



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

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Parish Council:

Douglas Meyer, President

Dan Braun, Treasurer

Katie AbuGhazaleh, Secretary

Richard Barre

Catherine Braun

Dottie Genatone

Benjamin Hedges

Karen Jacobs

Dr. Jon King

LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM Sunday, December 13, 2015 Tone 3 / Eothinon 6

Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

Herman of Alaska, Enlightener of the Aleuts; Martyrs Eustratios, Auxentios, Eugene, Mardarios, and Orestes at Sebastia; Virgin-martyr Lucia of Syracuse; Hieromartyr Gabriel, Patriarch of Serbia



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 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

Monday, December 14

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

Tuesday, December 15

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

Wednesday, December 16

6:45 a.m.	Daily Matins
12:00 p.m.	Intercessory Prayer Group
6:00 p.m.	Advent Paraklesis

Thursday, December 17

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

Friday, December 18

6:45 a.m.	Daily Matins
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Saturday, December 19

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

Sunday, December 20—St. John of Kronstadt

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

Sunday Morning Ministries Schedule

Eucharist Bread

December 13	Giordani
December 20	Meyer
December 27	Kern
January 3	Dillon

Coffee Hour

December 13	C. Shannon
December 20	Vander Laan
December 27	POTLUCK
January 3	NEED A HOST

Greeters

December 13	P. Morrison, D. Genatone
December 20	D. Washburn, G. Shannon
December 27	K. & L. Jacobs
January 3	P. King, L. Baker

Ushers

December 13	P. King, D. Meyer, G. Shannon
December 20	D. Lewis, C. Speier, J. King
December 27	G. Shannon S. Speier, P. Brunner
January 3	P. King, D. Meyer, R. Barre

Readers

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

THE GREAT LITANY (This new melody will be used during the Nativity Fast)

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ηαζο ζακκακ

Soprano
Alto

Lord have mer - cy. Lord have mer - cy.

Tenor
Bass

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

Troparion of the Resurrection

(Music on p. 44 of Liturgy book)

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.

Tone 3 (Byzantine melody
harmonized by Fr. J. Finley)

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)****Tone 3** Byzantine melody
harmonized by Fr. J. Finley

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**Tone 3** Byzantine melody
harmonized by F. Karam

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.

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
(Music on page 64 of Liturgy Booklet)

Tone 4

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.

PRAYER FOR THE NATIVITY FAST

(For Families with Teenaged Children)

Lord Jesus, You have come so many times to us and found no resting place, forgive us for our overcrowded lives, our vain haste and our preoccupation with self. Come again, O Lord, and though our hearts are a jumble of voices, and our minds overlaid with many fears, find a place, however humble, where You can begin to work Your wonder as You create peace and joy within us. If, in some hidden corner, in some out-of-the-way spot, we can clear away the clutter, and shut out the noise and darkness, come be born again in us, and we shall kneel in perfect peace with the wisest and humblest of men.

Help us to enter into this Christmas Fast with humility, yet with joy. And finally Lord, give us Christmas from within, that we may share it from without, on all sides, all around us, wherever there is need. God help us, every one, to share the blessing of Jesus, in whose name we keep Christmas holy. Amen.

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 16, & 23

Advent Paraklesis at 6:00 p.m.

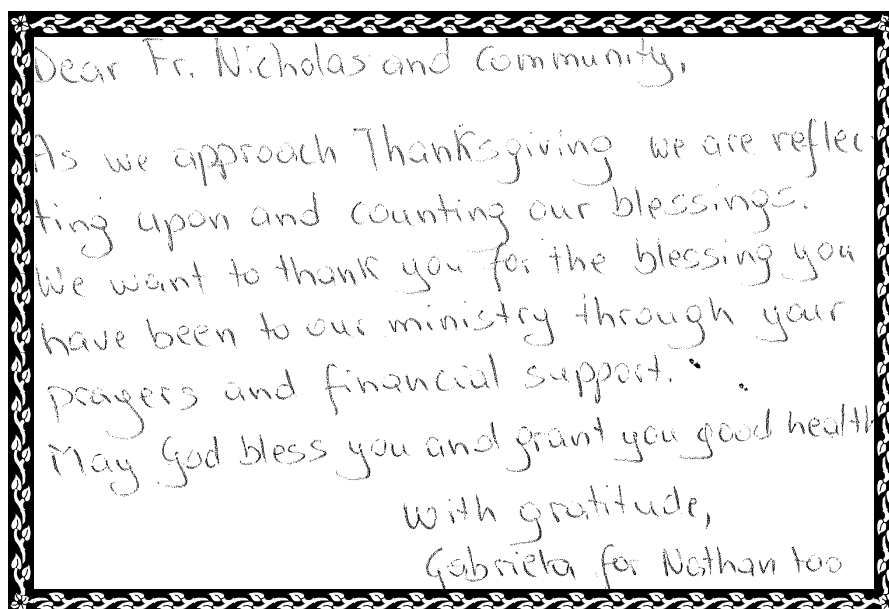
JOIN US TONIGHT FOR OUR ANNUAL ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY NIGHT!

Tonight at 6:00 p.m. we will celebrate the life of St. Nicholas of Myra, Advent, and the Nativity with music, drama, story telling and a visit from good ol' St. Nick. Children ages 12 and under will be invited to leave their shoes in the hallway during the program so that St. Nicholas can leave them a treat. St. Nick will make an appearance and be available by the Christmas tree and cave for any child who would like to have a photo taken with him. Parents are asked to accompany their children and to take their own photos this year. Some of our young adults will be assisting St. Nick and facilitating the photo session. A reception will follow the program.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19th

All women of the parish are invited to a holiday breakfast on Saturday, December 19th from 9:30-11:30 a.m. We will prepare toiletry gift bags to be given out at this year's St. Brigid Christmas Day Breakfast in Isla Vista for the homeless.

From the missionaries we sponsor in Albania—Nathan and Gabriela Hoppe:



CELEBRATIONS for THIS WEEK

Birthdays

12/14 Gail Shannon
12/17 Jon King
12/18 Dorothy Alexander

Patron Saint Commemorations

12/14 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

12/17 St. Miriam Miriam Vander Laan

INCOME FOR NOVEMBER 2015

Gen. Operating Building Fund

Monthly Goal	\$33,000	\$14,120
Monthly Actual	\$44,328	\$26,533



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
NO NEW YEAR'S PARTY THIS YEAR

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!



ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY NIGHT TONIGHT!

SUN., DEC. 13, 2015

6:00 p.m.

Program and Reception

**Admission: \$5/family or
one item for our St. Nicholas clothing
collection for the homeless and needy:**

- 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

**Bring the entire family as we celebrate the life of
St. Nicholas, Advent & the Nativity with
Storytelling, Drama,
Advent Wreath Lighting, Carol Sing-a-long,**

**plus Music by our Girls' Choir,
Adult Choir, SAOC Band, and featured soloists:
Verne Gish, Mary Gish, Owen J. Finley, Atalia Finley,
and Ciara Giordani**

NEW THIS YEAR: Costume Contest!

Children ages 3-12 are invited to dress as children of the world, a saint (perhaps their patron saint), or a character from the life of St. Nicholas (such as a beggar, orphan, sailor or one of the Turkish girls who received a dowry from St. Nick.)

The costume contest will take place right before the Christmas carol sing-a-long.
Children will be lined up out in the hallway after the St. Nicholas play.

SAVE THE DATE!

St. Athanasius Orthodox Church

invites you to hear two of our extraordinary young artists:

Madeleine Meyer

&

John Butler

in an evening of music,

including many of each of their own original songs

on Friday, January 8, 2016

7-9 p.m.

at St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in the social hall

1205 San Antonio Creek Rd. in Santa Barbara

\$20/person Proceeds will benefit the St. Athanasius Building Fund

No children under 13, please.

Advance reservations required, seating is

limited. More information to follow soon.

OUTDOOR GREAT BLESSING OF THE WATERS

for the Feast of Epiphany

Sunday, January 10, 2016

This year we will join St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church and their new pastor, Fr. Haralambos "Bob" Fox for the Outdoor Blessing of the Waters on Sunday, January 10th. We will be meeting them at the Santa Barbara Harbor, near West Beach and the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. We will have a potluck that day for Coffee Hour, and no food will be served at the Harbor.

We are considering taking a bus down to the harbor at 12:30 p.m. that day, because parking is often difficult to find. An announcement will go out next week taking a poll to see who would be interested in riding the bus. There would be a small per person fee for all passengers.

We are just trying this out this year to see how we like it. We may end up alternating every other year between Goleta Beach and the Harbor. We'll be interested in your feedback after this year's Blessing.

TEEN SCENE

Activities—Autumn 2015

High School

Date	Activity	Time and Location
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.)

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.

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
Dn. Richard E.
Kh. Diane Carrillo
Kh. Mary Sue W.
Greg & Margaret Y.
Hoppe Family
Kh. Mary Ellen B.
Gail S.
Dean & Penny B.
Kevin & Angel S.

Mary
Susan B.
Baby Christian F.
Duane F.
Stan and Donna F.
Angel, Helen and Family
Joy
Terri-Lynn H.
Hannah Rose H.
Holly C.
Temmo K.

Paige
Galina, Nikolai & Nataliya
Nikita
Marina
Olga Marie G.
Mike, Trevor & Adam
Emily F.
Joan, Jerry, Brenda
Kevin O.
Delaney N.
Sabina S.

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 Proskomedie (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."

All proceeds go to the parish Building Fund.



FOR THE CHILDREN TO COLOR
DURING THE HOMILY OR AT HOME -

THE MISSION AND VISION OF

ST. ATHANASIUS ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH (Ephesians 3:14-21)

That we would be rooted and grounded in
FAITH, LOVE AND HUMILITY
so we might experience and manifest the
FULLNESS OF THE CHURCH

- in the WORSHIP of the Holy Trinity
- in the CARE AND GROWTH of the people
- in SERVING new members, catechumens,
inquirers and visitors
- In SHARING THE ANCIENT FAITH with our
community, the wayward and seekers
- In LOVING AND CARING FOR OUR COMMU-
NITY

Unto the inheritance of the KINGDOM OF HEAVEN