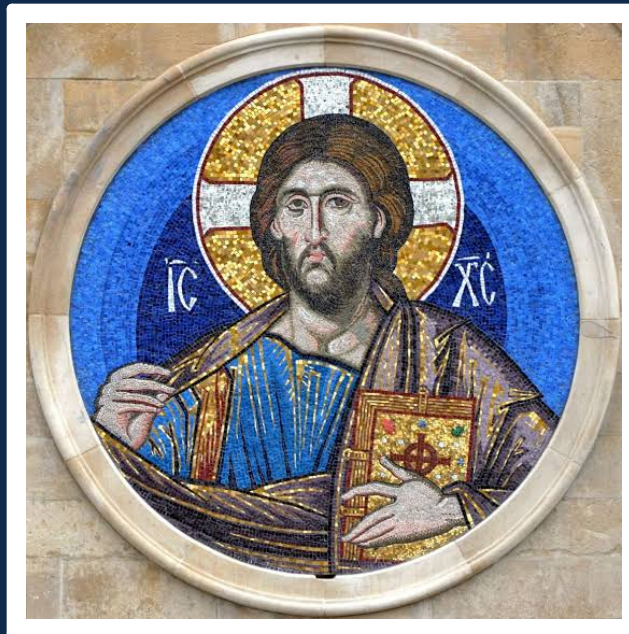




SERBIAN ORTHODOX YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE GUIDE

SABOR 2027 • CHICAGO

September 17-19, 2027



“That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You.”
John 17:21

WELCOME

Come as you are. Come ready to grow.

Помаже Бог!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, and dear youth and young adults,

With great joy, we invite young people ages 16–30 from Serbian Orthodox communities throughout North America to join us for SABOR 2027. This conference is organized with the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Longin of the Serbian Orthodox Diocese of New Gračanica and Midwestern America by the Youth Department of the Diocese.

*Our theme comes from the prayerful words of our Lord Jesus Christ:
“That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You.” (John 17:21)*

These words speak directly to our generation. In a world where it is easy to feel disconnected, divided, or uncertain about where we belong, Christ calls us toward something greater: unity in Him, fellowship with one another, and a life rooted in our Orthodox Tradition.

SABOR is an opportunity to step away from the noise and busyness of everyday life and come together as young people and future leaders of our Holy Serbian Orthodox Church. Whether you are deeply involved in your parish, beginning to reconnect with the Church, or simply curious and looking for answers, there is a place for you here.

**YOU ARE NOT SIMPLY THE FUTURE OF OUR CHURCH.
YOU ARE THE CHURCH TODAY.**

Come with your doubts. Come with your questions. Come with your hopes. Come with an open heart. Come ready to meet new people, make new friendships, deepen your faith, and discover your place within the life of the Church.

**Christ is in our midst!
He is and shall be!**

One Journey Through Three Sacred Places

Our conference will unfold across three significant locations in the life of our Serbian Orthodox community in North America. Each place tells part of our story; together they remind us that our faith has been planted, protected, and nurtured by generations of Serbian Orthodox Christians in America.



Holy Resurrection Cathedral

Chicago, Illinois

A spiritual home where generations have prayed, worshiped, educated their children, and carried the faith forward.



New Gračanica Monastery

Third Lake, Illinois

A center of prayer, education, fellowship, culture, and youth spiritual renewal.



St. Sava Monastery

Libertyville, Illinois

A historic spiritual center closely connected to the development of Serbian Orthodoxy in North America.

A conference across three sacred places is more than a change of scenery. It is an invitation to see our faith, our heritage, and our responsibility to the next generation as one continuous story.

Chicago, Illinois



A living Church in the heart of a major American city.

Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Cathedral is one of the important Serbian Orthodox communities in the Diocese of New Gračanica and Midwestern America. Located in Chicago, the Cathedral has been a spiritual home for generations of Serbian Orthodox faithful and is also home to St. Sava Academy, a dual-language elementary school.

Here, Serbian Orthodox Christians have gathered to pray, worship, educate their children, celebrate their traditions, and pass the faith from one generation to another. For our youth, the Cathedral offers a powerful reminder that Orthodoxy belongs wherever we are.

We do not have to choose between being authentically Orthodox and being fully engaged in American society. We are called to bring Christ with us wherever we go.

Third Lake, Illinois



The Monastery of the Protection of the Most Holy Mother of God is the diocesan headquarters and one of the central spiritual and cultural centers of Serbian Orthodoxy in the Midwest.

The church and principal buildings were completed and consecrated in 1984, and the church is an impressive architectural replica of the historic Gračanica Monastery in Kosovo and Metohija. The monastery is much more than a beautiful building: for decades it has been a place of prayer, education, fellowship, culture, and gathering.

It houses diocesan offices, educational facilities, a bookstore, a library, and facilities used for youth and children's programs. It has also hosted numerous youth retreats where young people gather for prayer, discussion, fellowship, and spiritual renewal.

New Gračanica stands as a powerful reminder of the connection between our Serbian heritage and our Orthodox faith. When we gather here, we stand within a story that stretches from the Serbian homeland to the Orthodox Church in North America.

Libertyville, Illinois



A historic spiritual center of Serbian Orthodoxy in America.

St. Sava Monastery in Libertyville is the oldest Serbian Orthodox monastery built in 1926. This holy shrine became one of the historic spiritual centers of Serbian Orthodoxy in America and is closely connected with the history and development of the Serbian Orthodox Church in North America.

The monastery has served generations of Serbian Orthodox Christians and became a center of the first Diocese of the Serbian Orthodox Church in the USA and Canada. It is especially connected with the legacy of St. Mardarije of Libertyville, whose vision and sacrifice helped establish a spiritual home for future generations of Serbian Orthodox Christians in America.

Today, the monastery continues to be a place of prayer, pilgrimage, fellowship, and spiritual formation. Recent diocesan youth activities have brought young people from different communities together on these sacred grounds.

At SABOR, this historic place becomes part of our present: a place where the next generation gathers, prays, learns, and grows together.

Speakers • Questions • Real Life

Introducing Our Speakers

We are honored to welcome a diverse group of speakers to this Youth Conference. Each speaker brings a unique perspective and experience, but all are united by one purpose: to engage young people in the realities and challenges of the world we live in today.

Throughout the conference, our speakers will address pressing issues facing contemporary society—from changing values and social pressures to questions of identity, purpose, relationships, and the influence of a rapidly changing culture.

The goal is not simply to provide answers, but to encourage honest reflection, meaningful dialogue, and deeper understanding. We hope our speakers will challenge us to think critically, listen openly, and consider how our faith can guide us as we navigate contemporary life.

WHO ARE WE?	Who are we as Orthodox Christians?
HOW DO WE LIVE?	What does it mean to live our faith in North America today?
HOW DO WE SERVE?	How can we strengthen our Serbian Orthodox community?
HOW DO WE UNITE?	How can we become more united as young people and as a Church?
HOW DO WE DRAW NEAR?	Most importantly, how can we draw closer to Christ?

Bring your questions. Listen openly. Leave inspired to live your Orthodox faith with courage, joy, and purpose.

THE WEEKEND

Schedule of Events

Friday • September 17, 2027

5:00-6:00 PM	Check-In & Registration
7:00 PM	Fellowship at Holy Resurrection Cathedral
11:00 PM	Akathist Prayer

Saturday • New Gračanica Monastery

9:00 AM	Matins
9:30-10:15 AM	Breakfast
10:30 AM-12:30 PM	Presentations
12:30-1:30 PM	Lunch
1:30-3:30 PM	Free Choice Activities / Fellowship
4:30-9:30 PM	Concert at St. Sava Monastery • Akathist • Dinner • Bonfire

Sunday

10:00 AM	Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
12:00 PM	Celebratory Banquet Lunch • Slava Bread Distribution for the Future Host
1:30 PM	Conclusion

Schedule is subject to change.

SABOR 2027

Serbian Orthodox Youth & Young Adult Conference

September 17-19, 2027 | Chicagoland, Illinois



Scan QR code to register
online at Eventbrite



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Full name *

Phone number *

Email address *

Parish name and location

Parish priest name *

Patron saint *

LEADERSHIP & PARTICIPATION

Leadership roles of interest at your parish or diocese *

Include any current role, title, and parish/diocese/organization served.

Days attending * (select all that apply)

☐ Friday, Sept. 17

☐ Saturday, Sept. 18

☐ Sunday, Sept. 19

MENU, COST & LODGING

Dietary restrictions * (select one)

☐ None

☐ Vegetarian

☐ Vegan

☐ Gluten-free

☐ Other: _____

Registration cost: \$250 per person *

☐ I acknowledge the cost. Payment accepted by credit card, check, Zelle, Venmo, or Cash App.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties, please reach out to us.

Lodging plan * (select one)

☐ Comfort Suites Grayslake (recommended): \$120 king / \$130 two queens

☐ Holiday Inn Chicago O'Hare: Saturday morning shuttle to New Gracanica

☐ Other hotel

☐ Commuting from home

EVENT LOCATIONS

Holy Resurrection Cathedral | 5701 N. Redwood Dr., Chicago, IL 60631

New Gracanica Monastery | 35240 W. Grant Ave., Third Lake, IL 60046

St. Sava Monastery | 32377 N. Milwaukee Ave., Libertyville, IL 60048

QUESTIONS & MAILING

PDn Jovan Anicic | saborsoyya@gmail.com | (312) 659-4723

Mail form/check and make checks out to Youth Department (Attn: Pdn Jovan Anicic)

35240 W Grant Ave., Third Lake, IL 60046

* Required



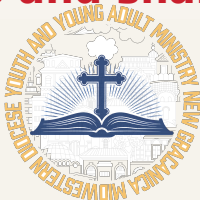
YOUR PLACE IS HERE.

SABOR 2027 is an invitation to encounter Christ, strengthen our Orthodox identity, build friendships, and discover how each of us can contribute to the life of the Church.

*Come with your doubts.
Come with your questions.
Come with your hopes.
Come with an open heart.*

*"That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You."
John 17:21*

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Youth and Young Adult Department, a Ministry of the
Serbian Orthodox Diocese of New Gračanica and Midwestern America