



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, September 6, 2026

**Tone 5 / Eothinon 3; Fourteenth Sunday after
Pentecost & Fourteenth Sunday of Matthew**

The miracle of the Archangel Michael in Colossae;

Archippos of Hierapolis;

Martyrs Eudoxios, Zeno, Romulus and Makarios
at Melitene in Armenia



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 5

Let us believers praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born of the Virgin for our salvation.
For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh
to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

Troparion for Archangel Michael

Tone 4

Michael, commander of the heavenly hosts,
we who are unworthy beseech you:
by your prayers encompass us beneath the wings of your immaterial glory,
and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to you:
“Deliver us from all harm, for you are the commander of the Powers on high!”

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 5

Thou O Lord shall keep us and preserve us from this generation forever. (*Ps 11/12:7*)

Verse: Save me O Lord, for there is now no saint. (*Ps 11/12:1*)

EPISTLE READING

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; He has put his seal upon us and given us His Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me—it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

Alleluia Refrain and Psalm verses before the Gospel

Tone 5

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Verse: I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever;

With my mouth I will make known Thy faithfulness to all generations.

(*Ps 88/89:1*)

Verse: For Thou hast said: “Mercy shall be built up forever;

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:2-14

The Lord spoke this parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.’”

But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

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.

UPCOMING FESTAL SERVICES

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS TUESDAY MORNING WE WILL CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS with Matins at 8:30 a.m. and Divine Liturgy at 9:30 a.m.

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.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

8/31 Anna Grace & Gage Salinas (They got left off last week's list!)

Birthdays

9/6 Obadiah Robinson
9/7 Cheyenne Braun, Suzi Wiley
9/8 Luke Hedges
9/11 Niko Halsell

Patronal Saint Feast Days

9/8	Theotokos (Nativity)	Fr. John Carrillo, Laura Eberhard
9/8	St. Adriana	Adriana de Bruin
9/8	Martyr Natalia (of Nicomedia)	Natalya Kawahara
9/9	St. Anna (the Mother of the Theotokos)	Leticia Brunner, Shirley Dillon, Laurel Fryer, Michelle Madrigal, Sherie Shackelford

SAVE THE DATE!
Women's Fellowship Brunch

Saturday, September 19, 2026

10:00-11:30 a.m.

at the home of Kh. Jan Speier

- A time of fellowship
- A chance to talk about our plans for the coming Liturgical Year
- An opportunity to get acquainted with our female catechumens

LADIES, WATCH FOR AN E-VITE!

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.

Thank you....
to all of our ministry team leaders who participated last
Sunday in the Ministries Job Fair!

A special thank you to Suzi Wiley and Christie Robinson
for coordinating the refreshments and recruiting lots of cheerful
volunteers for set-up and clean-up! And to all who lent a hand!

If you were not here last Sunday, there are flyers and sign-up lists
on display in the hallway.





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 dan-
ger 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 Oroku
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: Kh. Christina

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 lock-box 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, September 6

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

Monday, September 7

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

Tuesday, September 8

8:30 a.m. Festal Matins for Feast of the Nativity of
The Theotokos
9:30 a.m. Festal Divine Liturgy
5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers
6:00 p.m. Bible Study

Wednesday, September 9

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

Thursday, September 10

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. Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
6:45 p.m. High School Youth Group

Friday, September 11

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins

Saturday, September 12

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

Sunday, September 13—ELEVATION OF THE CROSS

(transferred from Sept. 14)

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

September 6 Galanska
September 8 Kern (Nativity of Theotokos)
September 13 Frangos
September 20 Jacobs
September 27 Meyer

READERS

September 6 Gish
September 8 Alexander (Nativity of Theotokos)
September 12 Alexander (Vespers)
September 13 Clements
September 20 Gish
September 27 Butler

WELCOMING MINISTRY

September 6 K.P. King/D. Rangel
September 13 G. & M. Hammel
September 20 M. Loulias/H. Lange
September 27 N. Aviles/L. Sieck/A. Wayne

USHERS

September 6 C. Speier/S. Speier
September 13 P. King/J. King
September 20 D. Washburn/K.L. King
September 27 D. Alexander/D. Meyer

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

September 6 Team Worthington
September 13 Team Halsell
September 20 Team Alexander/Hedges
September 27 Team Speier

**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.

SAVE THE DATE!

**St. Athanasius Antiochian Orthodox Church
Santa Barbara, CA**

40th Anniversary Celebration February 12-14, 2027

Friday, February 12th

- Exhibit—The Parish History & Becoming Orthodox
- Welcome and introduction of guest speakers for the weekend
 - “Welcome Home”: The Story of the EOC -
Documentary video from 1987

Saturday, February 13th

- Guest Speaker Presentations
- Exhibit—The Parish History & Becoming Orthodox
 - Great Vespers
 - Anniversary Banquet

(Limited seating for the banquet. Tickets will go on sale to our parishioners first.)



Sunday, February 14th

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
Reception