



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
Benjamin Hedges, Secretary
Katie AbuGhazaleh
Richard Barre
Catherine Braun
Dottie Genatone
Verne Gish
Kristi King

LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, December 11 2016
Tone 8 / Eothinon 3

Sunday of Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

Venerable Daniel the Stylite; Luke the New Stylite of
Chalcedon; Nikon “the dry” of the Kiev Caves;
Venerable Leontios of Achaia; Martyr Barsabbas of Persia



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.
Please join us at Coffee Hour~ we'd love to meet you!*

Calendar for this Week

Sunday, December 11—Sunday of the Forefathers

9:00 a.m.	Religious Education ages 6-18 yrs.
9:00 a.m.	Matins
10:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
12:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m.	St. Nicholas Family Night

Monday, December 12

6:45 a.m.	Daily Matins in the chapel
4:30 p.m.	St. Brigid Outreach dinner at St. Michael's in Isla Vista

Tuesday, December 13

3:15 p.m.	Catechesis Level I
5:30 p.m.	Daily Vespers in the chapel

Wednesday, December 14

6:45 a.m.	Daily Matins in the chapel
11 a.m.-1p.m.	Shower of Blessings Ministry
12:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group
6:00 p.m.	Advent Paraklesis Service SOUP DINNER CANCELLED

Thursday, December 15

5:30 p.m.	Daily Vespers in the chapel
6:30 p.m.	Teen Christmas Party at Scott and Terri Speier's home
7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 16

6:45 a.m.	Daily Matins in the chapel
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Saturday, December 17

9:30 a.m.	Women's Fellowship Breakfast
4:30 p.m.	Adult Catechism
6:00 p.m.	Great Vespers

Sunday, December 18—Sunday of Genealogy of Christ

9:00 a.m.	Religious Education ages 6-18 yrs.
9:00 a.m.	Matins
10:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
12:15 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Sunday Morning Ministries Schedule

Eucharist Bread

December 11	Dillon
December 18	Braun
December 24	Kern
January 1	Kern

Coffee Hour

December 11	NEED A HOST
December 18	NEED A HOST
December 24	Yova and Elves—Nativity Reception
January 1	NEED A HOST — New Year's

Greeters

December 11	P. King/K. King
December 18	G. Shannon/L. Baker
December 24	P. King/K. Fox
January 1	P. Morrison/D. Genatone

Ushers

December 11	R. Barre, D. Lewis, P. Brunner
December 18	C. Speier, J. King, D. Washburn
December 24	C. Berari, P. Brunner, P. King
January 1	R. Barre, D. Lewis, D. Washburn

Readers

December 11	D. Washburn
December 17	G. Wiley (Vespers)
December 18	D. Meyer
December 24	M. Kern (Royal Hours of Nativity)
December 24	D. Alexander (Nativity Liturgy)
December 31	R. Barre (Great Vespers)
January 1	V. Gish

**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 be-
come 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.

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

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 8

(Music on page 53 of Liturgy Book)

From the heights Thou didst descend,
O Compassionate One;
and Thou didst submit to the three day burial,
that Thou might deliver us from passion.
Thou art our Life and our Resurrection,
O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion for the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

Tone 2 (Slavic Chant)

Through faith You justified the Forefathers,
betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles.
These saints exult in glory,
for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:
she who bore You without seed.
So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

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.

Tone 3 Byzantine melody
harmonized by Fr. J. Finley

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.

Preparatory Psalm Verses before the Epistle (Prokeimenon)

Tone 8

Blessed are You, O Lord, God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your name forever.

Verse: For You are just in all that You have done for us

EPISTLE READING
Colossians (3:4-11)

Brethren, when Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these, the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience. In these you once walked, when you lived in them. But now

put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old nature with its practices and have put on the new nature, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its Creator. Here there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all, and in all.

Preparatory Psalm Verses with Alleluia Refrain Before the Gospel Tone 4
(Music on page 64 of Liturgy Booklet)

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. (Ps 99/100:6)

v: They called to the Lord and He answered them. (Ps 99/100:6)

GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:16-24

The Lord spoke this parable: “A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for all is now ready.’ But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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*)
- Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)
- The Jesus Prayer: “O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”

Recessional: “Be Prepared, O Bethlehem”

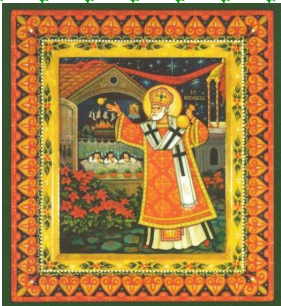
Be prepared, O Bethlehem, Eden opens now to all;
O Ephratha ready make: for within the stable cave,
From the Virgin Mary pure, the tree of life has blossomed forth.
For her womb is shown to be paradise in spirit;
in which is the plant divine from which having truly fed,
we will live forevermore, and not die as Adam did.
Christ the Lord is born to raise the image that had fallen long before.

HOLY COMMUNION

In the Orthodox Church, the sacrament of Communion is offered only to Christians who are baptized in the name of the Trinity and chrismated into the Orthodox Faith. Non-Orthodox believers **may approach the chalice for a blessing and the blessed bread instead of the Eucharist**. So that the priest is aware of this, please just say,
“Father, bless” when you get to the chalice.

Thanksgiving Prayers after Communion

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 you show courtesy to those who are remaining to hear the prayers in their entirety by waiting until Coffee Hour to socialize.



ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION TONIGHT! SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2016 6:00 p.m.

We will celebrate the life of St. Nicholas of Myra with story telling, music, 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.

CELEBRATIONS for THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

12/11 Dn. Richard & June Easbey

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

Birthdays

12/14 Gail Shannon

12/17 Jon King

Patron Saint Commemorations

12/11 Sunday of the Forefathers

King David

Gage Braun, Josh Braun, David Dillon, David Giordani, Jon King, David Lewis, David McCalmont, Jared Speier, David Washburn

Daniel the Prophet

Dan Braun, Dexton Daniel Braun, Daniel Giordani, Garrett Gish, Jase Daniel Speier, Dan Washburn

Jesse Jesse Speier

Adam Adam King

Rachel Rachel Friesen

Rebekah Rebekah Dillon

Ruth Fay Young

Judith Judy Braun

Aaron Howard Lange, Aaron Simonsen, Aaron Sokol

12/13 St. Lucia Lucy Speier, Lucia Speier

12/17 St. Miriam Miriam Vander Laan

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

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

WE ARE OFFERING AN EXPANDED BOOKSTORE for the next several weeks so that you can purchase Christmas gifts from our wonderful selection of books, jewelry and ornaments. Please try to do your purchasing on your way out to Coffee Hour so that our bookstore volunteers can also get out to Coffee Hour. Thanks!

THE ST. STEPHEN'S STUDY GROUP is meeting every other Sunday after church! Please call or email Michael Easbey with any questions - 805-705-6121 or measbey@gmail.com.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOR THE PARISH 30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
February 17-19, 2017
More information to follow soon!**

PRAYER FOR THE NATIVITY FAST (For Families with Young Children)

Lord, our God, as you entered into the world as a newborn baby, enter also into our hearts so that we may prepare for your glorious coming.

Help us to be still so we can hear the angels announce your Nativity.

Help us to keep our eyes clear so we may follow the star to your Son's birth.

Help us to turn our minds, hearts, and whole bodies toward you so that we may realize that the best gifts come from above.

As You so loved the world that You gave us your only begotten Son, help us to share this love with family, friends, enemies, and everyone we meet.

We ask this in your holy name: The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING FEAST DAYS & CELEBRATIONS

ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY NIGHT

Sunday, December 11 at 6:00 p.m.

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Saturday, December 24

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

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

Sunday, 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!

Tuesday, December 27—12:00 Noon

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES—GOLETA CEMETARY

Thursday, December 29 at Daily Vespers—5:30 p.m.

**COMMEMORATION OF THE INNOCENTS SLAIN BY
HEROD—Prayers for the souls of infants** who have died in
childbirth, were stillborn or who died as a result of an abortion

FEAST OF ST. BASIL/NEW YEAR

Sunday, January 1

9:00 a.m. Matins, 10:00 a.m. Liturgy

FEAST OF EPIPHANY

Wednesday, January 4 at 6:45 a.m. -Royal Hours of Epiphany

Thursday, January 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Vesperal-Liturgy and Blessing of the Water

Sunday, January 8, 2017 after Coffee Hour

Outdoor Blessing of the Water at Santa Barbara Harbor
with St. Barbara Greek parish. Bus transportation will be available again at
\$5 per person. Please sign up if you are planning to attend.

2016 St. Nicholas Drive for the Needy

ST. BRIGID FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS and those in need to be distributed at our outreach breakfast on Christmas morning. Please keep this 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, and 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.

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

HAVE YOU LOST SOMETHING?

We have collected a number of items in the
LOST AND FOUND
that need to be claimed by the end of the year.

Please take a look in the nook at the end of the long hallway, near the sitting area with the couches and rocking chair, and see if any of these items belong to you.

We have a cell phone/Pad in the office that was found on one of the couches after the concert on November 13. It has “Amazon” on the back of it. If you are missing one, ask Valerie about it.



OUTDOOR GREAT BLESSING OF THE WATERS for the Feast of Epiphany Sunday, January 8, 2017

This year we will join St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church again for the Outdoor Blessing of the Waters on Sunday, January 8th. We will be meeting them at the Santa Barbara Harbor, near West Beach and the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.

Once again, we will be taking a bus down to the harbor at 12:30 p.m. that day, because parking is often difficult to find. There will be a small per-person cost for taking the bus. Those who joined us last year will remember that, in spite of the light drizzle, it was a really lovely time with our Orthodox brothers and sisters from St. Barbara's.

If you would like to attend, please sign up on the bulletin board or send an email to: office@stathanasius.org. Be sure to stipulate how many family members will attend and how many would like to ride the bus. If necessary, we will rent two busses to accommodate everyone. St. Barbara's will be providing refreshments again and they need to know how many from our parish will attend.



TEEN SCENE

DECEMBER, 2016

Unless specified otherwise, on Thursday evenings the Jr. Highers meet from 6pm - 7:30pm and High Schoolers meet from 6:30pm - 8:30pm.

- 12/15 Christmas Party at Peter and Tatiana Speier's Home
6:30pm - 8:30pm (**All teens come at the same time**) *Wear Christmas Pajamas (or an ugly Christmas Sweater) + Bring a White Elephant Gift! Dinner and Dessert will be provided.*
- 12/22 Christmas Movie Night in the Youth Room
6:30pm - 8:30pm (**All Teens come at the Same Time**)
Please eat dinner before you come - hot cocoa and dessert will be served

Wednesday, 12/28 - Youth Groupers Meet for Lunch at Camino Real from 12pm to 1pm.
Bring Cash for lunch, and come to hang out! If any good movies are playing, we may add a movie to this.

NO YOUTH GROUP THURSDAY, 12/29.



Cookie Decorating and Christmas Games

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
Mother Victoria
Met. Paul & Abp. John
Fr. Jon Braun
Dn. Richard E.
Kh. Diane C.
Kh. Mary Sue W.
Fr. Patrick and Vanessa K.
Greg & Margaret Y.
Hoppe Family
Gail S.
Dean & Penny B.
Kevin & Angel S.

Baby Emma
Mary
Susan B.
Baby Christian F.
Duane F.
Galina, Nikolai & Nataliya
Olga Marie G.
Emily F.
Joan T.
Terri-Lynn & Hannah Rose H.
Jared E.

James
Alma G.
Dawn L.
Zamora Family
Michael L., Penny C. and Family
Greg Z.
All those suffering and
in danger in the Ukraine,
Africa, and the Middle East

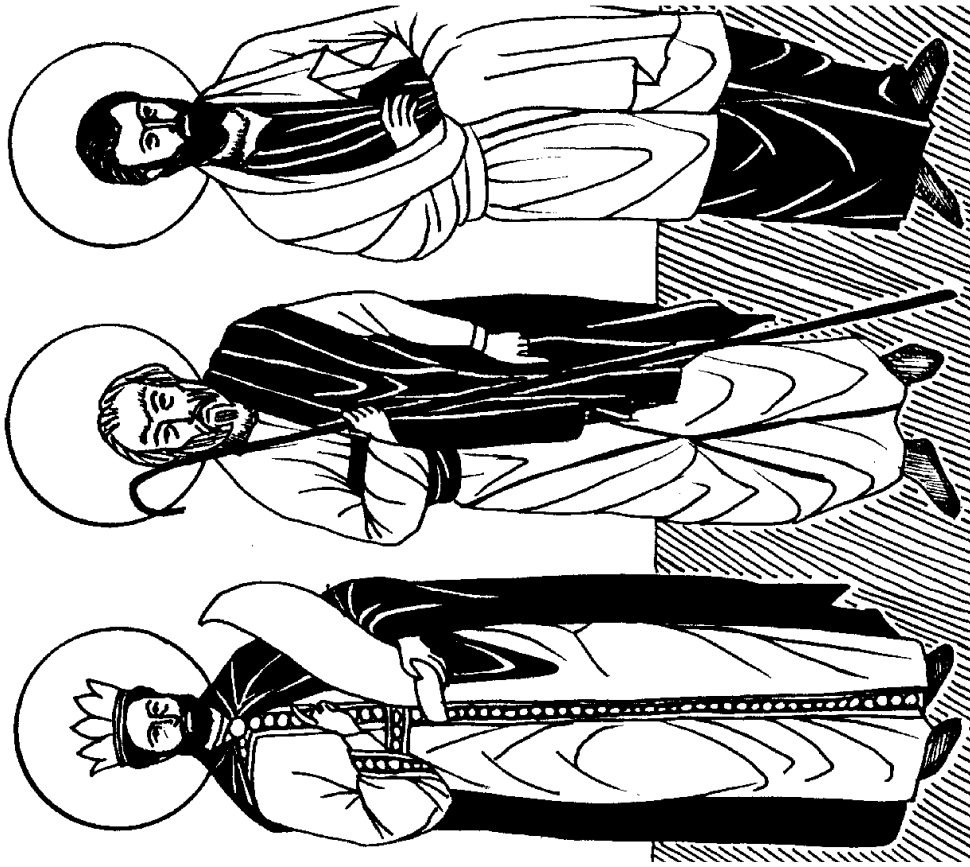
For repose of the souls of: All who have died in the conflicts in the Ukraine, Africa & the Middle East

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).

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* **ST. ATHANASIUS BOOK CENTER** *
* The church bookstore is located in the foyer of 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. Pay- *
* ment should be made at time of purchase and placed in the brown lockbox *
* mounted on wall next to Fr. Nicholas' office. Make checks payable to "St. *
* Athanasius Book Center." *
* **All proceeds go to the parish Building Fund.** *
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FOR THE CHILDREN TO COLOR
DURING THE HOMILY OR AT HOME -