church where Peter was baptized and attended in his early years. All are invited to attend the service and can get more information by contacting the family.

The entire community of The Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church extends our sincere condolences to the family. May his memory be eternal.

PRAYERS FOR ALL IN NEED

+ Antonia Eaton +, Presvytera Naomi (Robin) Takahashi, Father Marin State, Presvytera

Vaso Paris, Vlad Voinea, Fotini Ballas, Bob Rible, George & Harriet Mainis, Jim Deamant, Yorgos Hadzis, Connie Mellis, Karen Krilanovich, Inna Shkolnik, Sam Khalil, Lesley, Leola, Dawn Sculley, John Demas, Twan, Athena Wolfe, Evangelia, Marie, Adam Nikolopoulos, Bob Roberts, Selah, Evangelia, Helene Doss, Panos Kakaris, Helen Sirakides, Cynthia (Anna) Baldwin-Thanos, Jane Demas

Call the church office (831) 429-6500 to add the name of someone in need of prayers.

Our News

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Thank you very much again for helping to meet and exceed the 2024 Stewardship goal. It is a new year now and we need to turn our attention to the 2025 Stewardship. The Stewardship Commitment cards have been mailed and/or hand delivered. Please return them as soon as you can so we can plan for the new year. It is noted here that the Stewardship goal for 2025 has been set to \$120,000.00.

Kostas Amberiadis
Stewardship Chairman

NEW ALTAR SERVER ROBES

Our seven new acolyte robes have arrived. Four robes have been donated. If you wish to donate the full \$275.00 for a robe, or any amount you are able, toward **the remaining three robes**, please contact the church office at (831) 429-6500. Blessings to all who see a need and fill it.

THE PHILOPTOCHOS CORNER

Hello everyone,

Our annual Vasilopita auction is on **Sunday, January 26**. It's a great opportunity to come home with a delicious vasilopita and at the same time support our Philoptochos, as this is one of our most successful fundraising events. If you would like to bake a loaf, call the church office to leave a message (831) 429-6500. Click the link below to view Vasilopita Sunday on the website:

www.propheteliassc.org/uncategorized/vasilopita-sunday-2

Announcing...

We are welcoming our premiere auctioneer Jose Mendoza and his beautiful fiance Summer. He will begin the bidding and those who win a vasilopita and the lucky coin will have the blessing for the whole year. Join us to help make this the best auction fundraiser ever!

As you all are aware, Fr. Takahashi has been with Presvytera Robin in the hospital. I know that many of you have expressed the desire to bring food for him, as the last thing he needs to do after a long day at the hospital is come home and try to make dinner.

Joanna is going to make a fasoulada this week and, of course, he will have a vasilopita to take home as well.

Please reach out to me and let me know if you are interested in making a meal for Fr. Takahashi. This way we are able to keep the meals at a steady pace. Please leave a message at the church (831) 429-6500, or reach out by email at: stkatherine@propheteliassc.org

Please join us for our next Philoptochos meeting on **Sunday, February 9** after Fellowship.

Thank you in advance. Together we accomplish our philanthropic goals and more!

Your sister in Christ,
Aphrodite Roberts

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dear Sunday School Families,

Happy New Year! I hope you are all doing well. Our next Sunday school lesson will be on **Sunday, February 2**. We will be focusing on Jesus' ministry on earth.

In our last lesson, we studied the Sermon on the Mount and how Jesus started his ministry by teaching his disciples how to pray, fast, help others and live a Christ centered life.

We will now focus on:

- Jesus Heals with God's Power. The first miracle, the healing of a blind man
- We will read the event in John 9: 1-38

- We will discuss the reactions of the people and leaders of the time

Following our discussion, our students will complete a graphic organizer retelling the significant events.

I look forward to seeing you all in February.

With Love in Christ,
Angela Santiago

RECYCLING PROGRAM

Alexa Bolas continues to lead our recycling efforts. Please remember to bring us your recyclable items. Thank you to all who support this important fundraising effort.

Recyclable items which you can bring to church:

- Aluminum cans
- Glass bottles: Including wine + liquor bottles
- Plastic bottles: Including juice

Please do NOT bring us any other types of plastic containers for our recycling fundraising, ONLY plastic bottles please.

Also, please continue to support our on-going Philoptochos declutter fundraiser! If you have books, CDs, DVDs or games (PlayStation, Xbox, Wii) that you no longer want, please tell us what you wish to donate in an email to: stkatherine@propheteliassc.org

Thank you again for supporting St. Katherine Philoptochos philanthropic missions.

Together we are making a difference!

GOT COFFEE?

Everyone is invited to reserve a Sunday by signing the clipboard on the buffet table, which also includes clean up. You can also sign up by Email to: info@propheteliassc.org. Blessings to all who volunteer for our Sunday Fellowship. When no one signs up only coffee will be available.

1-26-25 - Joanna Stebbins & Dawn Sculley (Vasilopita Auction)

2-2-25 - _____

2-9-25 - _____

2-16-25 - _____

2-23-25 - _____

ONE MORE VOLUNTEER NEEDED once-a-month

On the first Wednesday of every month, our Outreach volunteer team of Catalina Gomes, Aphrodite Roberts, Angelo Karampelas, Barbara Dahl, and Stella Marinos prepare a meal and dessert for the homeless. The arrangements are made monthly for cooking and the food delivery to the Shelter at the Quaker Friendship House in Santa Cruz. At the shelter, the homeless have a warm meal and a safe place to spend the night. Our volunteer team needs a helper. Can you be one? Please consider helping this worthy effort that gives Prophet Elias a way to help the wider community. If you can help, please call or text Catalina Gomes at (831) 713-8073.

Gospel and Epistle Readings

Matins Gospel Reading

Ninth Orthros Gospel

The Reading is from John 20:19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you." And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in His

side, I will not believe." Eight days later, His disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand, and place it in My side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered Him, "My Lord and My God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing, you may have life in His name.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Plagal 2nd Mode. Psalm 27.9,1.

O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance.

Verse: To you, O Lord, I have cried, O my God.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to Timothy 4:9-15.

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and suffer reproach, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

Gospel Reading

15th Sunday of Luke

The Reading is from Luke 19:1-10

At that time, Jesus was passing through Jericho. And there was a man named Zacchaios; he was a chief collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not,

on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaios, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaios stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal 2nd Mode

The angelic powers appeared at your tomb, and those guarding it became as dead. Mary stood at your grave seeking your pure body. But you stripped the power of Hades, yet were not touched by corruption. You met the virgin and granted her life. O Lord, who

Hymn to Prophet Elias in the 1st Mode

The incarnate messenger and cornerstone of the Prophets. The second forerunner of the second coming of Christ. Elias the Glorious! He sent down upon Elisha the gift from above. He drives away diseases and cleanses lepers. Wherefore he is the source of healing to those who honor him.

Seasonal Kontakion in the 1st Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

Vasilopita Sunday

January 26, 2025



**Auction/Fundraiser during Fellowship
with proceeds going to the many charities of
St. Katherine's Philoptochos**

Join us to pray, march,
& fellowship together
at the Walk for Life!

WALK for LIFE

Saturday, January 25
12:00 PM

Civic Center Plaza,
San Francisco, CA

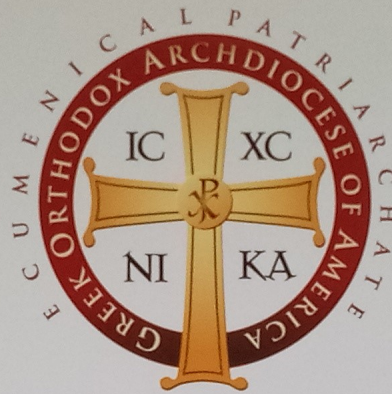
Corner of Polk Street &
Grove Street



for details go to oclife.org/walk







2025

ECCLESIASTICAL
CALENDAR

VOLUNTEER



SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2024-2025



\$250,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications are due
January 31, 2025

The application, criteria,
requirements, and guidelines
are available at
www.panhellenicsf.org



NEED AN INTERN?

RECRUIT INTERNS THROUGH THE PANHELLENIC SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION!



Discover New Talent: Tap into a pool of skilled young professionals ready to bring their perspectives to your company.



Make a Lasting Impact: Help shape the next generation of professionals in the Hellenic community by providing mentorship and real-world experience.



PANHELLENIC
SCHOLARSHIP
FOUNDATION

PanHellenic Scholarship Foundation
8501 West Higgins Road • Suite 210
Chicago, Illinois 60631

📞 312.357.6432
📠 312.872.0090
🌐 panhellenicsf.org
✉ info@panhellenicsf.org

METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO
SUMMERCAMP
AT SAINT NICHOLAS RANCH

**JOIN THE 2025
SUMMER CAMP STAFF!**

CABIN COUNSELORS - PROGRAM STAFF - LEADERSHIP TEAM
LIFEGUARDS - MEDICAL STAFF - PHOTOGRAPHERS - VIDEOGRAPHERS

WWW.GOSFYOUTH.ORG



ADULT THEOLOGY COURSE

very short
A [^]BASIC COURSE
in *Orthodox Theology*

5 WEEKS beginning WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

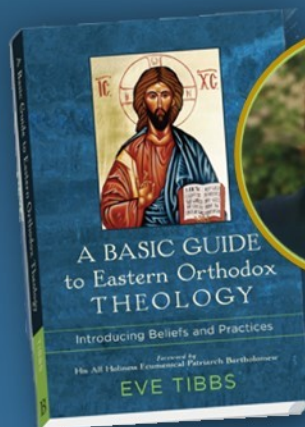
ZOOM ONLY: 5:00 - 6:50 PM (Pacific time)



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED: [HTTPS://ORTHODOXY.COM/REGISTER](https://orthodoxy.com/register)



METROPOLIS OF
SAN FRANCISCO



This short course will be taught by **PARASKEVE (EVE) TIBBS** (PhD Theology) the Ministry Lead for Christian Education in the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco, and author of *A Basic Guide to Eastern Orthodox Theology: Introducing Beliefs and Practices*.