



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 Met. JOSEPH,
Archbishop of New York &
Metropolitan of all N. America**

Senior Pastor:

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

Assistant Pastors:

Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges 805-968-1903
Fr. John Carrillo 805-770-3749
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

Youth Coordinator

Tyler Speier tyler@stathanasius.org

Parish Council 2017-2018:

Kristi King, President
Dan Braun, Treasurer
Benjamin Hedges, Secretary
Laurie Baker
Corina Berari
David Dillon
Dottie Genatone
Verne Gish
Terri Speier

**LITURGY OF
ST. JOHN CHRÝSTOM
Sunday, December 24, 2017
Tone 4 / Eothinon 7
Sunday before Nativity of Christ
(Sunday of the Genealogy),
Which Falls on Paramon (Eve)
of the Nativity of Christ**

Venerable Martyr Eugenia of Rome and those with her;
Martyr Achaikos; Venerable Antiochus of Mar Sabbas
Monastery; New-martyr Ahmed of Constantinople



**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 24

Sunday Before Nativity

NO MATINS, NO RELIGIOUS ED. CLASSES

- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Children's Program
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour, Caroling
10:00 p.m. Matins & Liturgy of the Feast of
the Nativity of Jesus Christ

Monday, December 25

- 10:00 a.m. Christmas Outreach Breakfast
at St. Michael's Church in I.V.

Tuesday, December 26

- 5:30 p.m. Akathist/Canon for St. Stephen

Wednesday, December 27

- 6:45 a.m. Daily Matins
12:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Ministry

Thursday, December 28

- 11:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing
5:30 p.m. Akathist/Canon for Holy Innocents
6-8 p.m. Youth Group Movie Night

Friday, December 29

- 6:45 a.m. Daily Matins

Saturday, December 30

- 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers, Confessions

Sunday, December 31

NO RELIGIOUS ED. CLASSES

- 9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour
1:00 p.m. Blessing of Graves at Goleta
Cemetery

Sunday Morning Ministries Schedule

Eucharist Bread

- December 24 Hedges (Morning)
December 24 Kern (Evening festal liturgy)
December 31 Jacobs
January 7 Braun
January 14 Sieck

Coffee Hour

- December 24 C. & C. Robinson
December 31 NEED A HOST
January 7 P. King in memory of Fr. Jim King
January 14 NEED A HOST

Greeters

- December 24 P. King/D. Lewis
December 24 D. Washburn/H. Lange (evening)
December 31 Baker/Deacon
January 7 P. Morrison/D. Genatone
January 14 K. & L. Jacobs

Ushers

- December 24 C. Speier, J. King, D. Washburn
December 24 C. Berari, G. Shannon, S. Speier
(evening)
December 31 P. Brunner, P. King, D. Meyer
January 7 R. Barre, D. Lewis, C. Speier
January 14 J. King, D. Washburn, C. Berari

Readers

- December 24 R. Barre (morning)
December 24 V. Gish (evening)
December 31 H. Lange
January 7 TBA
January 14 TBA

**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 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.

FOLLOWING THE PROCESSION WITH THE GOSPEL, THE CLERGY ENTER THE ALTAR AS WE SING THE FOLLOWING HYMNS FOR THE DAY:

Troparion of the Resurrection (Music on page 45 of Liturgy book)

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.

Tone 4 Byzantine melody
harmonized by Fr. J. Finley

Troparion for the Sunday Before the Nativity

Great are the accomplishments of faith,
for the three Holy Youths rejoice in the fountain of flames
as though in the waters of rest;
and the Prophet Daniel appeared
a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep.//
So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

Tone 2

Troparion of the Forefeast (Paramon or Eve) of the Nativity**Tone 4**

Mary was of David's seed,
so she went with Joseph to register in Bethlehem.
She bore in her womb the Fruit not sown by man.
The time for the birth was at hand.
Since there was no room at the inn,
the cave became a beautiful palace for the Queen.//
Christ is born, raising up the image that fell of old.

**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. (sung 3 times)
+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
Hebrews. 11:9-10, 32-40

Brethren, by faith Abraham sojourned in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God. And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated—of whom the world was not worthy—wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

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: We have heard with our ears, O God, for our fathers have told us. (Ps 43/44:1)

v: For You have saved us from them that oppose us, and have put to shame them that hate us. (Ps 43/44:7)

GOSPEL READING
Matthew. 1:1-25

The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham. Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Amminadab, and Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa, and Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon. And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the father of

Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, Who is called Christ. So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ were fourteen generations. Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child of the Holy Spirit; and her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call His Name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: “Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and His Name shall be called Emmanuel” (which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called His Name Jesus.

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.

Communion Hymns

- 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*)

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

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

On the homepage, click on **VIEW CALENDAR** at the bottom left.

TODAY at the end of Liturgy, the children will perform the songs that they were going to sing on St. Nicholas Night. All children are invited to leave their shoes in the chapel during the Liturgy so that St. Nicholas can leave them a treat. We are hoping that St. Nick can fit it in his busy schedule to pay us a visit at the end of the program. Join us for a reception/Coffee Hour after the program. (This is all in lieu of our St. Nicholas Night, which was cancelled due to the fires.)

TWO YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

Orthodox Christian Young Adults from all over North America in Big Bear Lake, CA at the **2018 Young Adult Winter Retreat** - Hosted by the Young Adult Ministry within the Diocese of Los Angeles and the West. It will be a weekend full of activities; including snow tubing, snowboarding, skiing and spiritual discussions lead by the Father John Mahfouz and Father David Sommer. The theme for the weekend will be "Building a Christ Centered Relationship" Deadline to register is January 1, 2018.

AN ORTHODOX WALK FOR LIFE PILGRIMAGE (JAN 26-28, 2018): Join Orthodox Christians of all ages in a Pro-Life Walk at the upcoming West Coast Walk for Life in San Francisco, CA. Busses will depart Saint Andrew's Antiochian Orthodox Church on Friday, January 26th and return on Sunday, January 28, 2018. The group will be sleeping at Holy Trinity Church in San Francisco, CA (Sleeping Bags Required). Deadline to register is January 8, 2018

For more info on either of these events and to register, please visit www.dlawyoungadults.com

Outreach Breakfast on Christmas Morning

It's not too late to help out with the breakfast tomorrow. We can always use help with set up (8:30 a.m.) and clean-up. Or you can help us greet our guests and make them feel welcome, and join in the singing of Christmas carols during the meal. We'd love to see your whole family there. Bring the kids!

Keep in mind that the meal is intended for our guests, so we wait until they have all been served before helping ourselves to any of the food.

OUTDOOR BLESSING OF THE WATERS for the Feast of Epiphany Sunday, January 7, 2018

This year we will join St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church again for the Outdoor Blessing of the Waters on Sunday, January 7th. We will be meeting them at the Santa Barbara Harbor, near West Beach and the Santa Barbara Yacht Club.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

12/31 Penny and Michael Loulias

Birthdays

12/24 Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges, Rachel Friesen

12/26 Jerry Jones

12/29 Karen Jacobs, Tyler Speier

Patronal Feast Days

12/24 **St. Nestan of Georgia**

Nestan Tsiskaridze

12/27 **St. Stephen the Protomartyr**

Subdn. Stephen Butler

Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges, Steve Thomas

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR WITH THE FOLLOWING UPCOMING SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Sunday, December 24 10:00 a.m.

**Divine Liturgy (NO MATINS)
BRIEF PROGRAM BY THE CHILDREN,
COFFEE HOUR**

10:00 p.m.

**Feast of the Nativity of Christ
Matins & Liturgy**

Saturday, December 30

At Vespers— Commemoration of the Innocents slain by Herod, and prayers for souls of infants who have died in childbirth, were stillborn or who died as a result of an abortion

Sunday, December 31
9:00 a.m. Matins/10:00 a.m. Liturgy
1:00 p.m.

**Transference of the FEAST OF ST. BASIL/
CIRCUMCISION & NEW YEAR
BLESSING OF THE GRAVES**

Saturday, Jan. 6 8:30 a.m.

Liturgy for Feast of Epiphany
and Great Blessing of the Water

Sunday, Jan. 7 After Liturgy

Outdoor Blessing of the Water at the Harbor

TEEN SCENE

**Junior High teens meet from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
and High School teens meet from 6:30-8:30 p.m.
on Thursdays in the Teen Room at the church, unless noted otherwise.**

December 2017

12/28 Thursday Night Youth Group - Movie Night/Hangout
Jr. High and High School combined 6-8 p.m.

January 2018

1/4 Thursday Night Youth Group
1/7 Outdoor Blessing of the Water (Dive for the Cross)
1/11 Thursday Night Youth Group (Fire on Father)
1/18 Thursday Night Youth Group
1/25 Thursday Night Youth Group

Camp St. Nicholas WINTER CAMP for teens grades 7-12 is Feb. 16-19.
Registration opened on Nov. 27th. Early bird tuition is \$185. For more information
and to register, go to: <https://www.campstnicholas.com/site/home/>

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT—INCOME

	<u>Gen. Operating</u>	<u>Building Fund (mortgage)</u>
Monthly Goal	\$36,000	\$ 14,120
Monthly Actual November 2017	\$37,850	\$ 7,730
GOLF TOURNAMENT 2017		\$ 82,237 towards new construction
GENERAL OPERATING JANUARY-NOVEMBER, 2017		
Budget—Tithes	\$ 409,750	
Actual —Tithes	\$ 385,053	
Shortfall	\$ 24,697	

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.
Fr. Patrick and Vanessa K.
Greg & Margaret Y.
Hoppe Family
Gail S.
Dean & Penny B.
Angelina, Jase & Alina S.
Rich and Susan B.
Duane F.
Galina, Nikolai & Nataliya

Joan T.
Bette Friesen & Family
Ethan K.
Tony C.
Paul F. and Family
Justin B.
Fr. Anthony Y. and Family
Bill & Robin H. and Family
Tony E.
Clifford Y.
Alma G.
Guadalupe
Phyllis M.
John D.

Michael A. & Edward S., who are
studying in Russia
Fr. Wayne W. & Family
Dan & Athena W.
Drew, Stephanie & Parker W.
Devin
Alicia V.
Fr. Dimitrie V.
Paula H.
Monsignor John Y.
John H.—Firefigrer

All those suffering and
in danger in Ukraine,
Africa, and the Middle East

For repose of the souls of: Kh. Lynn W., Steve, Jeannette
All who have died in the conflicts in 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.

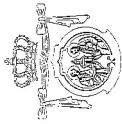
Prayer requests put into the **wooden box in the narthex** will be said silently at the altar at most services. During the **Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy**, only Orthodox Christians are commemorated, and that list is comprised of the sick, those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin,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

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. Payment 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.

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Nativity 2017

*Today doth Bethlehem receive Him Who sitteth with the Father
forever. Today the angels glorify, as worthy of God, the babe that is
born, shouting: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth be peace, and
goodwill among men.*

Beloved in Christ,

*With great joy I greet you at the dawn of this bright and glorious
feast of the Sun of Justice, Christ our God, making the cave a heaven
and the manger a noble place!*

*May He Who deigned to be born in the cave and rest in a manger
take up His abode in us. Let us join our voices with the angelic choirs
and glorify God, beseeching Him to bring peace, justice, and
reconciliation to our troubled world.*

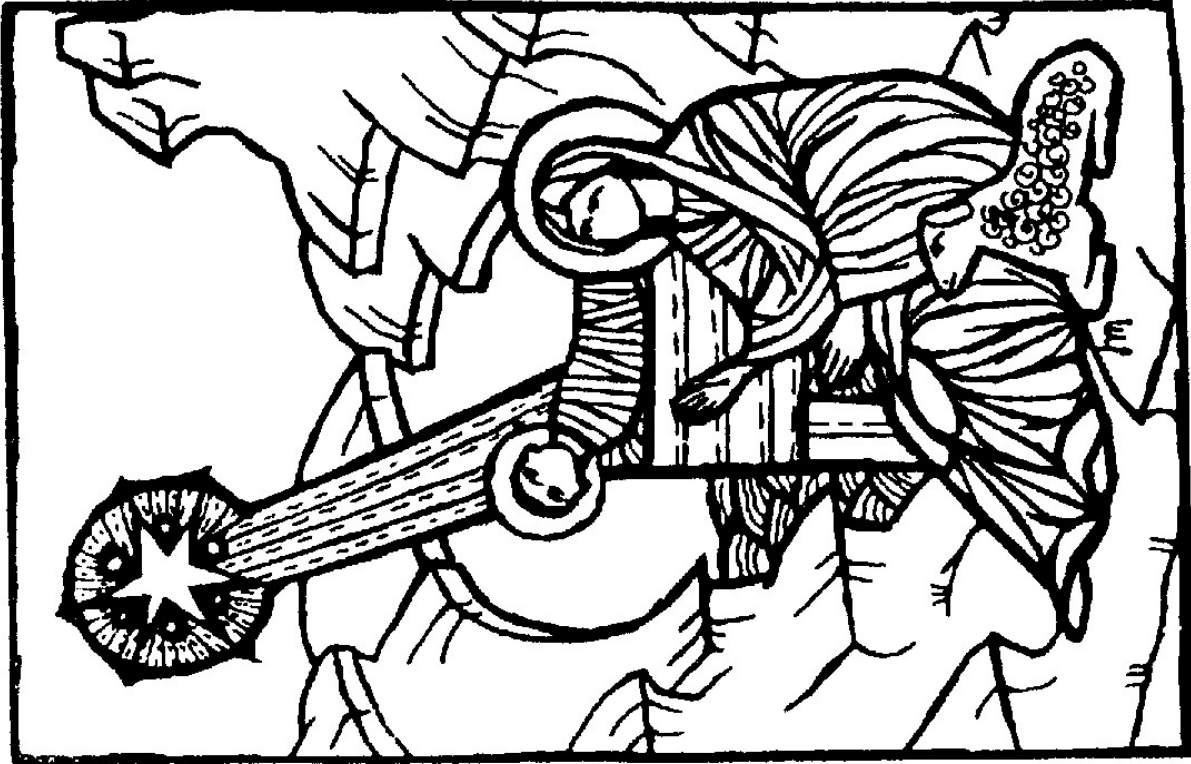
*Praying that these holy days of the feast will be joyous and
grace-filled, and that God will grant you peace, health, and length of
days, I remain,*

Yours in the service of Christ,

Metropolitan Joseph

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America



"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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