

ST. ATHANASIUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

300 Sumida Gardens Lane Santa Barbara, CA 93111 **Office hours:** Tues-Fri. 12:00—5:00 p.m.

Senior Pastor: Fr. Nicholas Speier 805-685-5495 frnicholas@stathanasius.org

Assistant Pastors:

Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges 805-968-1903 Fr. John Carrillo 805-968-2448 Fr. Jon Braun, Attached Priest (retired) Fr. John Finley, Attached Priest

> Deacons: Dn. Gary Braun Dn. Scott Jacobs Dn. Richard Easbey Dn. John Young

Music Director/Administrator: Valerie Yova Office phone: 805-685-5400 email: office@stathanasius.org

Parish Council:

Douglas Meyer, President Dan Braun, Treasurer Katie AbuGhazaleh, Secretary Richard Barre Catherine Braun Dottie Genatone Benjamin Hedges Karen Jacobs Dr. Jon King LITURGÝ OF ST. JOHN CHRÝSOSTOM Sunday, December 6, 2015 Tone 2 / Eothinon 5 Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia & Tenth Sunday of Luke

Nicholas, Bishop of Patara; New-martyr Nicholas of Karamania in Asia Minor



WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

We are glad you are with us this morning. If you are not Orthodox, we invite you to partake of the blessed bread during Communion and to join us at Coffee Hour ~ we'd love to meet you!

Calendar for this Week

Sunday, December 6- ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA 9:00 a.m. Religious Ed. classes Grades 9-12

9:00 a.m.	Religious Ed. classes Grades 9-2
9:00 a.m.	Matins
10:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
12:00 p.m.	Girls' Choir Rehearsal
12:15 p.m.	Adult Choir Rehearsal
12:30 p.m.	St. Nicholas play rehearsal
5:00 p.m.	High School Gift Exchange

Monday, December 7

6:45 a.m.	Daily Matins
4:30 p.m.	Outreach Dinner at St. Michael's
	University Church in Isla Vista

Tuesday, December 8

3:30 p.m.	Catechesis Level I
5:30 p.m.	Daily Vespers

Wednesday, December 9

6:45 a.m.Daily Matins12:00 p.m.Intercessory Prayer Group6:00 p.m.Advent Paraklesis

Thursday, December 10

5:30 P.M.	Daily Vespers
7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 11

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins

Saturday, December 12

4:30 p.m.Adult Catechism6:00 p.m.Vespers

Sunday, December 13

9:00 a.m.	Religious Ed. classes Grades 9-12
9:00 a.m.	Matins
10:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
12:30 p.m.	St. Nicholas Program Rehearsal
6:00 p.m.	St. Nicholas Family Night

Sunday Morning Ministries Schedule

Eucharist Bread

December 6	Sieck
December 13	Dillon
December 20	Meyer
December 27	Kern

Coffee Hour

December 6	Baker/Berari
December 13	C. Shannon
December 20	Vander Laan
December 27	POTLUCK

<u>Greeters</u>

December 6	L. Baker, D. Lewis
December 13	P. Morrison, D. Genatone
December 20	D. Washburn, G. Shannon
December 27	K. & L. Jacobs

<u>Ushers</u>

December 6	R. Barre, S. Speier P. Brunner
December 13	P. King, D. Meyer, G. Shannon
December 20	D. Lewis, C. Speier, J. King
December 27	G. Shannon S. Speier, P. Brunner

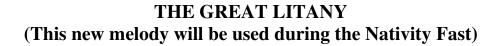
<u>Readers</u>

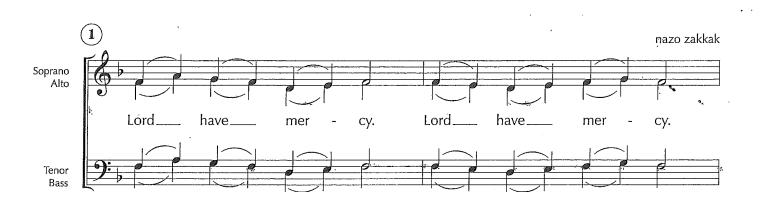
December 6	T. Harris
December 12	R. Barre (Vespers)
December 13	D. Washburn
December 19	D. Alexander (Vespers)
December 20	H. Lange
December 24	R. Barre
December 27	P. Braun
December 31	V. Gish

AT THE END OF THE MATINS SERVICE, WE SING THE GREAT DOXOLOGY. ("Glory to You, Who have shown us the light...") followed by the Matins Dismissal Troparion. Complete text is in front of Liturgy book.

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD





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"

After each of the verses is sung by antiphonal choirs, the choir and congregation sing the refrain:

"Remember us, O Lord, when you come in your Kingdom."

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

(Music on p. 42 of Liturgy book) When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly pow'r, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the pow'rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee. O Christ, Thou art the Giver of life, Glory to Thee.

Troparion for St. Nicholas

Troparion of the Resurrection

You appeared to your flock as a rule of faith, An image of humility and a teacher of abstinence. Because of your lowliness, heaven was opened to you; Because of your poverty, riches were granted to you. O holy bishop Nicholas, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

harmonized by Fr. J. Finley

Tone 2 Byzantine melody

Tone 4 Serbian Chant arr. Peter Drobac

Troparion to St. Athanasius (Music on p. 54 of Liturgy book)

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 Preparation of Christ's Nativity

The virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth, at the message; with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him Who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God. **Tone 3** Byzantine melody harmonized by F. Karam

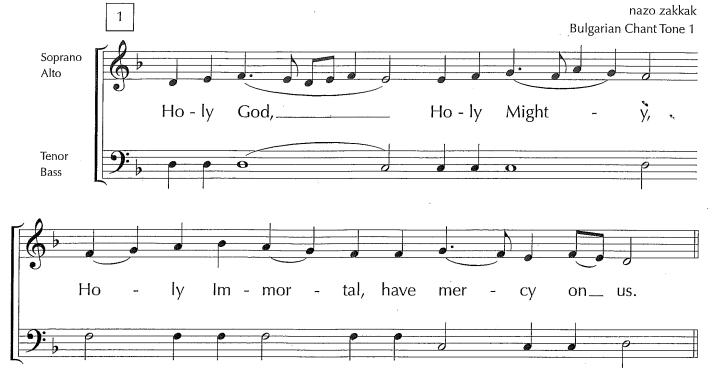
TRISAGION (THRICE-HOLY) HYMN (p. 9 of Liturgy book)

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.



Tone 3 Byzantine melody harmonized by Fr. J. Finley

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of all His saints.

Vs. What shall I render to the Lord for all that He has given me?

EPISTLE READING Hebrews 13:17-21

Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you.

Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner.

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Preparatory Psalm Verses with Alleluia Refrain Before the GospelTone 2(Music on page 64 of Liturgy Booklet)Tone 2

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! **People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**!

Verse: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! (Ps 19/20:1)

Verse: O Lord, save the King in the day we call on Thee! (Ps 19/20:9)

GOSPEL READING Luke. 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

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.

Hymns sung as the clergy receive the Eucharist for the feast of the Cross

- Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)
- The Jesus Prayer: "O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner."

Blessed be the Name of the Lord (at the Dismissal)



ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

You can access a complete calendar of services and other parish activities on our website: **www.stathanasius.org.**

UPCOMING SERVICES DURING ADVENT

Wednesdays, December 9, 16, & 23 Advent Paraklesis at 6:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION FOR THE ANTIOCHIAN VILLAGE SUMMER CAMP in Pennsyl-

vania begins on December 10th. The cost this year is \$750 for two weeks. For information or to register, go to: https://avcamp.org/

THANK YOU SO MUCH to Asia Ballew, Nancy Gilbert, Lisa Ballew and Carla Brunstead, for creating our beautiful Nativity cave this year in the entryway! We were taught this custom by Rouba Heckenlively many years ago. Rouba immigrated to the U.S. from Ma'loula, a town in Syria 56 km from Damascus and one of three remaining villages where Western Aramaic is spoken. Thank you, Rouba, for passing on this lovely tradition!



WE NEED MORE SUNDAY MORNING USHERS & GREETERS!

This is a fun, easy but important volunteer ministry. Please consider signing up to usher and/or greet once a month. If you are able and willing, or have questions, contact Peggy King: pking42@aol.com.

CELEBRATIONS for THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

12/11 Dn. Richard & June Easbey

12/12 Dn. Scott & Karen Jacobs, Fr. Jon-Stephen & Melissa Hedges

Birthdays

- 12/7 Lilyana Joelle Williams
- 12/9 Jesse Speier

Patron Saint Commemorations

12/6 St. Nicholas the Wonderworker

Nicholas Berari, Nicole Berari, Nicholas Butler, Nikolay Nikolov, Fr. Nicholas Speier, Nikolai Tinyayeva Rice

- 12/9 St. Hannah, Mother of Prophet Samuel Hannah Sieck
- 12/10 St. Angelina of Serbia

Hannah Sieck Angel Speier



SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING

FEAST DAYS & CELEBRATIONS

ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m.

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Thursday, December 24–Christmas Eve

8:00 a.m. Royal Hours (Complete)

8:00 p.m. Nativity Matins & Liturgy followed by cookies & hot cider

Friday, December 25–Christmas Day NO MORNING SERVICE

10:00 a.m. Outreach Breakfast—St. Michael's University Church hosted by St. Brigid Fellowship — all parishioners invited!

COMMEMORATION OF THE INNOCENTS SLAIN BY HEROD Saturday, December 26 at Vespers—6:00 p.m.

Prayers for the souls of infants who have died in childbirth, or were stillborn. (The Feast of the Innocents is December 29.)

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES—FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN Sunday, December 27 at 1 p.m.—Goleta Cemetery Visit

with prayers and caroling

YOUTH DANCE—ages 12-20

Sunday, December 27–2-5 p.m.

In Buellton, hosted by the DeBruin Family Food, fun, dance lessons! More details to follow.

ST. BASIL/NEW YEAR

Thursday, December 31

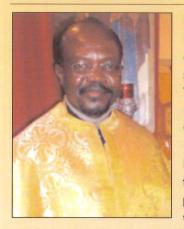
6:00 p.m. Vesperal Liturgy for St. Basil the Great

Meet Fr. Eulogios, the mission priest we will be sponsoring in 2016!



Ghana

Fr. Eulogios Adade



Fr. Eulogios Ben Ayetey Adade was born on June 7, 1971 in Accra, Ghana. Prior to becoming a priest, he studied construction, as well as computers. On September 25, 2011, he was ordained to the holy priesthood and sent to pursue doctoral studies in theology at the St. Sergius Orthodox Theological Institute in Paris, France. Since he completed his studies and returned to Ghana, Fr. Eulogios serves at the Holy Transfiguration Cathedral in Accra.

In 1932, a former Methodist minister, Kwamin Ntsetse Bresi-Ando, founded a new church in Ghana. Preaching freedom for the Ghanaian people during the days of colonialism, he established a church based on the "primitive faith." His vision was that this new church would be both

apostolic and canonical, not a version of a foreign church. He named his church the African Universal (Orthodox-Catholic) Church. Members called themselves "Orthodox", applying the term to mean "universal", even though they lacked contact with the Orthodox Church and had little understanding of the doctrines of the Orthodox faith.

In 1974, the World Council of Churches held a meeting in Accra, Ghana, where two of the "orthodox" youth from Bresi-Ando's church met two Orthodox Christian priests from the United States, Frs. John Meyendorff and Thomas Hopko, who were attending the meeting. This contact proved to be a major turning point and the necessary impetus towards the canonical reception of Bresi-Ando's Ghanaian church community into the jurisdiction of the Orthodox Patriarchate of Alexandria in-1982.

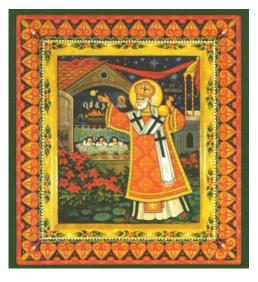
In September 2007, the Orthodox Church of Ghana made another leap forward when it was appointed its own diocese. On October 6, 2009, it was elevated to the present-day Archdiocese of Accra. In addition to Ghana, this archdiocese includes Ivory Coast, Burkina Faso, and Mali, under the pastoral leadership of His Eminence Metropolitan Savvas. Metropolitan Savvas, originally from Rhodes, Greece, served the Patriarchal Office for many years before being elected as Metropolitan of Accra on November 21, 2012. With dedication and zeal, His Eminence continues in the work of sharing Orthodoxy with the people of western Africa. **The Support a Mission Priest** (SAMP) program of the **Orthodox Christian Mission** Center (OCMC) offers financial monthly assistance to indigenous priests in the world's poorest areas. These funds make it possible for priests to minister and serve their growing communities.

(904) 829-5132

mc.org

t. Augustine, FL

SAVE THE DATE: ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2015—6:00 p.m.



We will celebrate the life of St. Nicholas of Myra with story telling, music, drama and a fun evening for the whole family. A lenten reception and visit from St. Nicholas will follow the program. Children ages 3-12 will be invited to leave their shoes in the hallway during the program so that St. Nicholas can fill them with treats, and all of the children will participate in welcoming St. Nicholas at the end of the program. After the program, children will have an opportunity to have their photo taken with St. Nicholas, if they like.

NEW THIS YEAR: COSTUME CONTEST!

All children ages 3-12 are asked to dress as one of the following:

- A child of the world (traditional dress from other countries)
- A character from the life of St. Nicholas of Myra or a saint of the church/ patron saint. For some ideas, go to: https://www.stathanasius.org/resources/st-nicholas-night-costumeideas/

Prizes will be given by age groups and will include partial tuition for Camp St. Nicholas or Summer School 2016!

Admission: \$5 per family, or one of the following items for our clothing drive for the homeless: (Cash collected goes to St. Brigid Fellowship.)

- •3-pack of white or dark athletic socks
- •warm hat or mittens
- •new or gently used/clean sweatshirt
- •new or gently used/clean sleeping bag or blanket
- new or gently used jeans

2015 St. Nicholas Drive for the Needy ST. BRIGID FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING ITEMS FOR THE

HOMELESS to be distributed at our outreach breakfast on Christmas morning. Please keep the homeless in mind as you are doing holiday shopping and consider purchasing an item for the collection. We are asking for:

- white or dark athletic socks
- warm hats and mittens
- new or gently used/clean sweatshirts
- new or gently used/clean sleeping bags or blankets
- new or gently used jeans

Drop your donated items in the large, decorated box in the hallway.

Please do NOT gift-wrap the donated items. Please limit your gifts to the specific items requested. Thanks!!

Outreach Breakfast on Christmas Morning

Once again, our St. Brigid Ministry Team will be coordinating the lovely Christmas breakfast for the homeless and needy on Dec. 25th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Michael's University Church in Isla Vista. We need lots of help with set-up, clean-up, food preparation, and entertainment, so please sign up to lend a hand in whatever way that you are able. The list is posted on the large bulletin board in the hallway.

If it is impossible to bring food directly to the breakfast on Christmas morning, food items that do not need to be served hot may be brought to the church on Christmas Eve. Please be sure to clearly mark your food and leave it in the small kitchenette by the church office. Hot foods may be dropped off at the church by 9:30 a.m. on Christmas morning and left on the table on the patio. Please make sure that food is tightly covered and in either a box or a bag.

Bring the entire family that day and enjoy an extra special Christmas morning blessing by opening your hearts to those in need!

TEEN SCENE Activities—Autumn 2015

High School

Date	Activity	Time and Location
Sunday, 12/6	White Elephant Gift Exchange	5:00 p.m., Location TBA
Sunday, 12/13	St. Nicholas Night	Meet at 4:00 pm. to set up
Sunday, 12/27	Teen Dance in Buellton	2-5 p.m. (Details to follow.)

THE NATIVITY FAST

Fasting is not just about food. FAST from self-concern and FEAST on compassion for others. FAST from discouragement and FEAST on hope. FAST from lethargy and FEAST on enthusiasm. FAST from suspicion and FEAST on truth. FAST from thoughts that weaken and FEAST on promises that inspire. FAST from shadows of sorrow and FEAST on the sunlight of serenity. FAST from idle gossip and FEAST on purposeful silence. FAST from problems that overwhelm you and FEAST on prayer that sustains. FAST from criticism and FEAST on praise. FAST from self-pity and FEAST on joy. FAST from ill-temper and FEAST on peace. FAST from resentment and FEAST on contentment. FAST from jealousy and FEAST on love. FAST from pride and FEAST on humility. FAST from selfishness and FEAST on service.

- Abbot Tryphon, All-holy Saviour Monastery

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:

Metropolitan JOSEPH	Susan B.	Nikita
Mother Victoria	Baby Christian F.	Marina
Met. Paul & Abp. John	Duane F.	Olga Marie G.
Dn. Richard E.	Stan and Donna F.	Mike, Trevor & Adam
Kh. Mary Sue W.	Angel, Helen and Family	Emily F.
Greg & Margaret Y.	Joy	Joan, Jerry, Brenda
Hoppe Family	Terri-Lynn H.	Kevin O.
Kh. Mary Ellen B.	Hannah Rose H.	Delaney N.
Gail S.	Holly C.	Sabina S.
Dean & Penny B.	Temmo K.	All those suffering and
Kevin & Angel S.	Paige	in danger in the Ukraine,
Mary	Galina, Nikolai & Nataliya	Africa, and the Middle East

For repose of the souls of: Krista, Joe, Kh. Sissy

All who have died in the conflicts in the Ukraine, Africa & the Middle East **ABOUT OUR PRAYER LISTS:**

Prayer requests in the bulletin are prayed out loud during the deacons' litanies and should be submitted to the church office—office@stathanasius.org.

Prayer requests put into the wooden box in the narthex will be said silently at the altar at most services. During the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy, only Orthodox Christians are commemorated, and that list is comprised of the sick, those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin, and those who prepared the Eucharist bread. Others are prayed for during the Proskomedia (Preparation of the Bread and Wine for Communion).

ST. ATHANASIUS BOOK CENTER

******* ******* The church bookstore is located in the fellowship hall. The two enclosed cabinets hold icons, books, and other items that are FOR SALE. See Terri Speier if you are looking for jewelry such as a cross or chain. Payment should be made at time of purchase and placed in the brown lock box ON THE BOOKSTORE SHELF. Make checks payable to "St. Athanasius Book Center."

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All proceeds go to the parish Building Fund.

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