

Saint Sava

SERBIAN ORTHODOX

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

LIBERTYVILLE · ILLINOIS · EST. 1988

CATALOGUE

2026 / 2027

Saint Sava

Serbian Orthodox School of Theology

Catalogue 2026 / 2027

Published with the approval of

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

of the Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology

Publishing Director

V. Rev. Aleksandar Novakovic, Dean of Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology

Editor

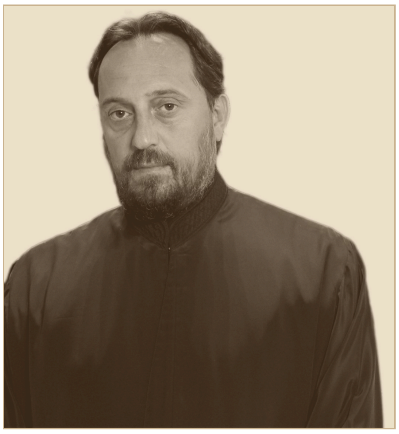
V. Rev. Dr. Mile Subotic, Academic Dean / Provost

© 2026–2027 Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology

Table of Contents

Dean of School	3
Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Monastery	4
Mission Statement	5
Board of Trustees	6
School Calendar	7
Facilities, Equipment and Library	9
Dormitory & Church Life	10
Board of Education — Faculty	11
Tuition	14
Credit Hours Required	15
Grading Policies	17
Admission Requirements	18
Admission Application	19
Application Instructions	21
Course Schedule and Description	22
Forty Years of St. Sava School of Theology	33

Dean of School



V. Rev. Dr. Aleksandar Novakovic
Dean

V. Rev. Dr. Aleksandar Novakovic was born in 1975 in the town of Rudo, Republika Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina. After finishing elementary school, Aleksandar was accepted to St. Sava Seminary in Belgrade, where he graduated in 1995. In 1996, with the blessing of His Holiness Patriarch Pavle, he began his undergraduate studies at the St. Sava School of Theology in Libertyville, Illinois. Upon graduation from St. Sava, Aleksandar enrolled in master's theological studies at St. Vladimir's Seminary in Scarsdale, New York, where he graduated in 2002.

Fr. Aleksandar returned to St. Sava Monastery, Libertyville, upon graduation and began working as librarian of the St. Sava School of Theology. His Eminence Metropolitan Christopher ordained him to the rank of Deacon in October 2003 at St. Basil Church in Lake Forest, Illinois, where he served until his ordination to the rank of Presbyter on the feast of St. Alexander Nevsky in September 2004. After ordination, Fr. Aleksandar served at St. Sava Monastery and occasionally at other Chicago-area parishes. In the meantime, his responsibilities at St. Sava Seminary grew: Dean of Students in 2003, school secretary in 2004, and instructor of the Church Mission course in 2006.

With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Christopher, Fr. Aleksandar continued his education at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, completing coursework toward a Doctorate in Pastoral Theology. He completed two years of Doctor of Ministry classes and defended his doctoral thesis, *"Pastoral Ministry to the Sick in the Life and Praxis of the Serbian Orthodox Church,"* under the supervision of Fr. Raymond Wedd, Ph.D., and Fr. Thomas Baima, S.T.D., with advisors Fr. Robert Barron, S.T.D., Fr. Michael Fuller, S.T.D., and Dr. Colt Anderson, on May 1, 2012. The thesis was submitted to the Graduate School of Theology of the University of St. Mary of the Lake / Mundelein Seminary and accepted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Ministry.

The Holy Synod of the Serbian Orthodox Church, at its regular session in Belgrade, Serbia, on July 4, 2023, appointed Fr. Aleksandar Novakovic as Dean of the Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology.

Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Monastery



The beautiful St. Sava Monastery was founded by St. Bishop Mardarije in 1925 in Libertyville, Illinois. It was built in the ancient Orthodox tradition, with domes adorning the top of the church visible from far away. Inside are priceless icons and majestic stained-glass windows. St. Sava Monastery is listed among the Historical Places in the State of Illinois.

St. Sava Monastery has served as the seat of the first Bishop and the first Serbian Orthodox Diocese of the U.S.A. and Canada.

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Monastery
Est. 1925
P.O. Box 519
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 816-6127

Mission Statement

The St. Sava School of Theology has as its main mission and goal to provide religious education and to train candidates — from the United States, Canada, and other countries — for the Holy Priesthood of the Serbian Orthodox Church, and for interested individuals of other ethnic jurisdictions of the Orthodox Christian Faith. The School functions as an educational center for individuals committed to serving the Serbian Orthodox Church and her people in a multi-lingual environment. It provides quality baccalaureate-level study in Theology leading to the Bachelor of Divinity Degree, as approved and uniquely required for the Serbian Orthodox Church, for both resident full-time students and part-time students.

Our mission is to serve the Serbian Orthodox Church by providing the highest level of education to our students. To serve the needs of the Church more fully, we also recognize the need to provide, in addition to academic education, human, spiritual, and pastoral formation. We accomplish our mission by integrating these four elements, thus successfully preparing students for service to the Church and its needs: clergy, missionaries, iconographers, choir directors, educators, and laity.

Short-Term Objectives of the Institution

The initial strategy in establishing this institution was to form relationships with existing Schools of Theology. St. Sava School of Theology applied for and received a Charter from the Holy Assembly of Bishops and the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Serbian Orthodox Church, and has met the requirements for Operating Authority in Illinois. On that basis, the School has also received authority to grant the Bachelor of Divinity Degree. The institution is by nature a small one, with a specialized program for students interested in the priesthood and/or preparation for advanced studies in Orthodox Christian Theology. Facilities have been secured for housing and boarding of students, classroom space, and the beginnings of a specialized library. Cooperative programs with other theological schools, library usage, and exchange of instructors have been planned. The School operates its program in accordance with the American model, in order to comply with State Board of Higher Education requirements.

Funding is provided by an annual budget proposed by the School and adopted and implemented by the Board of Trustees and the Holy Synod of the Serbian Orthodox Church. As the needs of the School grow, the budget is adjusted accordingly. Financial support is sought from all Dioceses and Church congregations comprising the Church.

Academic Control

Board of Trustees (Directors). The governing board of the institution, known as the Board of Trustees, is comprised of seven (7) Trustees (Directors). The Board maintains an Executive Committee to conduct School business between Board meetings, as the Trustees authorize, and a Finance Committee to exercise general supervision over the School's finances for its support and maintenance. The Board of Trustees oversees the proper functioning of the School plant, faculty, student body, and finances, as provided for by the laws and ordinances of the School and as required by relevant Church, academic, and civil authorities.

The design and conduct of the degree program follow requirements prescribed by the Holy Synod of the Serbian Orthodox Church and approved by the Holy Assembly of Bishops for general theological curriculum standards.

Faculty Council

The Faculty Council is responsible for implementing the approved degree requirements set by the Higher Education authorities of the State of Illinois. The School will seek membership in the Association of Theological Schools to help ensure the continued quality of its program. Student evaluations are conducted in the Spring of the Sophomore and Junior years and in the Fall of the Senior year, to help students discern their own vocational path with the aid of a career-assessment process. This is supplemented by the faculty's evaluation and recommendation regarding a student's candidacy for ordination. An internship diagnosis, carried out in the context of the Teaching Parish Team, helps students recognize the ministerial areas in which they most need to grow, and a post-internship review involves the faculty's evaluation of the student's overall fitness for ministry.

Board of Trustees

His Eminence Metropolitan Longin	Chairman of the Board of Trustees
V. Rev. Dr. Aleksandar Novakovic	Dean of the School
Archimandrite Sergije Puskar	Vice President
V. Rev. Radovan Jakovljevic	Trustee
V. Rev. Jovan Marjanac	Trustee
Mr. Ljubisa Milicic	Trustee
Mr. John Ostojic	Trustee

School Calendar

Fall Semester 2026

Event	Day	Date
Invocation of the Holy Spirit	Monday	Sept. 07
Registration and Class Start	Tuesday	Sept. 08
Nativity of the Most Holy Mother of God	Monday	Sept. 21
Elevation of the Cross	Sunday	Sept. 27
Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos	Wednesday	Oct. 14
Holy Venerable Parasceve – St. Petka	Tuesday	Oct. 27
Saint Great-Martyr Demetrios	Sunday	Nov. 08
Saint Archangel Michael	Saturday	Nov. 21
Thanksgiving	Thursday	Nov. 26
The Entrance of the Most Holy Theotokos	Friday	Dec. 04
The End of Classes	Tuesday	Dec. 08
Exams	Wednesday	Dec. 09
St. Mardarije	Saturday	Dec. 12
St. Nicholas the Wonderworker	Saturday	Dec. 19
The End of Semester	Thursday	Dec. 24

Spring Semester 2027

Event	Day	Date
Classes Begin	Monday	Jan. 25
Saint Sava – School Slava	Wednesday	Jan. 27
School Annual Program – Academia	Saturday	Feb. 06
Holy Three Hierarchs	Friday	Feb. 12
Meeting of Our Lord Jesus Christ	Monday	Feb. 15
First Week of Great Lent	Monday	Mar. 15
Annunciation	Wednesday	Apr. 07
Passion Week	Mon.–Sat.	Apr. 26–May 01
Bright Week and Pascha	Sun.–Sun.	May 02–09
Saint Great-Martyr George	Thursday	May 06
Saint Basil of Ostrog	Wednesday	May 12
Classes End and Exams	Friday	May 21
Sts. Cyril and Methodius	Monday	May 24
The End of Semester	Friday	June 04
Ascension	Thursday	June 10

Facilities, Equipment and Library



St. Sava Monastery Camp Building, Libertyville, Illinois

The Dormitory, classrooms, and refectory of the School of Theology are housed in the St. Sava and New Gracanica Monastery Camp Building during the school year. Other facilities are located in various places on the monastery grounds. Facilities consist of the following:

- A large red building with a common dining hall, kitchen, recreation room, classrooms, dormitory rooms for student housing, a student lounge, and an office.
- A church for worship.
- A frame library building with three areas for bookshelves, a catalog room with a computer, and a one-room office.



New Gracanica Monastery Camp Building

Dormitory & Church Life

All full-time students reside in the school dormitory and are expected to abide by the rules governing all aspects of student life. While at St. Sava, students are responsible for the proper maintenance of cleanliness in the dorm, the church, and the sanctuary, for dining-room assistance, and for other duties as assigned. Responsibilities are assigned by the Dean of Students, who oversees student life and activities on campus. He is responsible for the weekly schedule of cantors, as well as students' regular attendance at all worship services. He also coordinates dining-room assistance schedules and inspects student rooms and other facilities used by students.

Professors and students are actively involved in the church life of the Serbian Orthodox Church, especially in the Midwestern Diocese. Matins and Vespers are served daily at St. Sava and New Gracanica Monastery, along with Vigils and Divine Liturgies according to the Church calendar. Students preach at services throughout the Midwestern Diocese and give concerts of sacred music. During the summer, and when possible, the student chorus travels to other Dioceses on concert tours on behalf of the School. The student chorus has released its first CD of sacred music for distribution among the parishes, for the benefit of the School.



Students and Faculty following the Invocation of the Holy Spirit, opening the 2026/2027 academic year

Board of Education

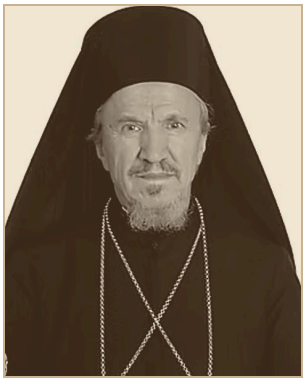
Faculty



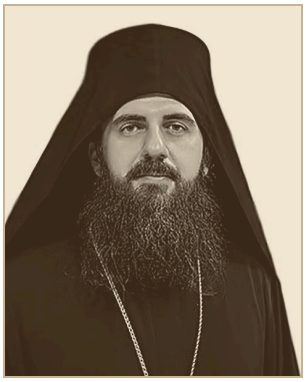
V. Rev. Dr. Aleksandar Novakovic
Dean · Assistant Professor · Church Mission



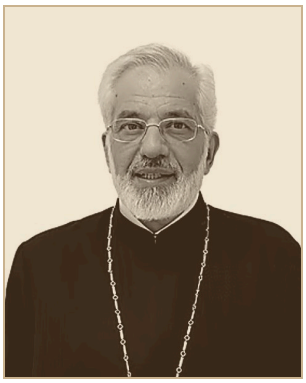
V. Rev. Dr. Mile Subotic
Academic Dean / Provost · Assistant Professor · History of the Serbian Orthodox Church, Homiletics



Metropolitan Mitrofan (Kodic)
Metropolitan of Canada · Professor · New Testament



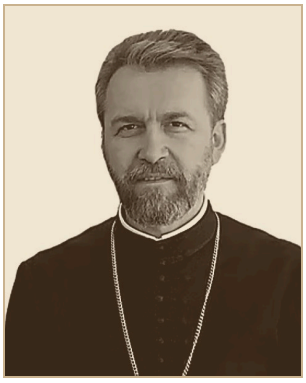
V. Rev. Dr. Archimandrite Sergije (Puskar)
Dean of Students · Assistant Professor · English, American Christianity



V. Rev. Stavrophor Dr. Milos Vesin
Adjunct Professor · Pastoral Theology



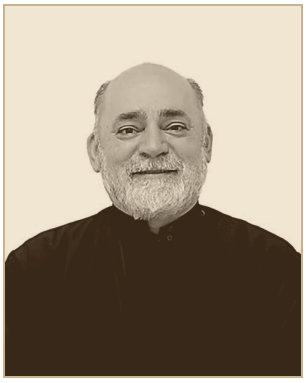
V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic
Associate Professor · Old Testament, Old Slavonic, Hebrew



V. Rev. Stavrophor Zivojin Jakovljevic, PhD
Assistant Professor · Canon and Church Law



V. Rev. Stavrophor Miroslav Simijonovic, PhD
Associate Professor · Liturgics, Architecture and Church Art



V. Rev. Branislav Koncarevic, PhD
Assistant Professor · Introduction to Orthodox Theology, Philosophy, Christian Ethics



V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD
Assistant Professor · Patristics, Dogmatic Theology, Greek



V. Rev. Nemanja Tesic, MTh
Assistant · New Testament



Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh
Lecturer · Church Chant, Old Slavonic, Canon and Church Law



Dr. Ruzica Maric

Assistant Professor · Church History and Religious Education



Prof. Zoran Milosevic, PhD

Adjunct Professor · Science Survey and Mathematics



Mr. Ivan Kovacevic

Lecturer · English

Tuition

Per Semester

1. Tuition	$2,000.00
2. Room and Board	$3,000.00
3. Registration Fee	$15.00
4. Entrance Examination	$25.00
5. Late Registration Fee	$50.00
6. Graduation Fee	$100.00
7. Make-Up Exam Fee	$100.00 per credit hour

School Finances

The School's fiscal year runs from January 1 to December 31, coinciding with the National Church's fiscal year for budget purposes. The School receives no government or private grants. Church congregations and other local church organizations contribute annually to the Theological School Foundation Fund, which supplements the School's budget in accordance with the adopted budget. Other sources of income include private, voluntary donations and contributions to the Student Aid Fund for scholarships.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available only to students preparing for ordination to the priesthood. Stipends are considered loans by the School, pending ordination and Church service after graduation. Applicants in need of school loans should submit applications, if qualified, to the School's Financial Aid Office no later than July 10.

Credit Hours Required

First Grade

Fall Semester	Cr.	Spring Semester	Cr.
Old Testament 1	3	Old Testament 2	3
Intro. to Orthodox Theology 1	2	Intro. to Orthodox Theology 2	2
Liturgical Chant 1	2	Liturgical Chant 2	2
English 1	2	English 2	2
Hebrew 1	2	Hebrew 2	2
Greek 1	2	Greek 2	2
Old Slavonic 1	1	Old Slavonic 2	1
Philosophy 1	3	Philosophy 2	3
Serbian – Elective	—	Serbian – Elective	—
Total Credits	**17**	**Total Credits**	**17**

Second Grade

Fall Semester	Cr.	Spring Semester	Cr.
Old Testament 3	3	Old Testament 4	3
New Testament 1	3	New Testament 2	3
Church History 1	3	Church History 2	3
Patristics 1	2	Patristics 2	2
Liturgical Chant 3	2	Liturgical Chant 4	2
English 3	2	English 4	2
Old Slavonic 1	2	Old Slavonic 2	2
Greek 3	2	Greek 4	2
Total Credits	**19**	**Total Credits**	**19**

Third Grade

Fall Semester	Cr.	Spring Semester	Cr.
New Testament 3	3	New Testament 4	3
Dogmatic Theology 1	3	Dogmatic Theology 2	3
Christian Ethics 1	3	Christian Ethics 2	3
Serbian Church History 1	3	Serbian Church History 2	3
Patristics 3	2	Patristics 4	2
English 5	2	English 6	2
Science 121	4	Mathematics 101	3
Parish Practicum 1	1	Parish Practicum 2	1
		American Christianity	2
Total Credits	**21**	**Total Credits**	**22**

Fourth Grade

Fall Semester	Cr.	Spring Semester	Cr.
Canon and Church Law 1	4	Canon and Church Law 2	3
Religious Education 1	3	Religious Education 2	3
Pastoral Theology 1	3	Pastoral Theology 2	3
Homiletics 1	2	Homiletics 2	2
Liturgics 1	3	Liturgics 2	3
Church Mission 1	3	Church Mission 2	3
English 7	2	English 8	2
Total Credits	**20**	**Total Credits**	**19**

Grading Policies

Grade	Description	GPA	Grade	Description	GPA
A+	Excellent	4.0	C+	Satisfactory	2.3
A	Excellent	4.0	C	Passing	2.0
A−	Very Good	3.7	C−	Passing	1.7
B+	Good	3.3	D	Needs Improvement	1.3
B	Good	3.0	F	Failing	0.0
B−	Satisfactory	2.7			

Only transfer credits compatible with this School's program are counted toward graduation. An Incomplete grade may remain on a student's record for one semester only, following the semester in which it was received; failure to remove the Incomplete by the end of the probationary semester results in an automatic grade of F. Only one make-up exam is permitted in any failed course, within two weeks of the end of the semester. Students who fail an examination and are permitted to take a re-examination or complete course remediation will be assessed a fee of $100.00 per credit hour, charged to the student's account. Failure of the make-up exam requires that the course be repeated and passed with no further make-up exam; repeated failure will result in dismissal from the School.

A student who demonstrates poor performance during the first semester will be placed on probation for the following semester, or else required to withdraw from further study. Continued enrollment for a student on probation depends on overall performance for the full school year. Persons wishing to audit courses must be properly registered.

Further student evaluations are conducted during the Spring semester of the second and third years, and in the Fall of the fourth year, to help students determine their own vocational decisions with the aid of a career-assessment program. These evaluations are supplemented by the faculty's recommendations regarding a student's candidacy for ordination. Parish Practicum is evaluated in the context of the Parish Teaching Team; a post-internship review involves the faculty's final evaluation of the student's overall fitness for ministry.

Official transcripts are issued only directly to other academic institutions. Requests may be made in writing or in person; telephone requests are not accepted. Students may request an unofficial transcript from the Registrar's Office for a fee of $50.00.

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements for the School of Theology include graduation from High School, Junior College, College, or a Middle Orthodox Seminary with grades of A and B, or a grade point average of 3.0, and passing of an entrance examination.

Bachelor of Divinity Degree Requirements

- The number of credits accepted in transfer from other institutions is determined by the nature of the sending institution and whether the courses submitted are equivalent to courses offered at this School. Transferring students must complete the prescribed curriculum of this School; full credit is awarded for equivalent language courses.
- Life-experience credit is determined by evaluation of relevant Church service — such as liturgical chant with rubrics, administration — and demonstrated proficiency in the languages offered by this School.
- Proficiency-examination credit is accepted only for liturgical chant, rubrics, and languages offered by this School; the corresponding course is waived if the candidate demonstrates proficiency of a grade of B or higher.
- The grade point average required for advancement and graduation is 2.50.
- The residency requirement for all full-time students is four years. Transfer students and special students requiring evaluation must satisfy a minimum of one year's residency, or more as required, to complete all graduation requirements.
- The time limit for completion of the program is four years.
- A certificate from the School Librarian confirming that all library books have been returned must be submitted.
- Every student is graded annually for attendance and participation at daily and festal worship services; the grade is recorded on the transcript under Practicum. Failure is taken into account in determining whether the student may continue studies. Only one make-up exam is permitted, within two weeks of finals; the course must otherwise be repeated and passed, with no make-up exam, for graduation.

Admission Application

Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology

Check one: ☐ Bachelor of Divinity ☐ Non-Degree (Special Student)

Applicant Information

Applicant's Name: _____ (first) _____ (middle) _____ (last)

Permanent Home Address: _____

City / State / Country / Zip: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Cell: _____

Summer Address (if different): _____

Personal Data

Place of Birth: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Father's Name: _____ Living? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Mother's Name: _____ Living? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Social Security No.: _____ Citizenship: _____

Marital Status: ☐ Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced

Name of Spouse: _____

Place & Date of Marriage: _____

Children (Names and Dates of Birth): _____

Education

High School — Name: _____ Location: _____

Year Graduated: _____

Seminary — Name: _____ Location: _____ Year Graduated: _____ Degree: _____

College or University — Name: _____ Location: _____ Year Graduated: _____ Degree: _____

Academic Awards, Honors, Organizations, Offices, Scholarships, etc.:

_____

Special Talents, Interests, Hobbies, etc.: _____

Languages (Speaking / Reading / Writing — proficiency 1–5, native):

_____

Occupational Experience (most recent first, including military service):

Position	Employer	Dates

Church Affiliation

Parish: _____ Diocese: _____

Address: _____

Name of Priest: _____

Baptism — Place: _____ Date: _____

Chrismation — Place: _____ Date: _____

Church service or offices held (church school, vacation school, camp, parish or diocesan committees):

_____

Is it your intention to prepare for ordination to the priesthood? _____

Do you have the blessing of your Diocesan Bishop to study for the priesthood? _____

Name of Bishop: _____

Finances

Explain how you plan to meet expenses during your studies at St. Sava School of Theology in Libertyville, Illinois:

_____

_____

_____

References

List the names of those from whom you are requesting letters of recommendation:

1. Your Priest: _____
2. Administrator or counselor at the last school attended: _____
3. A teacher in your major field of study: _____
4. Another academic reference: _____
5. Another priest, teacher, or employer: _____

I understand my rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. Please choose one:

☐ I would like to have access to letters written on my behalf.

☐ It is my desire that these letters be written in confidence, and I therefore waive any right of access I may have to them.

If you have been out of school for some time, you may substitute the names of persons familiar with your academic abilities and background from more recent courses, workshops, or seminars. Please include each person's name, position, and address.

Application Instructions

Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology · P.O. Box 519 · Libertyville, IL 60048 · (847) 816-6127 · www.stsava.org

A completed application must be submitted with the following:

- Birth certificate.
- Baptismal certificate.
- Medical examination certificate.
- Transcripts from all high schools, colleges, and universities attended, sent directly to the Director of Admissions at St. Sava School.
- A short autobiography, including a statement of how education from St. Sava Serbian School of Theology will be used in service to the Church.
- References — names and addresses of two people you plan to use as references. It is your responsibility to personally contact those individuals and request the recommendations.
- A photograph of yourself.
- A letter of endorsement (blessing) from your Diocesan Bishop.
- A non-refundable fee of $15.00 must accompany the application.

Applicants in need of financial aid should inquire with their respective Diocesan authorities as to what student loans, or co-signing of student loans, are available, and the terms and conditions governing such loans.

Application Deadline: all applications must be received no later than July 10, and are acted upon by July 15. Applicants are notified as soon as a decision is reached.

Course Schedule and Description

First Year — Fall Semester

B.101 Old Testament I (with Archaeology and Biblical History)

Prophets. Historical setting. Theological message. Evolution of Theology and Revelation.

Tue. & Fri. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

Phil.107 Philosophy (Introduction and History of Philosophy)

Historical development of philosophy and analysis of ideas from the pre-Socratic period up to Descartes.

Tue. & Wed. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Branislav Koncarevic, PhD

M.160 Liturgical Chant with Rubrics I

Introduction to the theory of Church music. Development of Church music in early Christianity. Development of the eight Church tones. Practical instruction in singing the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th tones. Development of the Typikon.

Mon. 11:00–12:30 PM · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

L.121 English I

Designed for students of English as a second language. Provides a basic foundation in speaking, reading, and writing, with particular emphasis on grammar and vocabulary development.

Mon. 1:00–2:30 PM & Thu. 2:30–4:00 PM · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Ivan Kovacevic

Hebrew I

Reading. Grammar.

Thu. 11:00–12:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

B.141 Greek I

Reading. Grammar.

Mon. 9:30–11:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

L.150 Old Slavonic I

History of the language. Paleography of Old Slavonic: reading, analysis, and reconstruction of manuscripts.

Thu. 9:30–11:00 · **1 Cr. Hr.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

L.111 Serbian I

Introduction and elements of the Serbian language. Serbian composition. History of the language. Grammar, reading.

Fri. 5:00–6:00 PM · **1 Cr. Hr.** · Staff

TH.170 Introduction to Orthodox Theology I

The formation of Orthodox theology. The necessity, nature, purpose, and methodology of theology. Scripture and Tradition. Revelation, faith, and reason. The sacraments and the spiritual life. The practice of prayer and ascetic effort in the Orthodox Church.

Mon. 6:00–7:00 PM · Wed. 9:30–10:30 AM · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Branislav Koncarevic, PhD

First Year — Spring Semester

B.102 Old Testament II — Psalms

Literal and theological character of the Psalms. Historical setting of individual psalms. Emphasis on the Messianic character of the Psalms, on God as King, and on His Kingdom in the process of becoming.

Mon. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

---

Phil.108 Philosophy (continued)

Continuation of Phil.107, covering Descartes, Locke, Kant, Marx, Kierkegaard, and Dewey.

Tue. & Wed. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Branislav Koncarevic, PhD

M.160 Liturgical Chant with Rubrics II

History of Orthodox Church music in the second millennium. Retrospective of other musical traditions in Christianity. Development of the Festive cycle in Orthodox worship. Practical instruction in singing the Festive cycle (major fasts and feasts of saints). Theological, historical, and poetical analysis of the Festive cycle.

Mon. 9:30–11:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

L.122 English II

Continuation of L.121.

Tue. & Thu. 2:30–4:00 PM · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Ivan Kovacevic

---

B.132 Hebrew II

Reading of various Biblical texts. Linguistic and theological analysis.

Thu. 9:30–11:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

---

B.142 Greek II

Linguistic and theological analysis of ten to fifteen chapters of the New Testament.

Thu. 11:00–12:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

L.151 Old Slavonic II

Continuation of L.150.

Fri. 11:00–12:30 · **1 Cr. Hr.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

---

L.112 Serbian II

Continuation of L.111 — reading, grammar, composition.

Fri. 5:00–6:00 PM · **1 Cr. Hr.** · Staff

TH.171 Introduction to Orthodox Theology II

Introduction to Church History from the Council of Nicaea through the Seventh Ecumenical Council. Pascha and the feasts of the Orthodox Church. The fasts of the Orthodox Church.

Mon. 6:00–7:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Branislav Koncarevic, PhD

Second Year — Fall Semester

B.201 Old Testament III (Old Testament Didactics)

Tue. 9:30–11:00 & Fri. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

---

B.210 New Testament I

A presentation of the books of the New Testament from the viewpoints of their literary composition, historical origins and faith testimony, and their theological content as understood in the patristic tradition. A study of the literary, historical, and theological formation of the Gospels and Acts, emphasizing Jesus' teachings and miracles, His Passion, Resurrection, and Pentecost.

Wed. & Thu. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Most Rev. Mitrofan (Kodic) · V. Rev. Nemanja Tesic, MTh

---

H.215 Church History I

The beginnings of the Church. The Church and the Graeco-Roman world. The Age of the Ecumenical Councils.

Tue. 1:00–2:30 & Wed. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Dr. Ruzica Maric

---

T.330 Patristics I

Early Christian apostolic fathers and their writings. Apologists. The Alexandrian and Antiochian schools and their representatives.

Wed. 1:00–2:30 PM · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

M.261 Liturgical Chant with Rubrics III

History of Orthodox Church music. Theological, historical, and poetical analysis of the Oktoihon. Practical instruction in singing the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th tones. Service order for the daily and weekly cycle of worship.

Mon. 9:30–11:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

L.207 English III

Concentrates on reading comprehension, composition writing, and vocabulary development.

Mon. 2:30–4:00 · Thu. 2:30–4:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Ivan Kovacevic

---

B.241 Greek III

Linguistic and theological analysis of New Testament texts.

Mon. 11:00–12:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

L.211 Serbian III

Conversation, vocabulary, grammar, composition.

Fri. 3:30–5:00 PM · **1 Cr. Hr.** · Staff

L.204 Old Slavonic

Reading, analysis, and translation of festal services.

Fri. 11:00–12:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

---

Choir for Worship — All Students

Thu. 4:00–5:00 · Staff

Second Year — Spring Semester

B.202 Old Testament IV

Old Testament anthropology.

Mon. 11:00–12:30 & Fri. 1:00–2:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic

---

B.211 New Testament II

St. Paul and his epistles: his conversion and call, missionary activities, and imprisonments, as depicted in the Acts of the Apostles and in his letters. Pauline theology: Christology, Pneumatology, Ecclesiology, and Eschatology. Christ and the Church. The Captivity Epistles — a close study of Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, and Ephesians. A study of Romans and Hebrews, and Christ as the High Priest, with particular attention to Kenosis and the Incarnation, Christ as head of the old and new creation, the question of life "in Christ," and images of the Church (Body, Household of God, Bride of Christ).

Wed. & Thu. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Most Rev. Mitrofan (Kodic) · V. Rev. Nemanja Tesic, MTh

---

H.216 Church History II

Byzantium and Rome. The Schism of 1054. The Crusades. Attempts at reunification. Byzantium and the Slavs. The Church under the Turkish yoke.

Tue. & Wed. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Dr. Ruzica Maric

T.331 Patristics II

The Alexandrian and Antiochian theological schools and their representatives. The Golden Age of patristic literature (fourth century). Fathers of the Church from the 5th to the 8th century, and the Ascetic Fathers.

Tue. & Fri. 11:00–12:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

M.262 Liturgical Chant IV

Development of the Lenten cycle. Practical instruction in singing the Lenten cycle. Theological, historical, and poetical analysis. Service order for the Festive and Lenten cycles, and irregularities within the cycle. History, development, and styles of polyphony in the Orthodox Church.

Mon. 9:30–11:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

L.212 Serbian IV

Conversation, vocabulary, grammar, composition.

Fri. 3:30–5:00 PM · **1 Cr. Hr.** · Staff

L.208 English IV

Continuation of L.207.

Wed. 1:00–2:30 · Thu. 2:30–4:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Ivan Kovacevic

---

B.242 Greek IV

Linguistic and theological analysis of New Testament texts.

Thu. 1:00–2:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

L.205 Old Slavonic

Reading, analysis, and translation of festal services.

Mon. 2:30–4:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Predrag Samardzic · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

---

Choir for Worship — All Students

Thu. 4:00–5:00 · Staff

Third Year — Fall Semester

B.310 New Testament III

Epistles to the Thessalonians: purpose, date, authorship, and contents; the Parousia. The Pastoral Epistles and their authenticity. The Universal Epistles: the Epistle of James, the First and Second Epistles of Peter, and the Epistle of Jude.

Wed. & Thu. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Most Rev. Mitrofan (Kodic) · V. Rev. Nemanja Tesic, MTh

---

T.310 Dogmatic Theology I (with Comparative Theology and History of Religion)

Study of Revelation, God's Being, the Holy Trinity, God as Creator, Christology, and Soteriology.

Wed. 11:00–12:30 & Fri. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

E.330 Christian Ethics I

The study of Fundamental Ethics (moral law, conscience, freedom of will) and basic trends in philosophical ethics.

Mon. 9:30–10:30 · Tue. 10:00–11:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Branislav Koncarevic, PhD

TH.331 Patristics III

A study of the Church Fathers from the ninth century, beginning with Photius the Great, through Gregory Palamas, and the theology and historical context of their times.

Fri. 10:00–11:00 AM · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

H.315 History of the Serbian Church I

Historical aspects of the development of the Serbian Orthodox Church. The Autocephaly of the Church, and relations between Church and Serbian State.

Mon. & Thu. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Mile Subotic

---

L.307 English V

Students work on improving writing skills, vocabulary development, and reading comprehension.

Mon. 2:30–4:00 · Thu. 2:30–4:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Ivan Kovacevic

Sci.121 Science Survey

Provides the information needed for scientific literacy, filling gaps in traditional secondary-school preparation and encouraging insightful interpretation of daily events. Major scientific concepts in astronomy, biology, chemistry, geology, and physics, with emphasis on their place in the history of science. Demonstrations and hands-on activities provide laboratory exposure.

Tue. & Thu. 6:00–7:30 PM · **4 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Zoran Milosevic, PhD

I/M.301 Practicum — Teaching Parish Program

Twenty hours of supervised work in a parish-ministry related course.

1 Cr. Hr. · Parish Priest

Third Year — Spring Semester

B.311 New Testament IV

The Johannine Literature: John's Gospel in relation to the Synoptics; the Johannine Epistles I, II, III; the Book of Revelation (authorship and contents), with special presentation of the Last Judgement and the appearance of the King of Kings.

Wed. & Thu. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Most Rev. Mitrofan (Kodic) · V. Rev. Nemanja Tesic, MTh

T.311 Dogmatic Theology II

The study of Pneumatology, Ecclesiology, and contemporary world religions (monotheism and polytheism).

Mon. & Thu. 2:30–4:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

T.331 Christian Ethics II

History of Ethics; biblical and patristic Christian ethics (virtue and sin); social ethics (abortion, sterilization, and euthanasia).

Wed. 11:30–12:30 & 1:00–2:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Branislav Koncarevic, PhD

TH.332 Patristics IV

Church Fathers and writers of the late Byzantine period — e.g., Marcus Eugenicus, Gennadius Scholarios, and others — the "Ways of Serbian and Russian Theology," and modern Neopatristic theology (G. Florovsky, J. Popovic, J. A. Jevtic, Ch. Yannaras, and others).

Tue. 9:30–11:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Protodeacon Jovan Anicic, PhD

H.316 History of the Serbian Church II

Continuation of H.315: the history of the Serbian Patriarchate before the Turkish conquest, the Church's revival up to the twentieth century, and the history of the Serbian Patriarchate in Yugoslavia. Development of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. and Canada.

Tue. & Thu. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Mile Subotic

---

L.308 English VI

Continuation of L.307, with continued skill development.

Tue. 1:00–2:30 · Thu. 2:30–4:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Ivan Kovacevic

---

MTH.121 Fundamentals of Mathematics

Modern concepts of number theory, logic, sets, Euclidean geometry, probability, statistics, and related topics; for elementary-education majors and also appropriate for general education. Calculator and computer use is integrated with course concepts.

Tue. & Thu. 6:00–7:30 PM · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Mr. Zoran Milosevic, PhD

American Christianity

An introduction to the history and forms of Christian belief and practice in the United States and adjoining areas, relating this history to the contemporary shape and belief-systems of American society in terms of American "self-identity" and American attitudes toward religious belief and "the Church" in general.

Mon. 11:00–12:30 PM · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Archimandrite Sergije (Puskar)

I/M.301 Practicum — Teaching Parish Program

Twenty hours of supervised work in a parish-ministry related course.

1 Cr. Hr. · Parish Priest

Choir for Worship — All Students

Thu. 4:00–5:00 PM · Staff

Fourth Year — Fall Semester

M.401 Religious Education — Catechetics I

Introduction to the History and Philosophy of Education. Lectures and analysis of issues, principles, and aims of education from theological, philosophical, and historical points of view.

Tue. & Wed. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Mrs. Dr. Ruzica Maric

T.420 Pastoral Theology I

A lecture-discussion series on a variety of topics within the field of pastoral theology, pastoral care, and pastoral psychology.

Thu. 9:30–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Stavrophor Dr. Milos Vesin

M.440 Homiletics I

Introduction; the relationship of theology to homiletics; the preaching of our Lord Jesus Christ; the preaching of the Holy Apostles and their immediate successors; the Golden Age of Christian homiletics (fourth and fifth centuries).

Thu. 1:00–2:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Mile Subotic

M.433 Liturgics I (with Christian Archaeology & Church Art)

An introduction to liturgical theology: its task, method, and plan. Jewish background. The church building. History of Christian chant. Prayer in the Eastern Orthodox tradition. Byzantine poetical forms and chants of the 5th–6th centuries. The liturgical books. The reading of Holy Scripture. Symbols. Development of the Eucharistic prayer from the Chaburah and Passover Seder through the early Christian centuries and traditions.

Tue. & Fri. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Stavrophor Miroslav Simijonovic, PhD

T.435 Canon Law and Church Law I & Administration

Studies concerning the institutional and legal nature of Church structure, the concept of Church law within an organized society, and the material and formal sources for the study of Church law. Organizational aspects and relations with Western and Eastern states from 313 A.D. to the present. Organization of the Serbian Orthodox Church, relations with other confessions and influences. Parish administrative functions, official procedures and documentation, official acts, and relations with congregations and various committees and organizations, and School administration.

Mon. 1:00–2:30 · Fri. 11:00–12:30 · **4 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Stavrophor Zivojin Jakovljevic, PhD · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

L.407 English VII

Designed for high-intermediate to advanced-level study. Students read a variety of novels, short stories, plays, and poetry representing major American writers, with discussions and writing about major literary themes.

Tue. 1:00–3:00 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Archimandrite Sergije Puskar, PhD

M.410 Mission & Senior Seminar I

Students spend twenty hours of supervised work in parish-ministry related activities.

Mon. 9:30–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Aleksandar Novakovic

---

Fourth Year — Spring Semester

M.434 Liturgics II (with Christian Archaeology and Church Art)

Daily, weekly, and yearly cycles of worship. Liturgical worship and Christian life today. Pascha and the major feasts of the Orthodox Church: their origin, basic liturgical structures, and theological meaning. Church art from the earliest Christian centuries to the present day — the function of art, symbol, and architecture in the worshiping life of the Church. The theology of the icon.

Fri. 9:30–11:00 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Stavrophor Miroslav Simijonovic, PhD

L.408 English VIII

Continuation of L.407.

Tue. 1:00–2:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Archimandrite Sergije Puskar

---

T.436 Canon Law and Church Law II

Marital law, Church administration, and Church juridical procedures.

Tue. 9:30–11:00 · Fri. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Stavrophor Zivojin Jakovljevic, PhD · Rev. Dragan Arsic, MTh

---

M.402 Religious Education — Catechetics II

Continuation of M.401, addressing modern theories including Behaviorism, psychoanalysis, and Pragmatism.

Tue. & Wed. 11:00–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · Dr. Ruzica Maric

T.421 Pastoral Theology II

Creative ministry sessions emphasizing the Orthodox priest's identity within the context of the parish, and his role as pastor and shepherd of souls.

Thu. 9:30–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Stavrophor Dr. Milos Vesin

M.441 Homiletics II

Types of preaching by content: homilies, festal and special occasions. Parts of a sermon: introduction, body, and conclusion. Reference work for preaching. The personality of the preacher and practical presentation in church.

Thu. 1:00–2:30 · **2 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Mile Subotic

M.410 Mission & Senior Seminar II

Students spend twenty hours of supervised work in parish-ministry related activities.

Mon. 9:30–12:30 · **3 Cr. Hrs.** · V. Rev. Dr. Aleksandar Novakovic

Choir for Worship — All Students

Thu. 2:30–4:00 PM · Staff

Graduates, upon ordination, are appointed to parishes in one of the four dioceses of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. and Canada — as pastors, as second priests, or as personnel in the Religious Education departments of the respective dioceses or parishes. Some graduates continue postgraduate studies at various theological institutions or universities. Graduates who have not yet committed to marriage or monastic tonsure usually begin active ministry even before ordination, either in the U.S., in Canada, or in their home Diocese abroad. Some pursue postgraduate studies and actively serve in the Religious Education ministry of the Church, earning advanced degrees. Over one hundred graduates have been ordained to the priesthood.

Forty Years of St. Sava School of Theology

1986–2026

St. Sava School of Theology in Libertyville, Illinois, is a significant institution of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North America — since its founding in 1986, the only institution of higher theological education for Serbs and the Serbian Orthodox Church in the Western Hemisphere. Nearly two hundred students have graduated from the School, most of whom now serve the Church and Orthodox communities throughout the world.

Historical Roots

Although formally established in 1986, the School's origins reach back centuries, beginning with the Theological College founded in Petrovaradin in 1741. The vision for a Serbian theological school in America was born in the 1930s with Bishop Mardarije (Uskokovic), though economic hardship and global upheaval delayed its realization. A short-lived theological school did operate at St. Sava Monastery beginning in 1945, with Bishop Nikolaj (Velimirovic) among its teachers and Bishop Dionisije (Milivojevic) providing oversight — laying the spiritual and educational foundation for the School that exists today.

Founding and Growth

Growing calls from Church leadership and Serbian-American communities through the 1970s and '80s pointed to the need for a permanent institution of theological education in North America. That call was answered in 1986, when a branch of the Faculty of Orthodox Theology of the Serbian Orthodox Church (Belgrade) opened at St. Sava Monastery under the leadership of Bishop Sava (Vukovic) and later Metropolitan Christopher (Kovacevic). From 1988 to 1996, the School was affiliated with the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, connecting Serbian faculty and students to broader American theological networks; in 1988 the branch became an independent School of Theology, recognized by both the Serbian Orthodox Church and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Over the following four decades, graduates have gone on to serve as parish priests and deacons, diocesan officials, religious educators, and missionaries throughout North America, Europe, and the Serbian homeland — some returning to the School as faculty, sustaining a living connection between past and present.

A Unifying Mission

Though originally founded for American-born Serbian students, the School has, over time, drawn most of its candidates from the Serbian homeland — a development that has helped preserve the Serbian language, traditional church chant, and liturgical practice within diaspora parishes. Beyond its academic role, the School has played a significant part in preserving the unity of the Serbian Orthodox Church in America, particularly following the 1963 church schism; its graduates now serve across what were once divided ecclesiastical structures, contributing to reconciliation through shared pastoral ministry.

Recent Developments

Due to the deteriorating condition of the campus building at St. Sava Monastery, the School relocated temporarily in 2015 to New Gracanica Monastery in Third Lake, Illinois. The School has continued its mission with the support of dedicated clergy, faculty, and the faithful — notably through the fund established by the late benefactor Dragomir Nikolic, scholarships from the Vlastimir and Draginja Jocic Fund, and contributions from many devoted Serbian-Americans that help keep tuition accessible.



New Gracanica Monastery, Third Lake, Illinois — temporary home of the School since 2015

The School has also seen important institutional growth with the establishment of a School Council, chaired by His Eminence Archbishop and Metropolitan Longin (Krco), and has recently come under the direct jurisdiction of the Holy Assembly of Bishops of the Serbian Orthodox Church. With the personal support of His Holiness Serbian Patriarch Porfirije, the School continues to pursue full academic accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education,

having already received initial candidacy status, with full accreditation anticipated by summer 2027.

After forty years, St. Sava School of Theology remains true to the mission for which it was founded — forming, in the spirit of Orthodox tradition, generations of clergy, religious educators, and lay leaders in service to the Church of Christ.

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology in Libertyville, IL, is in active candidacy for accreditation with the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE), having already received initial candidacy status, with full accreditation anticipated by summer 2027. MSCHE is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). MSCHE accepts complaints and third-party comments for institutions engaged in the application and candidacy processes, and provides an online form for their submission on the Complaints page of its website. Please visit MSCHE's website at www.msche.org for more information.

Our mission is to serve the Serbian Orthodox Church by providing the highest level of education to our students. To serve the needs of the Church more fully, we also recognize the need to provide, in addition to academic education, human, spiritual, and pastoral formation. We accomplish our mission by integrating these four elements, thus successfully preparing students for service to the Church and its needs: clergy, missionaries, iconographers, choir directors, educators, and laity.

© 2027 Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology — All Rights Reserved



Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox School of Theology

Libertyville, Illinois · Est. 1988

P.O. Box 519, Libertyville, IL 60048

(847) 816-6127 · www.stsava.org