



## 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)  
frnicholas@stathanasius.org, 805-685-5400

Fr. John Carrillo 805-770-3749 (retired)  
Fr. Jon Braun (retired)  
Fr. John Finley (Archdiocese Dept. of Missions)

**Deacons:**

Dn. Gary Braun  
Dn. Scott Jacobs  
Dn. John Young (retired)

**Subdeacons:** Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

**Parish Council 2023-2024**

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**Music Director/Administrator:**

Valerie Yova  
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**Teen Program & College/Young Adult  
Activities Coordinator**

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

## DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

January 7, 2024

Synaxis of the Holy Prophet,  
Forerunner & Baptist John

New-martyr Athanasios of Attalia;  
Venerable Brannock of Braunton



## 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

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

In the Orthodox Church, the sacrament of Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive through prayer and recent Confession. Non-Orthodox believers and others **may approach the chalice for a blessing and the blessed bread.** So that the priest is aware of this, please just say, *“Father, bless” when you get to the chalice.*

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

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

### **First Antiphon—Psalm Verses for the Feast of Theophany with Refrain**

Verse: When Israel went forth from Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language, Judah became his sanctuary, Israel his dominion.

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

Verse: The sea looked and fled, Jordan turned back. What ails you, o sea, that you flee? O Jordan, that you turn back? [refrain]

Verse: Glory....now and ever... [refrain]

### **Second Antiphon— Psalm Verses for the Feast of Theophany with Refrain**

Verse: I love the Lord because He has heard the voice of my supplication. Because He inclined His ear to me, therefore I will call on Him as long as I live.

**Refrain: O Son of God baptized in the Jordan, save us who sing to Thee,  
Alleluia!**

Verse: The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of hell laid hold on me. I suffered distress and anguish, then I called on the name of the Lord. [refrain]

Verse: Gracious and righteous is the Lord, and our God is merciful. [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—Psalm Verses with Troparion for Theophany as refrain**

Verse: O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, For His mercy endures forever!

**Refrain: When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,  
worship of the Trinity was made manifest!  
For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,  
calling You his beloved Son.  
And the Spirit, in the likeness of a dove  
confirmed the truth of His Word.  
Christ our God, Who has appeared  
and enlightened the world,  
glory to You!**

Verse: Let the house of Israel say: for He is good,  
For His mercy endures forever! [refrain]

Verse: Let the house of Aaron say: for He is good,  
For His mercy endures forever! [refrain]

**HYMNS SUNG AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE:**

**Resurrectional Troparion**

**Tone 6**

When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred body,  
angelic pow'rs shone above Thy revered tomb,  
and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men.  
Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted there-by,  
Thou did meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world.  
O Thou Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Troparion of Theophany**

**Tone 1**

When You, O Lord, were baptized in the Jordan,  
worship of the Trinity was made manifest!  
For the voice of the Father bore witness to You,  
calling You his beloved Son.  
And the Spirit, in the likeness of a dove  
confirmed the truth of His Word.  
Christ our God, Who has appeared and enlightened the world,  
Glory to You!

**Troparion for the Synaxis of 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.

**Kontakian of Theophany****Tone 4**

Today You have shone forth to the world, O Lord,  
and the light of Your countenance has been marked on us.  
Knowing You, we sing Your praises:  
"You have come and revealed Yourself,//  
O unapproachable Light."

**THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN (*Sung in place of "Holy God"*)**

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (THRICE)

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; now and ever, and unto  
ages of ages. Amen.*

Deacon: With Strength!

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

**Preparatory Psalm Verses before the Epistle (Prokeimenon)****Tone 7**

The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord / and shall hope in Him. (*Ps. 63:11a*)

Vs. Hear my voice, O God.

**EPISTLE READING**  
**Acts of the Apostles 19:1-8**

In those days, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have never even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the One Who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve of them in all. And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, arguing and pleading about the Kingdom of God.

**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:** Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart. (Ps. 96:12)

**GOSPEL READING**  
**John 1:29-34**

At that time, John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of Whom I said, 'After me comes a man Who ranks before me, for He was before me.' I myself did not know Him; but for this I came baptizing with water, that He might be revealed to Israel." And John bore witness, "I saw the Spirit descend as a dove from heaven, and it remained on Him. I myself did not know Him; but He Who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on Whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is He Who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

**Meglynarion for the Feast of Epiphany (Hymn to the Mother of God)**

Magnify, O my soul, the most-pure Virgin Theotokos,  
more honorable than the heavenly hosts!

No tongue knows how to praise you worthily, O Theotokos;  
even Angels are overcome with awe praising you.

But since you are good, accept our faith;  
for you know our love inspired by God!

You are the defender of Christians, and we magnify you.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps. 148:1*)

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! (*Ps. 111:6*)

The grace of God has appeared for the salvation of all. (*Ps. 118/119*)

**After Communion, instead of singing “We have seen the true light”, we sing the Troparion of the Theophany.**

### **Thanksgiving Prayers after Communion**

*(Blessing of the Agape Meal will follow the prayers.)*

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, we offer the prayers of thanksgiving for having received the Body and Blood of Christ. These beautiful prayers help us to reflect on the mystery in which we have just partaken, and prepare us for our transition back into the “world.” We invite you to listen to these beautiful prayers during and after the veneration of the cross at the end of the service, and **ask that all of your socializing take place outside of the church.**

### **UPCOMING FEAST DAY SERVICE SCHEDULE**

Theophany

**TODAY — OUTDOOR BLESSING OF WATER**

at 1:00 p.m.

at the Santa Barbara Harbor & Yacht Club with

St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church

130 Harbor Way off of Shoreline Dr. in Santa Barbara

St. Athanasius the Great

Wednesday, January 17—PARISH FEAST DAY

Vespers at 5:30 p.m./Liturgy at 6:30 p.m.

### **FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE**

Thursday, February 1

5:30 p.m. Great Vespers

6:30 p.m. Divine Liturgy

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY** we will join St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in the **OUTDOOR BLESSING OF WATER** at the Santa Barbara Harbor & Yacht Club at **1:00 p.m.** The Yacht Club is at 130 Harbor Way in Santa Barbara, off of Shoreline Drive.

**MAY GOD GRANT MANY YEARS TO THE NEWLY ILLUMINED WHO WERE RECEIVED INTO THE ORTHODOX FAITH** on the Feast of Theophany:

- Anthony Salcedo (Sponsor: Howard Lange)
- Dominic Salcedo (Sponsors: Mitchell & Mary Denny)
- Jennifer Salcedo (Sponsors: Garrett & Elleney Gish)

**MANY YEARS TO ANTHONY AND CHRISTINA SALCEDO**, who had their marriage blessed in the Church (were crowned in the sacrament of marriage) yesterday!

**THE MONTHLY MEN'S FIRESIDE GATHERING** will be next Monday, January 15th, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mitch and Mary Denny. If you have questions, contact Howard Lange .(hman3000@verizon.net)

### **HOUSE BLESSINGS**

The priests look forward to this time of year when they bless your homes and have an opportunity to spend time with you. It is a joy for them! Contact one of our priests for an appointment to have your home blessed in January. We traditionally bless homes in January after the Feast of Theophany (January 6), however you can do this at almost any time of the year. If you move into a new home, you may not want to wait until the next time we celebrate Theophany to have your home blessed.

### **REGARDING 2023 TITHES...**

The church will accept tithes and donations for the 2023 fiscal year up through Sunday, January 7th. Please be sure to date checks these next two Sundays for the year for which they are intended.

Checks received after January 7th will be credited towards 2024, regardless of what date is on them.

Donations made online on the parish website are entered as the date of the transaction, unless noted otherwise in the memo section.

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**CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK**  
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**Wedding Anniversaries**  
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1/09 Mark & Dee Kern  
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**Birthdays**  
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1/7 Gabriel Trujillo  
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1/11 Mason Speier  
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**Patron Saint Commemorations**  
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1/7 **Synaxis of St. John the Baptist**  
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Ronald Berari, Fr. John Finley, John Heiduk, Gianni Madrigal,  
John Ronan Meyer, Johnny Wallace  
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1/12 **Martyr Tatiana of Rome** Tatiana Speier, Atalya Wayne  
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**MEMORY ETERNAL**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR the soul of the handmaiden of God, Khouria Dina Bahou,** who fell asleep in the Lord on January 2nd. She is the wife Fr. Anthony Bahou, who is currently the priest at St. George Antiochian parish in San Diego. Only about 40 days ago, Fr. Anthony and Kh. Dina lost their only daughter, Eliana, who passed away during heart surgery.

Some concerned clergy of our diocese have organized a fundraising effort to assist with Khouria Dina's funeral expenses. On Monday, we will be sending a check from our parish. If you would like to make a donation towards this effort, you can donate through our website, (<https://www.stathanasius.org/donation/>) or leave a check in the tithe box today. Checks should be made out to St. Athanasius, and we will send one check from our parish. Please be sure to add a memo that says: "Bahou funeral."

You can read more about Khouria Dina at: <https://antiochian.org/regulararticle/1887>



## **THE CHILDREN'S RELIEF FUND (CRF)**

The Children's Relief Fund (CRF) is a program within our Antiochian Archdiocese which was founded in 1983, and provides funds for the children in need in Lebanon and Palestine, and the children of Syrian refugees in Lebanon.

The CRF, under the Department of Charitable Outreach, has been a blessing to hundreds of needy children and their families.

Since 1983, the CRF has provided close to \$4 million in aid. 100% of donations go directly to the sponsored child and no money is used for administrative services.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

Through the CRF, sponsoring a child is easy. Child sponsorship is an opportunity to personally connect with a child and work alongside their family and community as they work on lasting solutions to the causes that keep vulnerable children from reaching their God given potential.

You can help change the life of a child by being a sponsor for as little as \$400 a year, just \$7.69 per week, \$1.10 per day. Donations in any amount are always welcome. Once you sponsor a child, CRF will send you the child's name, age, address and a brief biography. Your child will correspond with you, sending you letters and pictures about their life. You will be able to develop a special bond and personal relationship with them.

*Your assistance will improve the lives of these children and give them a chance for a better future.*

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, you can do so online here:

<https://antiochian.networkforgood.com/projects/127989-the-children-s-relief-fund>

You can contact the CRF at [childrensrelieffund@gmail.com](mailto:childrensrelieffund@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:office@stathanasius.org).  
Please pray for the health of:**

His Beatitude, Patriarch John X  
Metropolitan SABA  
Mother Victoria  
Met. Paul & Abp. John  
Fr. Markos  
Fr. Jon B.  
Fr. John & Kh. Diane C.  
Fr. Nicholas & Jan  
Audrey C.  
Greg & Margaret Y.  
Hoppe Family in Albania  
Joseph Wm. B. in Kenya  
Duane F.  
Richard and Susan B.  
Bob N.  
Kh. Melissa H.  
Jeremiah & Sarah H. (military)  
Lauren & Fernando J. (military)  
Chase K. (military)  
Nick & Kristine J. (military)  
Connor V. (military)  
Julianna & Zaron D. (military)  
P. Speier (military)

Subdn. Matthew W. (seminary)  
Steve T.  
Abp. Benjamin  
Temmo K.  
Sarah B..  
Dn. John & Fay Y.  
Zachary B.  
Samantha & Chris N. & Family  
Kevin D. & Family  
Stephan & Rosa K.  
Ethan K.  
Erik L.  
Matthew  
Nina & Erik Sr.  
Anthony & Christina and Family  
Hannah Rose  
Leticia B.  
Kari H.  
Carol J.  
Suzy W.  
Adam and Family  
Madison E.  
Susan W.  
David W.

Dave D.  
Roman N.  
Eloise G.  
Jim M.  
Wade  
Amanda Catherine  
Darcy

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

Please pray for the raising up and support of long-term missionaries from our parish.

**For repose of the souls of:** Kh. Dina Bahou, Kh. Sally H., Alan W., Fr. Michael O.

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**ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH BOOKSTORE**

The church bookstore is located in the foyer of our building. The tables and two enclosed cabinets contain items that are FOR SALE. One cabinet holds icons, crosses, incense, prayer ropes, etc. The bookshelf has books for sale, arranged alphabetically by book title. Children’s books are on the bottom shelf. See Terri Speier if you are looking for jewelry such as a cross or chain. You can contact Terri at: [bookstore@stathanasius.org](mailto:bookstore@stathanasius.org).

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

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

**All proceeds go to the parish Temple Fund.**

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# CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

## Sunday, January 7-Synaxis of St. John the Baptist

9:00 a.m. Catechesis for children 3yrs-6th grade  
 9:00 a.m. Matins  
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
 11:45 a.m. Agape Meal  
 1:00 p.m. **OUTDOOR BLESSING OF WATER**  
 at Santa Barbara Harbor

## Monday, January 8

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins  
 6:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom  
 (Akathist for St. Nikiforos)

## Tuesday, January 9

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

## Wednesday, January 10

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins  
 12:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry at the church

## Thursday, January 11

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. Youth Group  
 6:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, January 12

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins

## Saturday, January 13

5:30 p.m. Vespers/Confession

## Sunday, January 14

9:00 a.m. Catechesis for children 3yrs-6th grade  
 9:00 a.m. Matins  
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
 11:30 a.m. Teen Education  
 11:45 a.m. Agape Meal  
 12:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

# SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

## EUCCHARIST BREAD

January 7 Meyer  
 January 14 Hoppe  
 January 21 Dillon  
 January 28 Morrison

## READERS

January 7 Kern  
 January 14 TBA  
 January 17 TBA  
 January 21 TBA

## GREETERS

January 7 L. Baker  
 January 14 K.P. King  
 January 21 H. Lange  
 January 28 M. Loulias

## USHERS

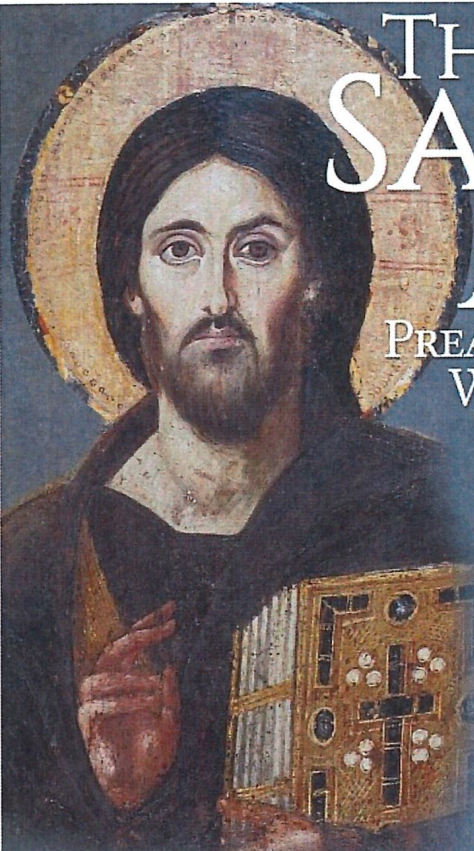
January 7 P. King/J. King  
 January 14 C. Speier/S. Speier  
 January 21 D. Meyer/M. Loulias  
 January 28 D. Alexander/D. Washburn

## AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

January 7 Team King  
 January 14 Team Speier  
 January 21 Team Wayne  
 January 28 Team Worthington

**Please continue to pray for all of our catechumens, that their minds and hearts will be illumined as they continue their journey towards baptism and/or chrismation.**

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Rebecca Beech | Kevin Duke      |
| Cameron Bobro | Adam English    |
| Natasha Carr  | Mark Gross      |
| Paul Carr     | Connor Clements |
| Ethan Salcedo |                 |




# THE SACRED ARTS

PREACHING THE GOSPEL  
WITHOUT WORDS  
LENTEN RETREAT

FR. MAXIMOS  
CONSTAS

JONATHAN  
PAGEAU

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