



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 2024-2025

Dan Braun, Treasurer

Asia Ballew

Peter Braun

Sydney Hedges

Kristin King

Velislava Nikolov

Jared Speier

Cheryl Washburn-Lander

Music Director/Administrator:

Valerie Yova

Office phone: 805-685-5400

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Teen Program Coordinator

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

College/Young Adult Activities Coordinators

Athanasia Ballew

asiaballew@proton.me

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DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, September 7, 2025

Tone 4 / Eothinon 2

Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross
Transfer of the Nativity of the Theotokos



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 verses for the feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos with refrain:

Vs. O Lord, remember David and all his meekness. Lo, we heard of it at Ephratha;
we found it in the fields of the wood.

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

Vs. Glorious things are spoken of thee, O city of God. *[Refrain]*

Vs. God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; *[Refrain]*

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

Second Antiphon verses for the feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos & refrain:

Vs. The Lord hath sworn in truth unto David; and He will not turn from it. Of the
fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne.

**Refrain: Save us, O Son Of God, Who art wondrous in Thy saints,
who sing unto Thee, Alleluia!**

Vs. There will I make the horn of David to bud; I have ordained a lamp for mine
anointed. *[Refrain]*

Vs. For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation. *[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

Vs. Here will I dwell, for I have chosen her.

Refrain:

Your nativity, O Virgin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,
has shone from you, O Theotokos.
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing.//
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Vs. The most high hath hallowed his tabernacle. [Refrain]

Vs. Holy is Thy temple, wonderful in righteousness. [Refrain]

AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE, WE SING THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL HYMNS FOR THE DAY:

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 Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Tone 4

Your nativity, O Virgin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,
has shone from you, O Theotokos.
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing.
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

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.

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

Holy Immortal have mercy on us.

Deacon: With strength!

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

Preparatory Psalm verses before the Epistle (Prokeimenon) Tone 6

O Lord save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. (Ps. 28:9)

Verse: *To Thee will I cry, O Lord, O my God, do not be silent unto me.*

THE EPISTLE READING for the Sunday before the Feast of the Cross Galatians 6:11-18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For, neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

Preparatory Psalm Verses with Alleluia Refrain Before the Gospel Tone 1

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Vs. 1 I have exalted one chosen out of My people. **Alleluia** (Ps 88/89:20)

Vs. 2 For My hand shall defend him, and My arm shall strengthen him.
Alleluia (Ps 88/89:22)

GOSPEL READING for the Sunday before the Feast of the Cross
John 3:13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For, God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

Meglynarion for the Nativity of the Theotokos (Hymn to the Mother of God)

Magnify, O my soul, the Virgin Mary, born of a barren womb.
Virginity is foreign to mothers; Childbearing is strange to virgins.
But in you, O birthgiver of God, both were accomplished.
Therefore, all the earthly nations unceasingly glorify You.

Communion Hymn

For the feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos:

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.
(Ps 115/116:13) 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

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sunday, September 14

Regular weekend services

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WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES HAVE BEGUN AGAIN. We will alternate between the Paraklesis, which we pray out in the field by the cross, and Akathist services for various saints prayed in the chapel, many for whom we have relics to venerate. The schedule for the next month is as follows:

Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

| | |
|---|--|
| Sept. 10 Akathist to St. Nektarios of Aegina | Oct. 8 Akathist to St. John Maximovich |
| Sept. 17 Paraklesis | Oct. 15 Paraklesis |
| Sept. 24 Akathist to St. Athanasius the Great | Oct. 22 Akathist to St. Paisius |
| Oct. 1 Paraklesis | Oct. 29 Akathist to St. Herman of Alaska |

LADIES OF THE PARISH....

Join us in a **BBY SHOWER BONANZA for Susie's Closet**

Please plan to join the Women's Fellowship as we kick off the new Church year with fellowship, brunch, and giving back to Susie's Closet, which provides maternity clothes, baby and children's clothes (preemie-size 6), baby essentials and equipment to low income families in the Santa Barbara area.

- We are beginning our baby shower bonanza at **Fr Nicholas & Jan Speier's home on Saturday, September 13th at 10am.** Join us for food, fellowship & fun and bring a gift (unwrapped is fine) for a baby. An Evite is coming soon with a wish list. Mark your calendar now and watch your email to RSVP.
- **Why is it a baby shower bonanza?**
Because we will continue gathering items throughout September, making the donation to Susie's Closet as exciting for them as possible! Please bring items to the Sept. 13 gathering and/or drop off in the container in the bookstore (labeled Susie's Closet) during the month of September.



Have questions? Ask Kristin King, Jan Speier and Liz Hoppe.

CURRENT LIST OF NEEDS

New:

Size 1 diapers
Wipes
Desitin/diaper cream
Powder formula

Used/good condition:

Newborn BOY clothes
Nursing covers
Infant head support
Changing pad
Potty seats

Baby bath
Board books
Baby toys
Bouncy seats
Stroller
Pack n play
High chair

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY YEARS to Gage and Anna Grace (Butler) Salinas, who were united in Holy Matrimony last Sunday, August 31st. Sponsors were Melissa and Jason Wayne. Anna Grace is the daughter of Subdeacon Stephen Butler and Sierra Boatwright.



FR. SYMEON and his family will be away this Saturday but will be back for services on Sunday.

THE YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP will gather today for an end-of-summer barbecue at 4:00 p.m. at the home of Fr. Symeon & Kh. Cayce Halsell. If you have questions or need directions, see Zac Wood or Asia Ballew.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY STARTING!

THIS TUESDAY, September 9th, we will begin a Bible Study of St. Luke's Gospel and the Book of Acts. The study will begin after our 5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers on Tuesdays and last until 7:00 p.m. Fr. Symeon will be using a curriculum created by the Antiochian Archdiocese. The Autumn Bible Study will meet until the beginning of the Nativity Fast. The last session will be on Tuesday, November 11th.

ADULT CATECHISM BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPT. 21

The next series of Adult Catechism classes begins on Sunday, Sept. 21 from 12:45—1:15 P.M. and will meet every Sunday at that time until the beginning of Great Lent, with a few exceptions. We will announce ahead of time when there will be no Sunday class.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

9/7 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 |

the **HOWARD SHANNON**

ANNUAL GOLF

20

25

TOURNAMENT

09.26.2025
GLEN ANNIE GOLF CLUB

405 GLEN ANNIE ROAD
GOLETA, CA 93117

GOLF, DINNER & AUCTION

Benefiting St. Athanasius Orthodox Church

REGISTER NOW: WWW.STATHANASIUS.ORG

**Our annual fundraiser for the temple
is ONLY 3 WEEKS AWAY!
HOWARD SHANNON GOLF TOURNAMENT
Friday, September 26, 2025**

There is still room for more golfers! Registrations accepted until we are full.

The deadline for purchasing **dinner tickets** is **Friday, SEPTEMBER 19.**
EARLY BIRD PRICE FOR DINNER GOES UP \$30 ON 9/15!

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- Donations can be made all the way up to the tournament.
- Consider supporting Fr. Nicholas' Hole #10 Fundraiser or the Dn. Richard Easbey Putting Contest
- Attend the dinner and auction. **(EARLY BIRD SPECIAL ENDS 9/15!)**

For more details and to donate or register, go to:
<https://www.stathanasius.org/events/2025-golf-tournament/>

**HELP MAKE OUR AUCTION AS
SUCCESSFUL AS POSSIBLE!**

We would love for every family to contribute to the auction.
Consider soliciting a gift card from a business you use regularly.

For example:

Barber/Hair Stylist, Restaurant, Brewery, Coffee Shop, Bakery,
Grocery store, Boutique, Golf Course, Bike Shop, etc...)

**Auction items are due by
this Friday, SEPTEMBER 12.**
**If you need ideas,
see Terri Speier
or Sherie Shackelford!**



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. 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.
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.
Dn. John & Fay Y.
Kh. Peggy K.
Kh. Janet Henderson
Phyllis M.
Fr. Joseph A.
Jim M.
Gayla
Cameron B.
Galeyna T.
Jill W. and Family
Alla G.
Oleg G.
Wayne Family
Shirley D. and Family
Jesús D.
Josh W.
Briana 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

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: Bruce J.

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, September 7—Feast of Nativity of Theotokos (transferred from Sept. 8)

9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. Agape Meal
12:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
4:00 p.m. Young Adult BBQ

Monday, September 8

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

Tuesday, September 9

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers
6:00 p.m. Bible Study (Luke, Acts)

Wednesday, September 10

7:00 a.m. Daily Reader's Matins
11:50 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry
5:30 p.m. Akathist to St. Nektarios of Aegina

Thursday, September 11

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

NO YOUTH GROUP

Friday, September 12

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins (with a priest)

Saturday, September 13

5:30 p.m. Festal Great Vespers for Feast of the Cross
 (Fr. Symeon will be away on Saturday.)

Sunday, September 14—FEAST OF THE CROSS

9:00 a.m. Festal Matins
10:00 a.m. Festal Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. Agape Meal—Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCCHARIST BREAD

September 7 Frangos
September 14 Meyer
September 21 Morrison
September 28 Jacobs

READERS

September 7 Lange
September 13 Alexander (Vespers)
September 14 Butler
September 21 Kern
September 28 Gish

GREETERS

September 7 J. & M. Worthington
September 14 A. Ballew/N. Aviles
September 21 G. Hoppe/B. Eberhard
September 28 K.P. King/L. Baker

USHERS

September 7 P. King/J. King
September 14 C. Speier/S. Speier
September 21 D. Meyer/K.L. King
September 28 D. Alexander/M. Loulias

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

September 7 Team Speier
September 14 Team Wayne
September 21 Team Worthington
September 28 Team Aviles/Wood

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!

NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

CONNOR CLEMENTS

I was born in Santa Barbara, and lived here until my family moved to Ventura when I was very young. There I attended a Christian pre-school and eventually studied religions through a class in high school.

Growing up I was raised on English tea and Irish music. My father was born to a traditional military family in London, and my mother was born in Massachusetts. I have two sisters, a nephew and two nieces.

I love soccer and Chelsea Football Club, writing, history and anything to do with the ocean.

I work for Raytheon here in Goleta and began attending St. Athanasius in June of 2023. I was Baptized in May of 2024 on Holy Saturday.

