



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

Bulletin for Sunday, February 16, 2025

Service Schedule

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, Feb 16: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy & Memorial for Amberiadis family

Sunday, Feb 23: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Judgment (Meatfare) Sunday & Memorial for Mellis Family

Sunday, Mar 2: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Forgiveness (Cheesefare) Sunday & Sunday School & 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 School

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: 12:00pm - **Great and Holy Pascha - Agape Service**

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

PRAYERS FOR ALL IN NEED

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, Brad Dyer, Angelina, Rob, Everly, Oliver and Elliot Isambert, Laura and Claude Isambert, Maria and Phillip Thomas

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

Our News

CONGRATULATIONS PARISH COUNCIL

Our 2025 Parish Council met and elected their slate of officers. President Bill Thanos, Vice President Connie Mellis, Treasurer Robin Sirakides, Secretary Georgia Chronopoulos and members are Kostas Amberiadis, Petka Hernandez, Angelo Karampelas, Bob Rible, Tim Sculley. Many blessings for their strength in their efforts to guide our parish.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

We are at the beginning of 2025 and we need to focus our attention on our 2025 Stewardship. The goal for this year is set at \$120,000.00, which is the amount we reached in 2024. The Stewardship Commitment cards have been mailed and/or hand delivered. Please complete yours and return it as soon as you can so we can plan for the year.

Kostas Amberiadis

Stewardship Chairman

THE PHILOPTOCHOS CORNER

Hello everyone,

It's time again for our Membership Drive on **Sunday, February 16** at Fellowship where you will learn about the accomplishments of our mighty ministry. Become a member for \$40 and participate in a special drawing. Together, we will continue our philanthropic goals, and more.

Another **YARD SALE** is planned for **Saturday, March 15**. Details will follow about reserving a table, where to park and have some fun!

If you would like to contribute to Sunday Take-Home meals for Father John and Presvytera Robin, please email to receive guidelines:

Find out at: stkatherine@propheteliasc.org

Our next meeting will be **Sunday, March 23** after Fellowship.

Your sister in Christ,
Aphrodite Roberts

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dear Sunday School Families,

I pray you are all having a blessed week. Our next Sunday School lesson will be on **Sunday March 2**. The Sunday of Orthodoxy is upcoming on **March 9**, so we will be preparing for that commemoration. Our students will learn:

- What is the iconoclastic controversy
- The restoration of icons and their veneration
- The unity of Orthodox belief across time, language, and continents

They will have a homework assignment to bring an icon from their home for the following Sunday, March 9.

On March 9th, please bring your children to church so they can participate in the procession around the church with the icons they have brought from home following the liturgy.

I look forward to seeing you all on **Sundays, March 2 and March 9.**

With Love in Christ,
Angela Santiago
Sunday School Teacher

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.

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. If no one signs up, only coffee will be available.

2-16-25 - Kostas Amberiadis (Memorial Lunch)

2-23-25 - _____ Coffee _____ (Meatfare)

3-2-25 - Georgia Chronopoulos (Memorial Lunch) (Cheesefare)

~~ Lenten Refreshments until Great and Holy Pascha ~~

3-9-25 - _____

3-16-25 - _____

3-23-25 - _____

3-30-25 - _____

4-6-25 - _____

4-13-25 - Palm Sunday _____

4-20- 25 - Great and Holy Pascha _____

Gospel and Epistle Readings

Matins Gospel Reading

First Orthros Gospel

The Reading is from Matthew 28:16-20

At that time, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw Him they worshiped Him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age. Amen."

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. 1st Mode. Psalm 32.22,1.

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:12-20.

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Gospel Reading

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

The Reading is from Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand,

and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the 1st Mode

Although the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers guarded Your most pure body, You arose on the third day, O Savior, giving life to the world. For this reason, the heavenly powers cried out to you, O Giver of Life: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom! Glory to Your dispensation, only Lover of Mankind!

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 3rd Mode

O Father, foolishly I ran away from Your glory, and in sin, squandered the riches You gave me. Wherefore, I cry out to You with the voice of the Prodigal, "I have sinned before You Compassionate Father. Receive me in repentance and take me as one of Your hired

servants."



February 23, 2025 After the Divine Liturgy

MEATFARE SUNDAY

*Enjoy a special meal of lamb
and traditional favorites*

MARCH
1



WE HEARD HER AT THE NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS CONVENTION — NOW SHE'S COMING TO HOLY CROSS! PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN INSPIRING PRESENTATION WITH VAS PRIEBE

Philoptochos Membership Event — Wear comfortable clothes — Light lunch will be served

RSVP akoros@comcast.net or 650-787-5081

**10:30 am, Saturday, March 1
The Oaks at Holy Cross Church, 900 Alameda, Belmont, CA**

The 5 Keys to Physical Wellness

Discover how to **move, breathe, and thrive** with Vas Priebe! In this uplifting session, you'll learn how to: **✔ Create space for better movement; ✔ Build strength for everyday life; ✔ Boost heart health and energy; ✔ Embrace longevity with smart habits; ✔ Find joy in movement and make wellness sustainable! Don't miss this opportunity to make wellness fun, fulfilling, and a part of your life!**

Discover more about Vas and her approach to wellness at eso-transform-within.com

Join Holy Cross Philoptochos at goholycross.org/Philoptochos/Join.aspx

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

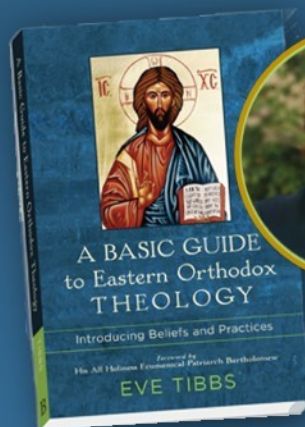
ZOOM ONLY: 5:00 - 6:50 PM (Pacific time)



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*.