



ST. ATHANASIUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

300 Sumida Gardens Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Office hours: Tues-Fri. 12:00—5:00 p.m.

His Eminence, Metropolitan SABA

Pastor:

Fr. Symeon Halsell

805-685-5495

frsymeon@stathanasius.org

Priests attached to the parish:

Fr. Nicholas Speier (Pastor Emeritus)

Fr. John Carrillo (retired)

Fr. Jon Braun (retired)

Fr. John Finley (Archdiocese Dept. of Missions)

Deacons:

Dn. Gary Braun

Dn. Scott Jacobs (retired)

Dn. John Young (retired)

Subdeacons: Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

Parish Council 2026-2027

Cheryl Washburn-Lander, President

Dan Braun, Treasurer

Peter Braun

Margaret Easbey

Sydney Hedges

Jared Speier

Suzi Wiley

Zac Wood

Music Director/Administrator:

Valerie Yova

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Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Joanne Gish

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DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, August 30, 2026

Tone 4 / Eothinon 2;

**Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
& Thirteenth Sunday of Matthew**

Leave-taking of the commemoration of
the Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Alexander, Paul the New, and John, Patriarchs of Constantinople



WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

We are glad you are with us this morning
to join our worship of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit!

Please join us on the patio after the Liturgy for
the Agape Meal.

We'd love to meet you!

We welcome children of all ages in our worship.

“Let the little children come unto Me for of such is
the Kingdom of Heaven.” Luke 18:16

**At the conclusion of Matins, we sing the Great Doxology
followed by the Matins Dismissal Troparion.**

**THE DIVINE LITURGY
OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

GREAT LITANY

FIRST ANTIPHON—Psalm verses with refrain

Vs. It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy name, O Most High;
To proclaim Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night. [Refrain]

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Vs. Upright is the Lord our God, and there is no unrighteousness in Him. [Refrain]

Vs. Glory...now & ever...Amen. [Refrain]

SECOND ANTIPHON—Psalm verses with refrain

Vs. The Lord is King, He is clothed with majesty; the Lord is clothed with strength and
hath girded Himself.

**Refrain: O Son Of God Who rose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee,
Alleluia!**

Vs. For He hath established the world which shall not be shaken. [Refrain]

Vs. Holiness befits Thy house, O Lord, forevermore. [Refrain]

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Only Begotten Son and immortal Word of God who for our salvation didst will to be incarnate of the holy Theotokos and ever virgin Mary, who without change didst become man and wast crucified, O Christ our God, trampling down death by death, who art one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and the Holy Spirit: save us!

THIRD ANTIPHON—The Beatitudes or “Sermon on the Mount”

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.
Blessed are you when men shall revile you and shall persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil
against you falsely for my sake.
Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

**We sing the following hymns of the day after
The Little Entrance:**

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 4

Having learned the joyful message
of the Resurrection from the angel,
the women disciples of the Lord cast from them
their parental condemnation,
and proudly broke the news to the disciples
saying death has been spoiled.
Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Troparion for the Beheading of St. John the Baptist

Tone 2

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with hymns of praise,
but the Lord's testimony is sufficient for you, O Forerunner.
You were shown in truth to be the most honorable of the Prophets,
for you were deemed worthy to baptize
in the streams of the Jordan Him Whom they foretold.
Therefore, having suffered for the truth with joy,
you proclaimed to those in hell God Who appeared in the flesh,
Who takes away the sin of the world//
and grants us great mercy.

Troparion to St. Athanasius

Tone 3

Holy Bishop Athanasius,
you became a stronghold of Orthodoxy,
strengthening the Church through your divine teachings.
Opposing the heretical opinion of Arius,
you explained and taught that the Son is equal in nature with the Father.
O holy Father, intercede with Christ God
that He may grant us abundant mercy.

Kontakion for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Tone 4

By your nativity, most pure Virgin,
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,
Adam and Eve from the corruption of death.
And we, your people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to You:
"The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the Nourisher of our Life."

TRISAGION (THRICE-HOLY) HYMN

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Preparatory Psalm verses before the Epistle

Tone 4

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works, in wisdom Thou hast made them all. (*Ps 103/104:24*)

Vs. Bless the Lord O my soul, O Lord my God, Thou art very great.

THE EPISTLE READING

I Corinthians 16:13-24

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, and be strong. Let all that you do be done in love. Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men. The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss. I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Alleluia Refrain and Psalm verses before the Gospel

Tone 4

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Verse: Draw Thy bow and prosper and reign, in the cause of truth, meekness, and righteousness. (*Ps 44/45:5*)

Verse: Thou hast loved righteousness and hated wickedness. (*Ps 44/45:8*)

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:33-42

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

Meglynarion—Hymn to the Mother of God

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heaven, praise Him in the highest.

Holy Communion

In the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who have humbly prepared to receive through prayer, fasting, and a recent Sacramental Confession.

Non-Orthodox people and those not communing today may approach during Communion for a priestly blessing by saying, “Father, bless.” After this you may take a piece of antidoron (blessed bread) offered in the bowls.

If you are interested in joining the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, speak with our Pastor about how to become an Orthodox Christian.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO READ MET. SABA’S weekly message, “The Laborer’s are Few!” go to:
<https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2917>

LAURIE BAKER, a faithful member of our parish for over a decade, will be moving back to Colorado in September. Laurie served as Parish Council President, has served on our Coffee Hour and Agape Meal teams for many years, and as a Sunday morning Greeter. TODAY, August 30th will be Laurie’s last Sunday with us. Please keep her in prayer for a safe move and a smooth transition, and join us today on the patio in saying “Farewell.”



ST. BARBARA MONASTERY WILL HOST ITS MONTHLY FRIENDS GATHERING TODAY AT 4:00 p.m. Fr. John Tomasi will speak on “The Optina Elders, from St. Paisios to Modern Times.” Vespers and a potluck will follow the presentation.

OUR WEBSITE IS NOW SET UP TO ACCEPT RECURRING DONATIONS! So, you can set up a monthly recurring tithe donation. Check it out: <https://www.stathanasius.org/donate>

ADULT CATECHISM CLASSES BEGAN ON AUGUST 16th and will be taught by a team of catechists from within the parish. Catechumens will be dismissed for their lessons right after the Prayer for the Catechumens. (We are offering most of the classes at this time so that our Catechumens can participate in the entire Agape Meal and get to know our parish family.) If you are interested in learning about the Orthodox Faith, please contact Fr. Symeon for a blessing to join the Catechism Class.

POLICY REGARDING ANIMALS ON THE PROPERTY

The Parish Council requests that pets not be brought into the church building or onto church property. If a person has a service dog due to medical disabilities, we ask that they speak with Fr. Symeon. With the exception of special permission granted by Fr. Symeon due to a disability, the church is not required by law to permit animals in the church during liturgical services or at outdoor activities. Thank you for your understanding.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer requests received through the parish office will be printed in the bulletin and will be prayed for during the litanies at the daily services. Prayer requests received in the box at the church will be prayed for quietly at the altar at all services. Prayer requests remain for 40 days unless requested otherwise.

Send prayer requests for the bulletin to: office@stathanasius.org.

Please pray for the health of:

His Beatitude, Patriarch John X
Metropolitan SABA
Mother Victoria
Met. Paul & Abp. John
Abp. Benjamin
Fr. James in Nigeria (OCMC)
Fr. Jon B.
Fr. John & Kh. Diane C.
Fr. Nicholas & Jan
Fr. Turbo & St. Mary parish
Fr. Paul and St. Moses parish
Hieromonk Siloan
Greg & Margaret Y.
Hoppe Family in Albania (OCMC)
Joseph Wm. B. in Kenya
Duane F.
Richard and Susan B.
Kh. Melissa H.
Jeremiah & Sarah H. (military)
Chase K. (military)
Nick & Kristine J. (military)
Julianna & Zaron D. (military)
Peter S. (military)

Steve T.
Dn. John & Fay Y.
Kh. Peggy K.
Kh. Janet Henderson
Fr. Joseph A.
Galeyna T.
Shirley D. and Family
Penny B.
Justin & Amber B.
Cameron B.
Oleg
Alla
Amanda M.
Lazarus "Crow"
Jake H.
Jose
Maria D.R.
Daniel B.
For the local agencies and their
leaders who are working to fight
human trafficking.
The Ethiopian Orthodox Church

All those suffering and in danger in Ukraine,
Africa, and the Middle East

OUR CATECHUMENS:

Capri Acquistapace
Ben & Tiphany Brymer & Florence
Kelley Brymer
Daisy Cruz
Sofia De La Cruz
Tanner Diamond
Joshua Dunford
Roman Garcia
Nicole Gow
Kartik Kommu
Lucy Mangum
Blake Manning, Gia & Benjamin
Ryley Orok
Sahit Rampilla
Jacob Salas
Tricia Travers
Tyler Vrem
Joshua Weiss (currently lives abroad)
Sarah Wildwood
Nathan Wright, Owain & Gavin

For repose of the souls of: Phyllis M.

ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH BOOKSTORE

The church bookstore is located in the foyer of our building. The tables and cabinets contain items that are FOR SALE. If you need a cross or chain and jewelry is not displayed on Sunday, contact **Terri Speier at: bookstore@stathanasius.org**.

Payment should be made at the time of purchase. Cash and checks may be placed in the brown lockbox on wall next to Fr. Symeon's office. Make checks payable to **S.A.O.C. Bookstore**.

Online payment can be made at www.stathanasius.org. (Select "MAKE A DONATION," and then use the dropdown earmark for BOOKSTORE.)

The pamphlets in the rack are FREE, as are the 12-month liturgical calendars.

All proceeds go to the parish Temple Fund.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, August 30

9:00 a.m. Matins
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Adult Catechism
 11:45 a.m. **MINISTRIES JOB FAIR**
 12:30 p.m. **OPEN CHOIR REHEARSAL IN NAVE**

Monday, August 31

3:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom
 (Akathist for St. Nikiforos)

Tuesday, September 1

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for the Church New Year
 5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers
 6:00 p.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, September 2

11:50 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry
 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 3

7:45 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom
 10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing
 5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers
 6:00 p.m. BACK TO YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF

Friday, September 4

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins

Saturday, September 5

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for Beheading of St. John
 5:30 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

Sunday, September 6

9:00 a.m. Matins
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Adult Catechism
 11:45 a.m. Agape Meal

THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS!

EUCCHARIST BREAD

August 30	Dn. G. Braun
September 6	Galanska
September 8	Kern (Nativity of Theotokos)
September 13	Frangos
September 20	Meyer

READERS

August 30	Meyer
September 1	Wood (Liturgical New Year)
September 6	Gish
September 8	Alexander (Nativity of Theotokos)
September 12	Alexander (Vespers)
September 13	Clements
September 20	Gish

WELCOMING MINISTRY

August 30	G. Hoppe/B. Eberhard
September 6	A. Nikolov/D. Rangel
September 13	G. & M. Hammel
September 20	M. Loulias/H. Lange

USHERS

August 30	D. Meyer/M. Loulias
September 6	C. Speier/S. Speier
September 13	P. King/J. King
September 20	D. Washburn/K.L. King

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

August 30	MINISTRIES JOB FAIR/ Donut Sunday
September 6	Team Worthington
September 13	Team Halsell
September 20	Team Alexander/Hedges

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO CLEAN UP
YOUR OWN AREA AFTER THE SERVICE.**
 Service booklets should be returned to the hallway.
 Bulletins and Matins texts may be taken home.

UPCOMING FESTAL SERVICES

LITURGICAL NEW YEAR

Tuesday, September 1 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Tuesday, September 8 8:30 a.m. Festal Matins 9:30 a.m. Festival Divine Liturgy

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (transferred to Sunday, September 13)

Saturday, September 12 5:30 p.m. Festal Vespers

Sunday, September 13 9:00 a.m. Festal Matins 10:00 a.m. Festal Divine Liturgy

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

8/30 Nikolay & Velislava Nikolov, Lucas & Lauren Rascon

9/5 Dn. John and Fay Young

Birthdays

8/30 Mitchell Denny Jr., Kh. Jan Speier

8/31 Kh. Peggy King

9/1 Paul Carr

9/2 Benjamin Ballew

9/3 Bob Gundersen

9/4 Richard Ballew

Patronal Feast Days

9/1 Holy Virgin Martyr Penelope Penny Cocores

9/5 St. Elizabeth, Mother of John the Baptist

Atalia Finley, Elleney Gish, Elizabeth Heiduk, Lara Jacobs, Kh. Peggy King

Jane Meyer, Terri Speier, Salem Vander Laan

9/5 St. Zachariah, Father of John the Baptist Zachary Nikolov, Zachary Wood

LAND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE UPDATE

We've been quite busy on several fronts regarding the parish excess land during the last few months. In June, we received word from Metropolitan Saba that we should pursue the ultimate development of our rezoned land, as the County expects. He encouraged us to pursue the best options, subject to Archdiocese approval.

Many developers have contacted us expressing interest since the rezoning. We're now reaching out to receive proposals. We're encouraging the submission of both purchase and ground lease proposals, along with any other creative possibilities.

The plan is to retain a 2.6-acre buffer immediately south of the church building envelope, leaving the remaining 13.8 acres available for development.

Over the last three months, we have also met multiple times with County Planning staff and our South Patterson Development Area neighboring developers as we work out details for the necessary transportation and other infrastructure required to accommodate the resulting new neighborhood expected to be added around us.