



# 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

6:00 PM Paraklesis - TBD

6:00 PM Vespers - TBD

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Bulletin for Sunday, April 21, 2024

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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.

**Friday, April 19: 6:00pm Akathist Hymn**

Sunday, April 21: 10:00am Reader Service

Lazarus Saturday, April 27: 10:00am Weave Palm Crosses (No Divine Liturgy)

## 2024 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Palm Sunday, April 28: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy – Father Takahashi

Palm Sunday – April 28 evening: First Bridegroom Service: No Service

Holy Monday, April 29: 6:00pm Second Bridegroom Service – Father Takahashi

Holy Tuesday, April 30: 6:00pm Third Bridegroom Service – Father Takahashi

**Holy Wednesday, May 1: 4:30pm Fourth Bridegroom Service – Rev. Protopresbyter John Kariotakis who retired from St. John the Baptist in Anaheim, California and will be accompanied by his Presvytera Katy.**

Holy Wednesday, May 1: 6:00pm Holy Mystery of Unction – Father Kariotakis

Holy Thursday, May 2: 10:00am Vespereal Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great – Father Kariotakis

Holy Thursday, May 2: 6:00pm The Twelve Gospels – Father Kariotakis

Holy Friday, May 3: 10:00am Royal Hours – Father Kariotakis

Holy Friday, May 3: 3:00pm Un-nailing from the Cross – Father Kariotakis

Holy Friday, May 3: 6:00pm Lamentations & Procession – Father Kariotakis

Holy Saturday, May 4: 10:00am – The First Anastasi - Vespereal Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great followed by an Easter Egg Hunt for the children – Father Kariotakis

Holy Saturday, May 4: 11:00pm Paschal Vigil – Father Kariotakis

Holy Saturday, May 5: 12:00am (midnight) Anastasi Proclamation & Procession followed by Orthros and Divine Liturgy and Fellowship – Father Kariotakis

Great & Holy Pascha - Sunday, May 5: 12:00pm (noon) Agape Vespers – Reader Service with Dr. Nick Itsines

## PRAYERS FOR ALL IN NEED

Presvytera Vaso Paris, Matty Manzo, 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, Twan, Athena Wolfe, Evangelia, Marie, Adam Nikolopoulos, Bob Roberts, Selah

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

# Holy Week Schedule of Services



## 2024 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

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## Our News



### EVERYONE CAN HELP!

Please blow out candles, check to ensure doors are locked, and turn off lights before leaving the building. Before driving away, be sure the fence gates are latched. Thank you for taking time to keep our building secure.

### STEWARDSHIP NEWS

It's up to us! We are still in the Lenten Season. It is the season of almsgiving. Alms are monies given to the poor or those in need. Prophet Elias is now needy, our church home.

Our Stewardship goal has been adjusted upward to \$120,000.00. Being a friendly parish is a wonderful quality, but in addition to friendliness, we need the finances to pay a permanent priest. We have prayed and it's been three years without a priest. Now, we need to make some substantive changes.

Did you know.....

- 75 Stewards have declared a commitment in 2024.
- \$120,000.00 equally divided is \$1,600.00 each.
- \$1,600.00 annually is \$133.00 per month.
- Or \$31.00 per week.

In past years, 15-20 Stewards make up 75% of our Stewardship giving. With every hope, these Stewards will continue their commitments. But by these results, others are giving much less.

How can we improve this dynamic?

Everyone can dedicate time to prayers, volunteer willingly for fundraisers, and commit to stretching monthly giving where possible.

We are the only ones who can make changes to provide for a priest.

Not a Steward yet at Prophet Elias? Please consider becoming a Steward by completing the 2024 Stewardship Commitment Card. Then you may submit donations in church. Or on our church website at:

<https://www.propheteliassc.org/pe-general-donation>

(Be sure to scroll to the information box, drop the menu to Stewardship before entering your donation amount.)

Or mail your commitment to the Church office at:

Prophet Elias Greek Orthodox Church  
223 Church Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Please keep Prophet Elias in your prayers, especially for a worthy priest.

Kostas Amberiadis, Chair

#### **ST. KATHERINE'S CORNER**

Hello Everyone,

As our Lenten journey continues, we are very fortunate to have a very supportive

membership that is committed to helping the church make this journey prayerful, peaceful and beautiful.

Thank you again to all those who have signed up to place flowers surrounding the Panagia icon for the Salutations to the Theotokos. Join us to Rejoice!

Friday, April 19 - Dena Mitropoulos

Palm Sunday is approaching quickly. We will need some help on **Saturday morning April 27 at 10:00am** to weave the palms into crosses for church the next day. All are welcome. This is a wonderful activity for children.

Here is a video demonstration for weaving Palm Crosses: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=uw3l101dbMo&t=9s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uw3l101dbMo&t=9s)

During Fellowship, we will accept donations for the candles for the four corners and all around the top of the Epitaphio. Please help us beautify our Holy Friday!

In addition, we are requesting our parishioners to supplement flowers for the Epitaphio. Thank you to all that had donated last week, and for those who mailed in checks for the flowers. We will also be accepting flowers from your garden or they can be store bought. **No red flowers for the Epitaphio, please. (Red flowers are used only for Pascha decor.)**

Please bring them to the church on **Thursday, May 2** (between 10am to 2pm) and put them in water. If the daytime hours are inconvenient for you, flowers for the Epitaphio can be delivered to church on Thursday evening before The Twelve Gospels service.

The Epitaphio will be adorned with flowers on **Friday morning, May 3**.

On **Saturday morning, May 4** at the First Anastasi, please bring bay leaves and rose petals for the priest to toss around the church. Also, bring a dozen hard-boiled **red-dyed eggs** to be blessed and distributed after the midnight Divine Liturgy.

Our next Philoptochos meeting is this **Sunday, April 21** after the reader service. Please plan on attending as there is much to plan for Pascha and beyond.

Thank you for your devotion and supporting St. Katherine's Philoptochos philanthropic missions.

Respectfully,

Aphrodite Roberts

### 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. 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](mailto:stkatherine@propheteliassc.org)

Thank you again for supporting St. Katherine's 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: [office@propheteliassc.org](mailto:office@propheteliassc.org). Blessings to all who volunteer for our Sunday Fellowship. When no one signs up only coffee will be available.

4-21-24 - Lyna & Brad Dyer

4-28-24 - Madeline Hnatowich-Dean (Palm Sunday)

5-4-24 - Sondra Lee Traylor (Holy Saturday)

5-5-24 - Sondra Lee Traylor (Holy Pascha)

5-12-24 - Dawn & Tim Sculley

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Dear Sunday School Families,

Kali Sarakosti!

On **May 12** we will have our final lesson for the Sunday School Year. Our lesson is titled: **We Pray Alone and with Others**. Our students will be able to:

**Recognize** the ways we pray

**Learn** the story of St. Ephrem the Syrian

**Write** a prayer

Thank you so much for bringing your children to Sunday school this year and giving them the gift of growing spiritually, coming closer to God, and developing a strong sense of identity as an Orthodox Christian. I wish you all a restful and happy summer break.

With Love in Christ,

Angela Santiago, Sunday school teacher

#### **UPCOMING GYRO EVENT**

**May 18, 2024** – 12PM-8PM. Details to follow.

#### **UPCOMING VISITOR FROM SWEDEN**

Father Milutin will be in California from June 22 to July 3, 2024. He has received permission from the Metropolis to serve twice at Prophet Elias. Save these Dates:

Sunday, June 23: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy - Holy Pentecost

Sunday, June 30: 9:00am Orthros, 10:00am Divine Liturgy

He is looking forward to his visit and parish events are being planned. Come and welcome him! Details to follow.

#### **MEET THE SAINTS**

After Great and Holy Pascha, our presentations will resume. Below is the list of Saints yet to be presented. Please contact the church office 831-429-6500 with your choice. Write a 500-word script (or one can be prepared for you) to present for fewer than five minutes for your Saint. Father Milutin will also present again while he is with us in June. As you recall, Father Milutin made the first presentation about Saint Emilia. Volunteer today!

- St. Spyridon the Wonderworker
- St. Anthimos of Chios
- St. Markella of Chios
- St. Mavra of Zakynthos
- St. Simeon
- St. Basil the Great
- St. Theodosia
- St. Gerasimos



- St. Iakovos of Evia
- St. Paisios of Mt Athos

# Gospel and Epistle Readings

## Matins Gospel Reading

### Second Orthros Gospel

#### 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 1st Mode. Psalm 11.7,1.

You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us.

Verse: Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

#### The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Hebrews 9:11-14.

BRETHREN, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies

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for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

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## Gospel Reading

### Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

#### The Reading is from Mark 10:32-45

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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## Hymns of the Day

### Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal 1st Mode

Let us, the faithful, give praise and worship to the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit and born of the Virgin for our salvation. Of his own will he mounted the cross in the flesh, suffered death, and raised the dead by his glorious resurrecti

## **Apolytikion for Sun. of St. Mary of Egypt in the Plagal 4th Mode**

The image of God, was faithfully preserved in you, O Mother. For you took up the Cross and followed Christ. By Your actions you taught us to look beyond the flesh for it passes, rather to be concerned about the soul which is immortal. Wherefore, O Holy Mary, your soul rejoices with the angels.

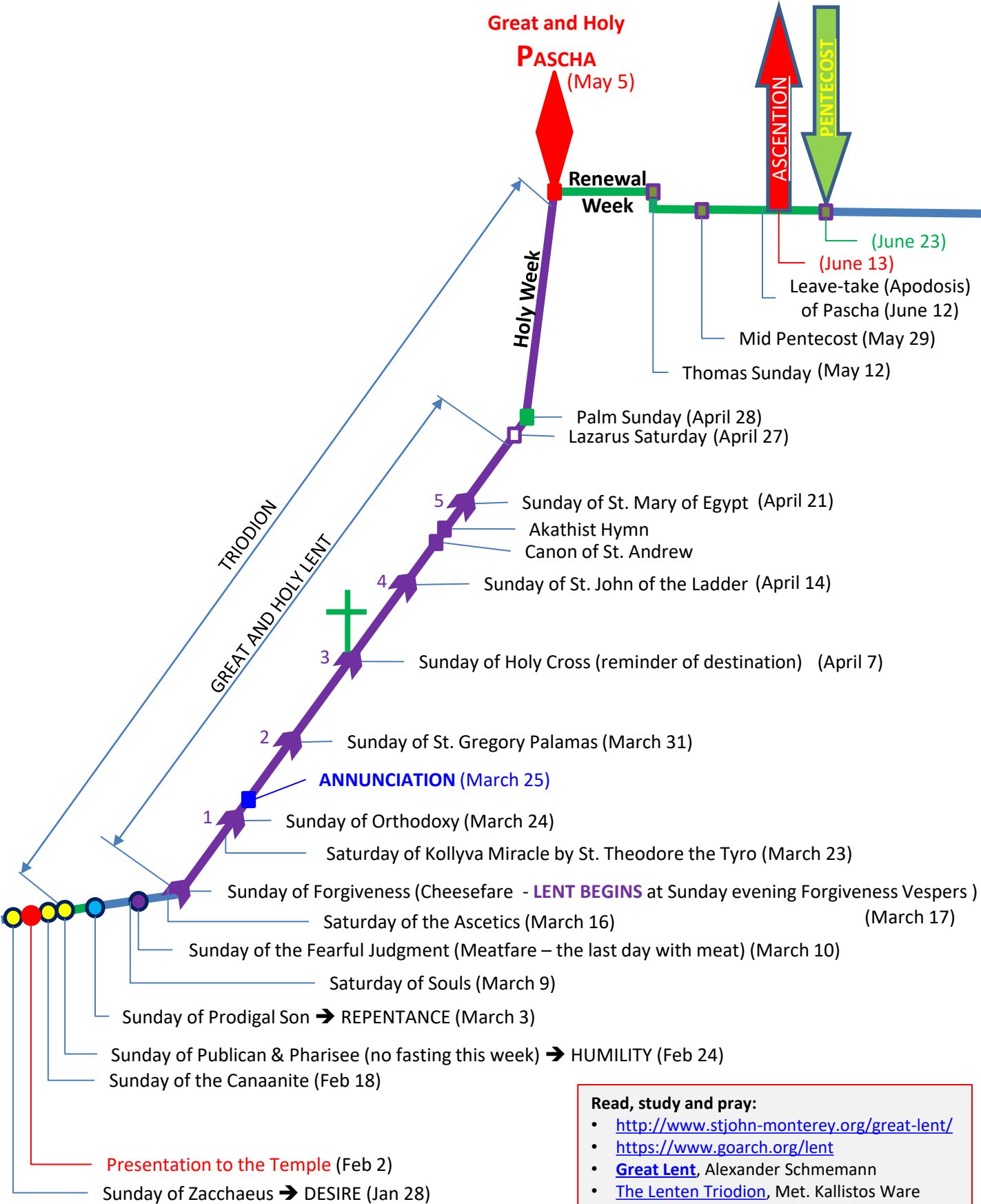
## **Hymn to Prophet Elias in the 1st Mode**

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 2nd Mode**

A protection of Christians unshamable, intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, please reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us, for you are good; your loving help bring unto us, who are crying in faith to you: hasten to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a protection for all time, Theotokos, for those who honor you.

# 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

# OUR LENTEN JOURNEY



**PREPARING FOR THE PASSION  
& RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**



ST. LAWRENCE PRESENTS

# Gatsby Night

OUR ANNUAL BRIGHT FRIDAY FORMAL DINNER AND DANCE

**MAY 10TH**

**ARRIVE:**

**5 PM WITH DINNER SERVED AT 6 PM**

SCOPAZZI'S RESTAURANT

13300 BIG BASIN WY, BOULDER CREEK

TICKET PRICE

PER PERSON

— — — — —  
\$65 NON-ALCOHOL

\$70 WITH WINE

Age Requirement: Highschool +

Tickets sold every Sunday until 4/28

Contact: Mariana Timmer

[claychalet.timmer@gmail.com](mailto:claychalet.timmer@gmail.com)





# 2024 SUMMER CAMP DATES:

SESSION 1: JULY 7 - 13

SESSION 2: JULY 14 - 20

SESSION 3: JULY 21 - 27

[WWW.GOSFYOUTH.ORG](http://WWW.GOSFYOUTH.ORG)

METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO  
**SUMMERCAMP**  
AT SAINT NICHOLAS RANCH



CROSSROAD  
INSTITUTE

ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL **JUNIOR** OR **SENIOR**?



# Fill your **summer** with what **counts**

Join one of  
our four sessions

~~Boston June 8-18~~ Waiting List  
Northern California June 18-28  
~~Boston June 22-July 2~~ Waiting List  
Chicago July 6-16

## Explore what's next

CrossRoad is a ten-day immersive summer program designed for YOU as you prepare to make big life decisions and start new adventures. By connecting with the Orthodox Christian theological and spiritual tradition in a deep and meaningful way, you will find a place to form authentic and lifelong friendships, ask hard questions, and explore what it means to be an Orthodox Christian in the 21st century.



**Rolling applications & acceptance happening now!** Limited availability for **Northern California & Chicago.**