



# 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](mailto:info@propheteliassc.org)

**Visiting Clergy**

**Phone:** (831) 429-6500

**Email:** [info@propheteliassc.org](mailto: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

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Bulletin for Sunday, April 20, 2025

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## 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.*

**Mark your calendars and attend services on our journey toward the joyous  
Resurrection of our**

**Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

## 2025 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Holy Thursday, April 17: **6:00pm** The Twelve Gospels - Fr. Hillhouse

Holy Friday, April 18: **10:00am** Royal Hours - Fr. Hillhouse

Holy Friday, April 18: **3:00pm** Un-nailing from the Cross Service - Fr. Hillhouse

Holy Friday, April 18: **6:00pm** Lamentations and Procession - Fr. Hillhouse

Holy Saturday, April 19: **10:00am** The First Anastasi - Vesperal Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great - Fr. Hillhouse

Holy Saturday, April 19: **11:00pm** Resurrection Canon– Fr. Hillhouse

Holy Saturday, April 19: **12:00am (midnight)** Anastasi Proclamation and Procession followed by Orthros and Divine Liturgy – Fr. Hillhouse

Following the service, everyone is invited to enjoy the traditional  
Avgolemono soup and eggs in the church hall.

**Great and Holy Pascha** - Sunday, April 20: **12:00pm (noon)** Agape Vespers - Fr. Takahashi

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

### PRAYERS FOR ALL IN NEED

+George Mainis+, Harriet Mainis, Presvytera Naomi (Robin) Takahashi, Father Marin State, Presvytera Vaso Paris, Maura, Vlad Voinea, Fotini Ballas, Bob Rible, 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, Stacy, 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,

John, Muriel

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

## Our News

### ~~ PARKING UPDATE ~~

The driveway is now **open for parking**. The tree is trimmed and safe to approach.

We thank everyone for their patience with this matter.

### Prophet Elias Parish Council

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dear Sunday School Families,

Our final Sunday school lesson for the year will be on **Sunday, May 4th**. Our students will participate in a "Jeopardy" review game of all the lessons covered this year. Following our game, I will award each student with a small gift for their Sunday school participation this year.

The topics for the game include:

- The Theotokos is our Guide
- The Psalms and Proverbs
- The Nativity of our Lord and Savior
- The Sermon on the Mount
- Jesus Heals
- The Iconoclast and the Sunday of Orthodoxy
- Lenten Worship

If you still have copies of these lessons, please review them in preparation for our game. I look forward to seeing you all on **May 4th!**

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 to all for weaving our palm crosses for Palm Sunday and preparing and hanging the palms on the front doors, in the Narthex, and the Holy Altar. What a lovely start to our Holy Week!

Upcoming opportunities to help:

**Friday, April 18:** Decorating the Epitaphio. If you can participate Friday morning we welcome the help. Donations of hydrangeas and roses are appreciated. Please nothing yellow!

**Saturday, April 19:** Decorate and prepare the church (Lavarum, Iconostasis el. al.). Bring bay leaves and flower petals. Bring **red-dyed Eggs**.

Our next Philoptochos meeting will be on **Sunday, April 27**. We will discuss the elections for the Philoptochos board. If you would like to be a member of our board, please let me know. We welcome all, and it is not too late to join! Please consider this mission to become part of this important arm of the church.

I look forward to seeing everyone then!

Kali Anastasi.

Your sister in Christ,  
Aphrodite

### 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](mailto: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 ~~

4-20-25 - Avgolemono soup and eggs after the Anastasi (midnight) service

4-20-25 - Great and Holy Pascha Vespers - Coffee

## Gospel and Epistle Readings

### Matins Gospel Reading

#### Great and Holy Pascha

#### The Reading is from Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint Jesus. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back - it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, He is not here; see the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples and Peter that He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him, as He told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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## Epistle Reading

### **Prokeimenon. Plagal 4th Mode. Psalm 117.24,29.**

This is the day which the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Verse: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his mercy endures for ever.

### **The reading is from Acts of the Apostles 1:1-8.**

In the first book, O Theophilos, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "it is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

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## Gospel Reading

### **Great and Holy Pascha**

#### **The Reading is from John 1:1-17**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

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The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

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## Hymns of the Day

### **Apolytikion for Great and Holy Pascha in the Plagal 1st Mode**

Christ is risen from the dead, by death, trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

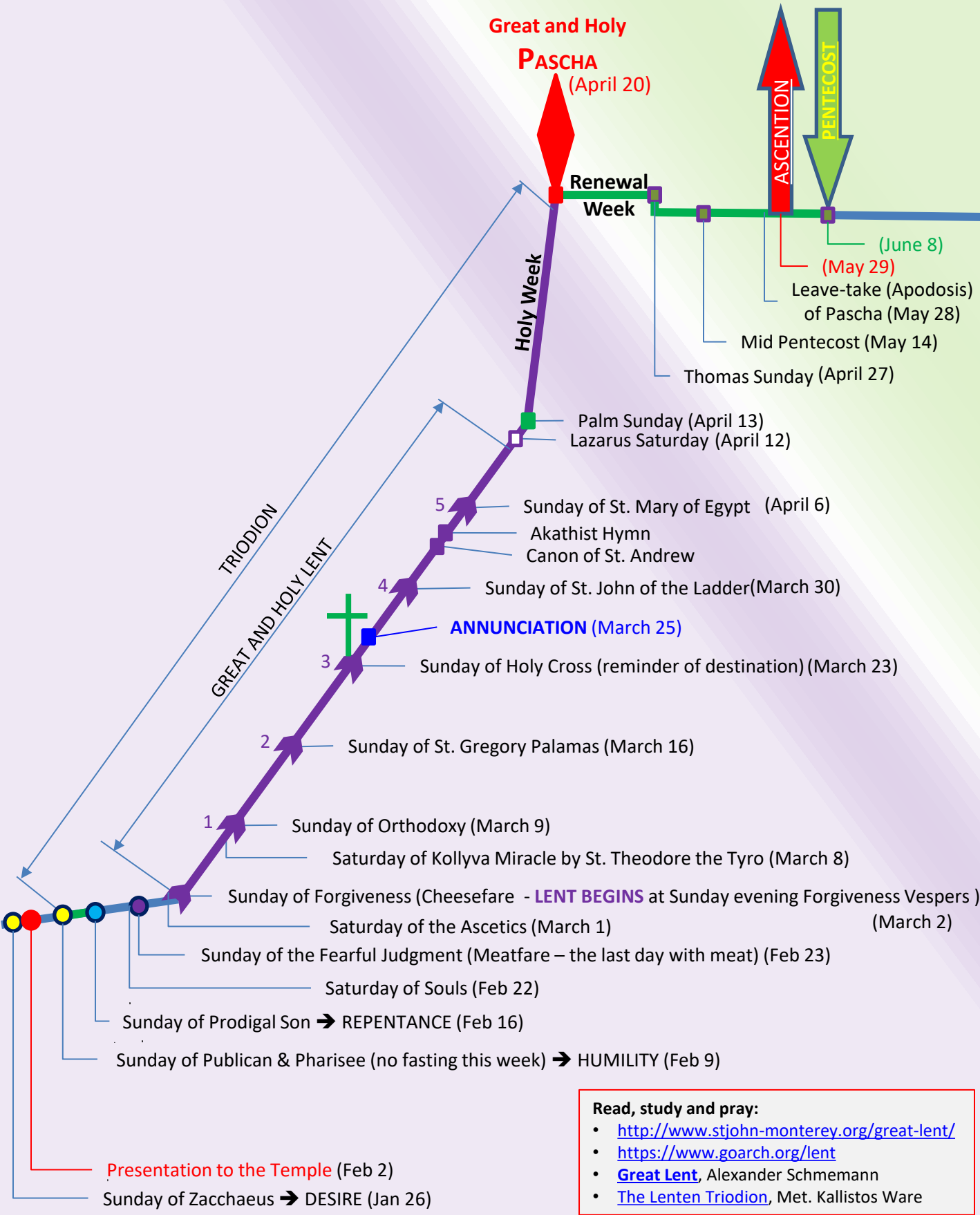
### **Hypakoe of Great and Holy Pascha in the 4th Mode**

When they who were with Mary came, anticipating the dawn, and found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre, they heard from the Angel: Why seek ye among the dead, as though He were mortal man, Him Who abideth in everlasting light? Behold the grave-clothes. Go quickly and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath put death to death. For He is the Son of God, Who saveth the race of men.

### **Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal 4th Mode**

Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God, saying to the myrrh-bearing women, "Hail!" and granting peace to Your disciples, You who raise up the fallen.

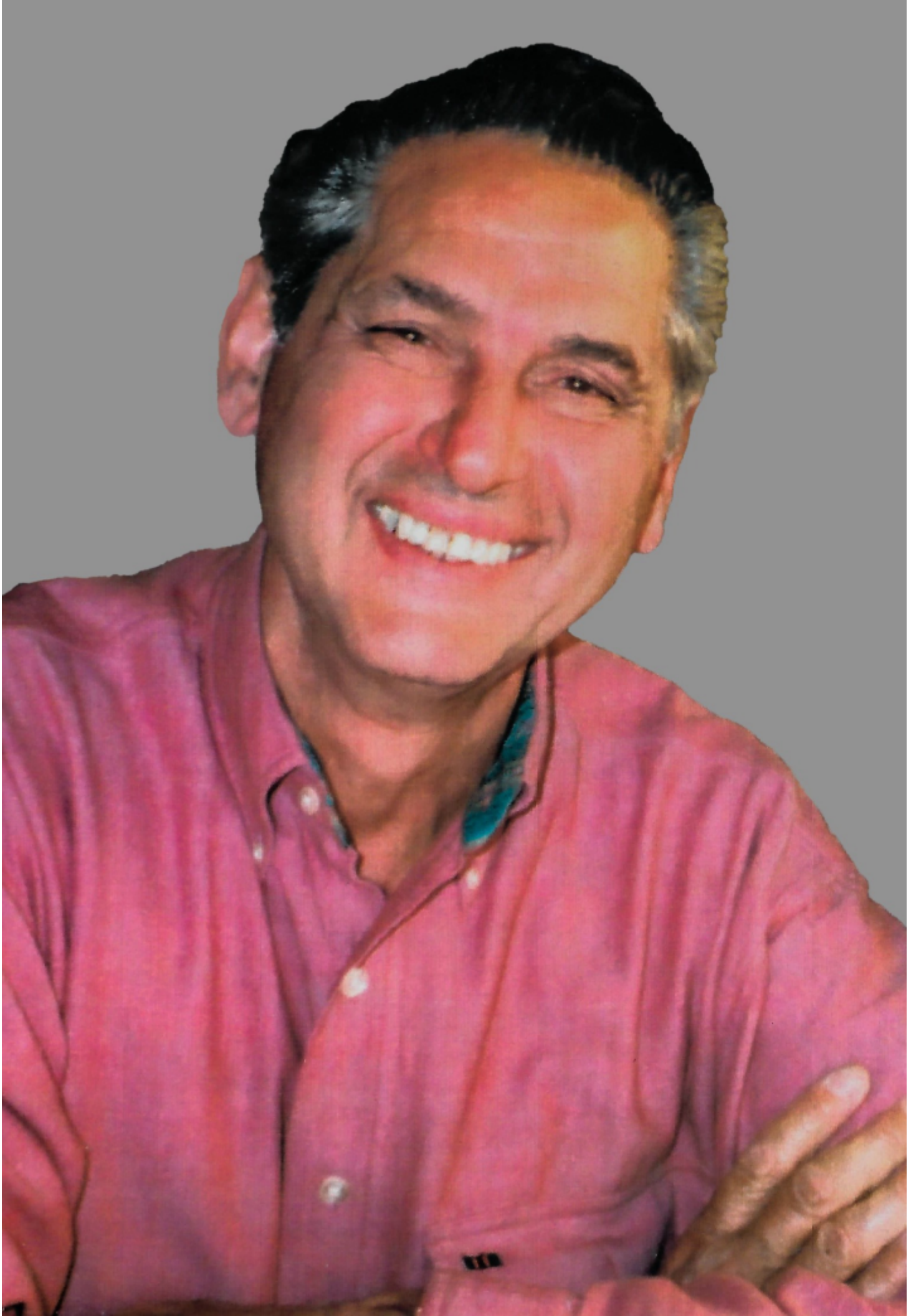
# The Orthodox Paschal Season - a Time for Transformation



**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 <sup>^</sup>BASIC COURSE  
in *Orthodox Theology*

5 WEEKS beginning WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30, 2025

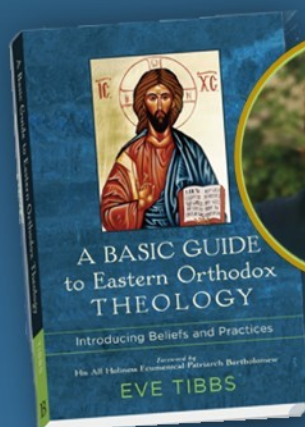
ZOOM ONLY: 5:00 - 6:50 PM (Pacific time)



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*.

*"Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:38*

# GROWING ORTHODOXY

2025 Evangelism Conference

**Monday, June 9 – Wednesday, June 11, 2025**

Join us for the **2025 Growing Orthodoxy Evangelism Conference**, a three-day gathering dedicated to equipping Orthodox Christians with practical tools for sharing the faith. This conference will feature inspiring speakers, interactive workshops, and meaningful discussions on evangelism.



**Keynote Speaker**  
**Rev. Father**  
**Adam Roberts**



**For details on registration and accommodations,  
please visit: [groworthodoxy.org/2025](https://groworthodoxy.org/2025)**

# GREEK FOOD FAIRE

## Pop-Up 2025

Authentic Greek Food & Live Music

Friday, May 16 5 pm -10 pm

Saturday, May 17 Noon - 8 pm

Join us!

Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church  
Downtown Santa Cruz

Opa!



Opa!

See you at our September Greek Festival!