



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, March 30, 2025

Service Schedule

Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian:

O Lord and Master of my life!

*Take from me the spirit of sloth,
faint-heartedness, lust of power, and idle talk.*

*But give rather the spirit of chastity,
humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.*

*Yea, Lord and King! Grant me to see my own errors
and not to judge my brother,
for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen.*

Friday Mar 28: 6:00pm Salutations to the Theotokos

Sunday, Mar 30: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Sunday of St. John Climacus & Memorial for Polyhronakis Family

Friday, April 4: 6:00pm Akathist Hymn

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

Saturday Apr 12: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Lazarus Saturday with Father John Takahashi

Sunday, Apr 13: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Palm Sunday with Father John Takahashi

Holy Week - Apr 14 - Apr 19

We will welcome Rev. Presbyter Vasilios Hillhouse from Holy Transfiguration Church in Anchorage, Alaska, who will serve during Holy Week.

Complete schedule coming soon.

Sunday, Apr 20: 12:00pm - **Great and Holy Pascha - Agape Vespers** with Father John Takahashi

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

~~ PARKING ALERT ~~

NO PARKING IN THE DRIVEWAY GRAVEL

The debris falling from the palm tree can cause *serious damage to a vehicle or you* .

The driveway is now *closed to all parking* until further notice.

Prophet Elias Church will not be responsible for any injuries or damages should this warning not be heeded.

Caring for your safety!

Thank you!

Prophet Elias Parish Council

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dear Sunday School Families,

Sunday, April 6 is our next Sunday School Lesson. It is titled: **Lenten Worship Guides Us to Repentance**. Our students will learn that during Great Lent we set out on a forty-day journey to Holy Week and Pascha, how each Sunday of Lent we celebrate special events and feast days, and the meaning of what we remember each day.

The First Sunday of Lent: The Sunday Orthodoxy

The Second Sunday of Lent: St. Gregory of Palamas and the Jesus Prayer

The Third Sunday of Lent: The Veneration of the Cross

The Fourth Sunday of Lent: The Commemoration of St. John of the Ladder

The Fifth Sunday of Lent: St. Mary of Egypt

The Sixth Sunday of Lent: Palm Sunday

With Love in Christ,

Angela Santiago

Sunday School Teacher

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!

Thank you all for joining our Philoptochos meeting last Sunday. We approved our budget for this coming year. Meals on Wheels is our new local charity, and we reviewed what needs to be accomplished for Pascha!

All hands on deck! The more helpers we have, the easier and more quickly all is accomplished. More news to come on how you can help.

Please note: Our prosphora class date has changed.

We will meet in the kitchen at **10:00am on Saturday, April 5.**

During the Proskomide Orthros service, the priest prepares the prosphora bread and wine for the Holy Eucharist. If you would like to learn how to make prosphora, please come join us in the kitchen. Joanna and I look forward to teach anyone who attends.

Our next Philoptochos meeting will be on **Sunday, April 27.** We will discuss the upcoming elections for the Philoptochos board. If you would like to be a member of our board, please let me know.

I hope to see you all at our upcoming meeting.

Your sister in Christ,
Aphrodite

LENTEN SEMINAR

Fridays of Lent, March 7 thru April 11

Seminar Leader: Bob Rible

Topic: Gospel of St. John

Time and Location: 7:00–8:30pm, Parish Hall

We will also look at what St. John Chrysostom has to say about this Gospel.

You can bring your own Bible, the Revised Standard Version is preferred, as it is the

translation closest to the original Greek of St. Paul. (Note: **not** the New Revised Standard Version.)

All are welcome!

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.

~~ Lenten Refreshments until Great and Holy Pascha ~~

3-30-25 - Sophie Polyhronakis (Memorial Lunch)

4-6-25 - _____

4-13-25 - Palm Sunday _____

4-20-25 - Great and Holy Pascha _____

Gospel and Epistle Readings

Matins Gospel Reading

Seventh Orthros Gospel

The Reading is from John 20:1-10

On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. So she ran, and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." Peter then came out with the other disciple, and they went toward the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first; and stooping to look in, he saw the linen cloths lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; he saw the linen cloths lying and the napkin, which had been on His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not know the scripture, that He must rise from the dead. Then the disciples went back to their homes.

Epistle Reading

Prokeimenon. Grave Mode. Psalm 28.11,1.

The Lord will give strength to his people.

Verse: Bring to the Lord, O sons of God, bring to the Lord honor and glory.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 6:13-20.

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through

two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel Reading

Sunday of St. John Climacus

The Reading is from Mark 9:17-31

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Grave Mode

By your cross you destroyed death, and opened paradise to the thief. You transformed the sorrow of the Myrrh-bearers, and commanded the apostles to proclaim that you have risen from the dead, Christ our God, granting to the world great mercy.

Apolytikion for Sun. of St. John Climacus in the Plagal 4th Mode

With the rivers of your tears, you have made the barren desert fertile. Through sighs of sorrow from deep within you, your labors have borne fruit a hundred-fold. By your miracles you have become a light, shining upon the world. O John, our Holy Father, pray to Christ our God, to save our souls.

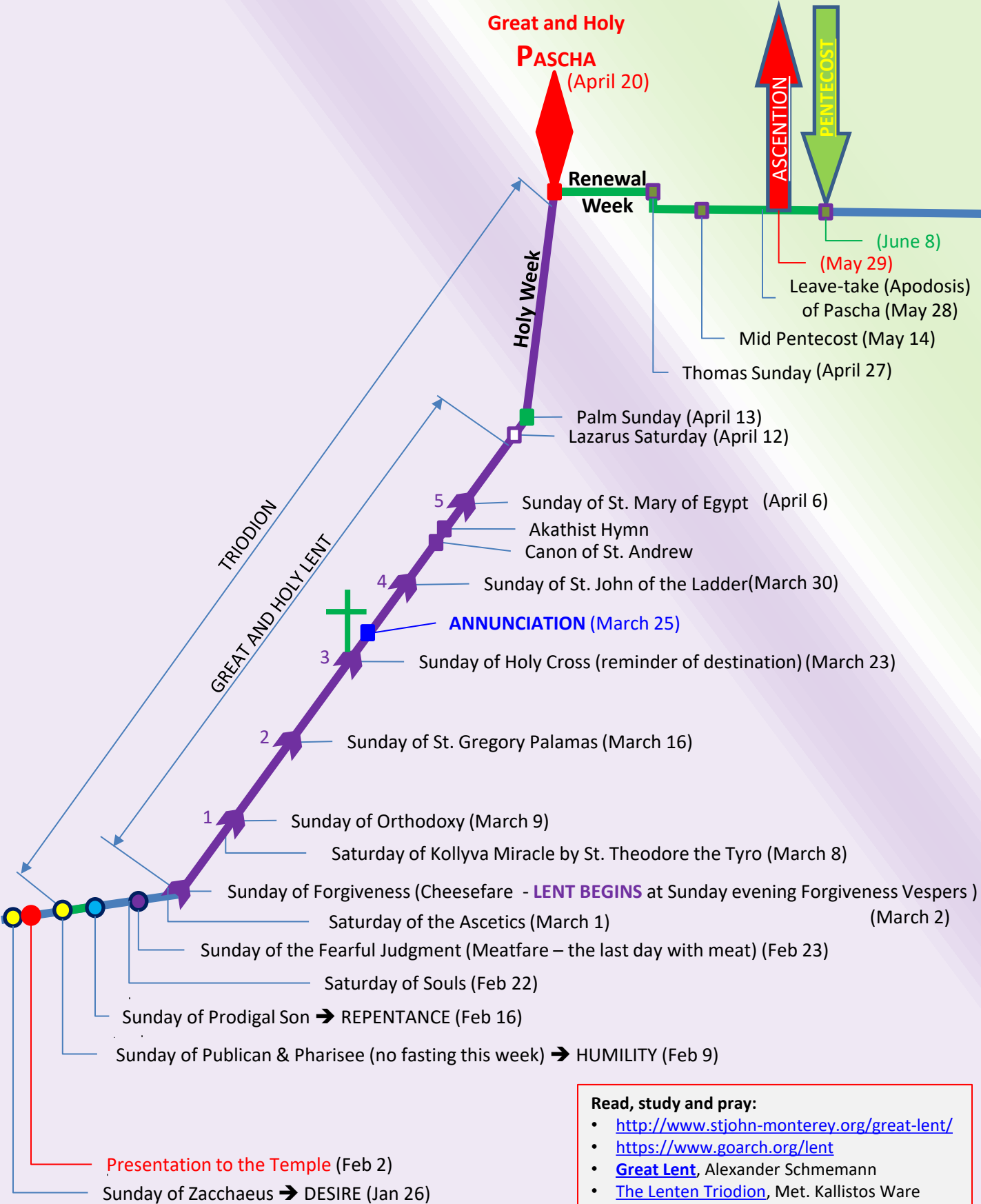
Hymn to Prophet Elias in the 1st Mode

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 Plagal 4th Mode

To you, Theotokos, invincible Defender, having been delivered from peril, I, your city, dedicate the victory festival as a thank offering. In your irresistible might, keep me safe from all trials, that I may call out to you: "Hail, unwedded bride!"

The Orthodox Paschal Season - a Time for Transformation



Read, study and pray:

- <http://www.stjohn-monterey.org/great-lent/>
- <https://www.goarch.org/lent>
- **Great Lent**, Alexander Schmemmann
- **The Lenten Triodion**, Met. Kallistos Ware

ADULT THEOLOGY COURSE

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

5 WEEKS beginning WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

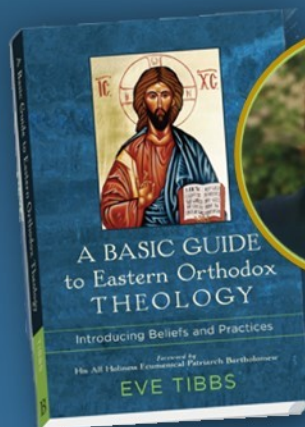
ZOOM ONLY: 5:00 - 6:50 PM (Pacific time)



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED: [HTTPS://ORTHODOXYOU.COM/REGISTER](https://orthodoxyou.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*.