



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

Lara Jacobs, Chair
Glenn Hoppe, Vice Chair
Dan Braun, Treasurer
Asia Ballew, Secretary
Dominic Dopico
Kristin King
Michael Loulias
Velislava Nikolov

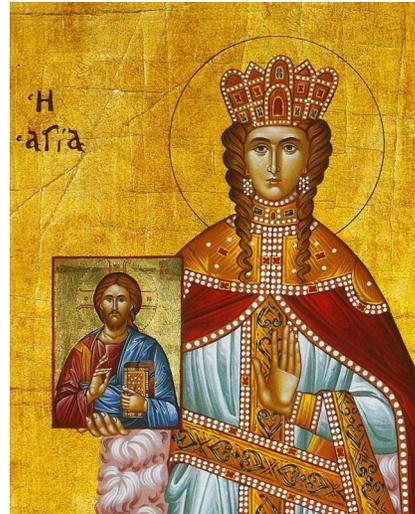
Music Director/Administrator:

Valerie Yova
Office phone: 805-685-5400
email: office@stathanasius.org

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

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

**DIVINE LITURGY OF
ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**
February 11, 2024
Tone 3 / Eothinon 3;
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
& Sixteenth Sunday of Matthew
Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebastia,
and Companions;
Theodora the Empress;
New-martyr George of Serbia



**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

THE 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 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.

HYMNS SUNG AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE:

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 3

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad,
for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm.
He hath trampled down death by death
and become the first born from the dead.
He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades,
granting the world the great mercy.

Troparion for Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste

Tone 4

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles,
you became a successor to their throne.
Through the practice of virtue, you found the way to divine contemplation,
O inspired one of God;
by teaching the word of truth without error, you defended the Faith,
even to the shedding of your blood.//
O Hieromartyr Blaise, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

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 - Ordinary Sundays**Tone 4**

O undisputed intercessor of Christians,
 The mediatrix, who was unrejected by the Creator.
 Turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners.
 Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith, for thou art good.
 Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos,
 who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

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**Tone 3**

Sing praises to our God, sing praises. Sing praises to our King, sing praises. (*Ps 46/47:6*)

Verse: Clap your hands all you peoples!
 Shout to God with a voice of joy! (*Ps 46/47:1*)

EPISTLE READING**2 Corinthians 6:1-10**

Brethren, working together with Him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For He says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Preparatory Psalm Verses with Alleluia Refrain Before the Gospel**Tone 3**

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Verse: In Thee, O Lord, I have hoped; let me never be ashamed. (*Ps 30/31:1*)

Verse: Be unto me a God and protector, and a house of refuge to save me. (*Ps 30/31:2*)

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:14-30, + Luke 8:8

The Lord spoke this parable: A man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying: "Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying: "Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master." He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying: "Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master answered him, "You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." As Jesus said these things He cried out: "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

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 Hymn

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

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FR. SYMEON AND FAMILY ARE OUT OF TOWN THIS WEEKEND.

ADULT CATECHISM CLASSES BEGIN THIS COMING SATURDAY, February 17th from 3-5 p.m. All are welcome: catechumens, inquirers, and baptized Orthodox Christians interested in refreshing or deepening their knowledge of the Faith. The class will meet on the following Saturdays:

February 17 & 24
March 9, 16 & 30

The class will pause during Great Lent and meet again beginning in late May.

THE MONTHLY MEN'S FIRESIDE will be tomorrow, Monday, February 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Adam Carralejo. If you need information, contact Howard Lange at hman3000@verizon.net.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SERVICE BOOKLETS AT HOME for Great Vespers or Divine Liturgy, could you please bring them back so that they are available for those attending services. Thank you!

THE ADULT CATECHISM CLASS FOR THIS WINTER will begin on Saturday, February 17th at 3:00 p.m. and

AKATHIST/PARAKLESIS ON WEDNESDAYS

From now until March 6th, we will pray either an Akathist or a Paraklesis Service at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. We will pause during Great Lent, and begin again on May 15th. As weather permits, we will pray the Parakleses out in our field, at the cross that is planted where our temple will stand.

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|-------------|------------|
| February 14 | Akathist |
| February 21 | Paraklesis |
| February 28 | Akathist |
| March 6 | Paraklesis |

ALL-PARISH MEETING—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25th

On Sunday, February 25th after the Agape Meal, we will have an all-parish meeting to receive an update on the rezoning situation for our land and next steps to be taken. We will not be voting on anything. It will be an informational meeting.

PRE-LENTEN SEMINAR—SATURDAY, MARCH 9th

On Saturday, March 9th, we will have our annual Pre-Lenten Seminar directly following the Soul Liturgy (which begins at 9:00 a.m.) and a brief coffee break. The seminar will begin at approximately 10:30 a.m. The topic will be “The Soul’s Cry to the Lord: The Lenten Prayers of St. Ephrem the Syrian, and St. Andrew of Crete’s “Great Canon.”

PLEASE JOIN US
in welcoming Metropolitan SABA to our parish
for the first time on



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024
(Please note the change from Feb. 23rd)

Vespers at 5:30 p.m.
followed by Dinner

UPCOMING SCHEDULE of FEAST DAYS & Special Activities

PRE-LENTEN SEMINAR

Saturday, March 9

10:30 a.m. (after Soul Liturgy & Coffee Break)
“The Soul’s Cry to the Lord: the Lenten Prayers
of St. Ephrem and St. Andrew of Crete’s
Great Canon.”

FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

Sunday, March 24

6:00 p.m. Pan-Orthodox Vespers
at Annunciation Orthodox Church in Santa Maria
(This is also the Sunday of Orthodoxy. The
Great Vespers will be for the feast of Annunciation.)

Monday, March 25

6:00 p.m. Vesperal-Liturgy at our parish

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

2/19 Ben & Viktoria Hedges

Birthdays

2/11 Nora Schumacher

2/14 **Fr. Nicholas Speier**

2/15 **Fr. Symeon Halsell**, Margaret Easbey, John Heiduk

2/17 Lincoln Brunner

Patronal Feast Days

2/11 St. Theodora the Empress Sydney Hedges

2/13 St. Priscilla Julie Gross

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. Ignace
Fr. Jon B.
Fr. John & Kh. Diane C.
Fr. Nicholas & Jan
Fr. Turbo & St. Mary parish
Fr. Paul and St. Moses parish
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.
Temmo K.
Sarah B..
Dn. John & Fay Y.
Samantha & Chris N. & Family
Kevin D. & Family
Erik L.
Matthew
Wade
Amanda Catherine
Darcy
Penny B.
Nancy & Patrick G.
Audry 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.

For repose of the souls of: Deborah, Fr. Ivan M. Fr. Moses B., Kh. Dina B., Isabel E., Chuck A.

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.

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, February 11

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
 3:30 p.m. Young Adult Superbowl Party

Monday, February 12

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

Tuesday, February 13

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, February 14

7:00 a.m. Daily Readers Matins
 12:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry at the church
 5:30 p.m. Akathist

Thursday, February 15

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, February 16

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

Saturday, February 17

5:30 p.m. Vespers/Confession
 3:00 p.m. Adult Catechism

Sunday, February 18

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

February 11 Morrison
 February 18 Jacobs
 February 25 Meyer
 March 3 Hoppe

READERS

February 11 Lange
 February 18 Butler
 February 25 Gish
 March 3 Alexander

GREETERS

February 11 K.P. King
 February 18 H. Lange
 February 25 G. Hoppe
 March 3 M. Loulias

USHERS

February 11 K.L. King/D. Alexander
 February 18 D. Meyer/M. Loulias
 February 25 S. Speier/C. Speier
 March 3 D. Washburn/D. Alexander

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

February 11 Team Wiley
 February 18 Team Lander
 February 25 Team Kawahara
 March 3 Team King

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.

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

**A PRAYER FOR GOD'S BLESSING OF THE
LAND DEVELOPMENT**

Almighty God, Creator and Fashioner, who didst found the earth on its firmness, who is the fountain of Wisdom and Tower of Strength, our help and refuge, Thou knowest that we can do nothing without Thy Divine guidance and aid: assist us that we may gird ourselves in simplicity that we may be wise as serpents and gentle as doves. Knowing that Thy wisdom and providence always prevail and are our strength, we ask that Thou dost bless our efforts to establish this land as a dedication to Thee. Thou hast given this earth to us to be a land of peace, and a beacon of salvation for mankind, we ask that this place be founded unshakably so that our children's children may glorify Thee unto the end of this age. Be Thou well pleased to bless us in Thy holy will to bring all our plans to completion, free them from every snare of the adversary that we may build upon this land a holy temple in which we may ascribe glory to Thee and the building up of all that is necessary for our salvation and that of this city and county; for Thine is the dominion, and Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.