



## 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

Dn. John Young (retired)

**Subdeacons:** Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

**Parish Council 2023-2024**

Dominic Dopico, Chair

Kristin King, Vice Chair

Dan Braun, Treasurer

Velislava Nikolov, Secretary

Asia Ballew

Sydney Hedges

Michael Loulias

Cheryl Washburn-Lander

**Music Director/Administrator:**

Valerie Yova

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

**Sunday, June 29, 2025**

**Tone 2 / Eothinon 3**

### **The Holy, Glorious Apostles Peter and Paul**



## **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 was 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 2**

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death,  
O Thou deathless and immortal One,  
then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power.  
And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth,  
all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee:  
O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

**Troparion for Saints Peter & Paul**

**Tone 4**

First-enthroned of the Apostles,  
and teachers of the universe:  
entreat the Master of all  
to grant peace to the world, //  
and to our souls 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 Saints Peter and Paul****Tone 2**

O Lord, You have taken up to eternal rest  
and to the enjoyment of Your blessings  
the two divinely inspired preachers, the leaders of the Apostles,  
for You have accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling  
sacrifice,//  
for You alone know what lies in the hearts of men.

**TRISAGION (THRICE-HOLY) HYMN (p. 9 of Liturgy Book)**

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

**Preparatory Psalm Verses before the Epistle (Prokeimenon)****Tone 8**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe!

*v: The heavens are telling the glory of God, and the firmament  
proclaims His handiwork. (Ps 18/19:1)*

**EPISTLE READING****2 Corinthians 11:21-12:9**

Brethren, whatever anyone dares to boast of -- I am speaking as a fool -- I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one -- I am talking like a madman -- with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea. On frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren. In toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure! And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the Churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant?

If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands.

I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated.



Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

### **Alleluia before the Gospel with Psalm Verses**

**Tone 1**

**Chanter:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
**All:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Verse: The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; and Your truth  
in the congregation of the saints. (Ps 88/89:5)*

*Verse: God is glorified in the council of the saints. (Ps. 88/89:7)*

### **GOSPEL READING**

#### **Matthew 16:13-19 "Peter: the Rock"**

At that time, when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." Jesus said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

### **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**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe! (*Ps 18/19:4*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## **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

### TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Tuesday, August 5

5:30 p.m. Festal Matins

6:30 p.m. Festal Divine Liturgy

POTLUCK SUPPER

**The Dormition Fast is observed from Friday, August 1 through  
Thursday, August 14 after the Festal Liturgy.**

### DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Thursday, August 14

5:30 p.m. Festal Great Vespers with Lamentations

6:30 p.m. Festal Divine Liturgy

POTLUCK SUPPER

### BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Friday, August 29

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

### NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Sunday, September 7 (transferred from Sept. 8)

Regular weekend services

### ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sunday, September 14

Regular weekend services

## CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

### Birthdays

6/29 Dorian Florez, Laurel Fryer

6/30 Joanne Gish

7/5 Beau Brunner

### Patronal Feast Days

6/22 St. Alban, Protomartyr of Britain Alban Easbey (We missed it last week!)

6/29 The Apostle Paul Gianpaul Caceres, Josh Dillon, Paulo Carralejo

6/29 The Apostle Peter Peter Braun, Stan Friesen, Peter Speier

7/2 St. John Maximovich John Butler, Niko Halsell

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TODAY WE WILL PRAY THE TRISAGION PRAYERS at the end of the liturgy for Evonne and Richard Chala and also for the martyrs of the recent terrorist attack on the Orthodox Church of the Prophet Elias in Damascus, Syria.**

**THE ST. BARBARA MONASTERY MONTHLY FRIENDS GATHERING** is today at 4:00 p.m. The speaker will be Fr. Yousuf Rassam, Pastor of St. Innocent (OCA) parish in Tarzana. He will speak on the Holy Apostles.

**MANY THANKS TO TERRI SPEIER**, our Bookstore Manager, for her labor of love week after week in providing us with such outstanding resources and other products and gift items. And kudos and thanks to Jenny Speier (Interior Designer) and Terri for creating such a beautiful and well organized new bookstore space. The bookstore redesign was made possible through the 2024 Golf Tournament. For the past several years, a small portion of the annual fundraiser proceeds (10-15%) have been allocated for a project within our existing building or on the grounds. **So thank you to our hard-working Golf Tournament Committee, and to YOU, all of the event supporters!!**



### **WE NEED YOUR HELP...**

We ask that you kindly clean up your own sitting area and return service booklets at the end of each service. Bulletins and Matins/Vespers weekly handouts may be taken home.  
**Thank you!**

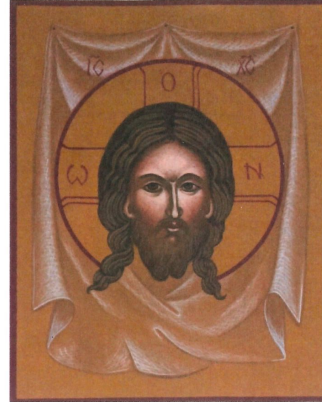
## **The Icon of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul**

The Orthodox Church has a beautiful presentation of the importance and prominence of the Apostles Peter and Paul with the icon that shows both Apostles standing together holding an image of the Church.

Both Apostles, being chosen by our Lord, were instrumental in the establishment and growth of the early Church through their boldness, spiritual strength, and wisdom. Thus they are recognized as "pillars" of the Church, having offered all even unto death for the sake of the Gospel of Christ.

In the icon, the Apostle Paul, the great missionary of the early Church, is holding a Gospel book, while the Apostle Peter offers a blessing with his right hand. At the top of the icon is a semicircle, representing the divine realm. Rays extend in the semicircle representing the blessings and presence of God upon His two chosen heralds of the True Faith.

*You are invited to*  
**I to I**  
*Introduction to  
Iconography*



*An Orthodox residential retreat made possible through the  
Orthodox Vision Foundation*

We will delve deeply into drawing, make an egg tempera icon of the face of Christ, and use different gold techniques. After showing your drawings (taking an online course at least one month before the retreat), the Udemy fee will be taken off your registration. We will also make other studies of basic icon features on Bristol board and Claybords.

You will be encouraged and directed on how to proceed in further iconography studies.

### Registration

A \$200 deposit is required to hold your place or to be added to a wait list. The balance is due July 25, 2025. Contact Dorothy Alexander by [dotaalexander@westmont.edu](mailto:dotaalexander@westmont.edu), text, or leave a message on (805) 708-0453. Payment can be made by Venmo, Zelle, or by check.



Dr. Victoria Brennan

and Dorothy Alexander



will be your instructors.

### Details

August 10-16, 2025

St. Paul's Commons Retreat Center, Echo Park, CA

The \$700 all-inclusive price includes:

- Double occupancy room and all meals (6N/7D)
- Icon board and supplies (gold, pigments, etc.)
- An Orthodox ethos with prayers and Church visits
- Engaging lectures from Victoria and meditations from Dorothy - with teaching and instruction from both.

## 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  
Abp. Benjamin  
Fr. Gabriel in Kenya (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.  
Bob N.  
Kh. Melissa H.  
Jeremiah & Sarah H. (military)  
Lauren & Fernando J. (military)  
Chase K. (military)  
Nick & Kristine J. (military)  
Julianna & Zaron D. (military)  
P. Speier (military)

Steve T.  
Temmo K.  
Dn. John & Fay Y.  
Samantha & Chris N. & Family  
Kh. Peggy K.  
Amanda, Chris & Baby James  
Kh. Janet Henderson  
Phyllis M.  
Marta C.  
Sonia T.  
Michael  
Fr. Joseph A.  
Jim M.  
Gayla  
Cameron B.  
Galeyna T.  
Jill W. and Family  
Dn. Matthew & Christina  
Alla G.  
Oleg G.  
Wayne Family  
Shirley D. and Family  
Jesús D.

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.

## OUR CATECHUMENS:

Cameron Clouse  
Ethan Salcedo  
Tyler Vrem  
Joshua Weiss

**For repose of the souls of:** Jonathan

## 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.**

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, June 29

#### **FEAST OF SS. PETER & PAUL**

9:00 a.m. Festal Matins  
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy & Trisagion Prayers  
 for Evonne Chala (1 year on 6/28)  
 11:45 a.m. Agape Meal

### Monday, June 30

7:00 a.m. Daily Reader's Matins  
 3:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom  
 (Akathist for St. Nikiforos)

### Tuesday, July 1

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

### Wednesday, July 2—St. John Maximovich

7:00 a.m. Daily Reader's Matins  
 11:50 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry  
 5:30 p.m. Akathist for St. John Maximovich

### Thursday, July 3

7:45 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom  
 10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing  
 5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers  
 6:30 p.m. Youth Group

### Friday, July 4—Independence Day

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins

### Saturday, July 5

5:30 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

### Sunday, July 6

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

## SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

### EUCCHARIST BREAD

June 29	Morrison
July 6	Fr. Nicholas
July 13	Jacobs
July 20	Dn. Gary

### READERS

June 29	Lange
July 6	Alexander
July 12	Kern (Vespers)
July 13	Butler
July 19	Kern
July 20	Gish

### GREETERS

June 29	B. Eberhard/K.L. King
July 6	A.G. Butler/C. Clements
July 13	M. Loulias/H. Lange
July 20	J. & M. Worthington

### USHERS

June 29	D. Alexander/D. Washburn
July 6	P. King/J. King
July 13	D. Meyer/K.L. King
July 20	C. Speier/S. Speier

### AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

June 29	Team Halsell
July 6	Team Worthington
July 13	Team Aviles/Wood
July 20	Team Wayne



SUMMER SCHOOL 2025 — WEEK 2

