



## 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

January 28, 2024

**Tone 1 / Eothinon 1; Thirty-first Sunday after  
Pentecost**

**& Fourteenth Sunday of Luke**

Our Righteous Father Ephraim the Syrian  
Venerable Palladios of Antioch;  
Venerable Theodosios of Totma



### 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**

#### **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 1**

While the stone was sealed by the Jews,  
and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,  
Thou didst arise on the third day,  
O Savior, granting life to the world.  
For which cause the heavenly pow'rs  
cried aloud unto Thee, O Giver of life;  
Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ!  
Glory to Thy kingdom!  
Glory to Thy providence, O Thou  
Who alone art the lover of mankind.

**Troparion for Venerable Ephraim the Syrian**

**Tone 8**

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,  
And your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.  
By the radiance of miracles you illumined the whole universe!  
Our father Ephraim, pray to 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 of The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple****Tone 1**

By Thy Nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb!  
And didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God.  
Now Thou hast come and saved us through love.  
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

**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 1**

Reader: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee. (Ps 32/33:22)

Reader: **Verse:** Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise is becoming to the upright.

**EPISTLE READING****Timothy 1:15-17**

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. And I am the foremost of sinners; but I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display His perfect patience for an example to those who were to believe in Him for eternal life. To the King of Ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory to the ages of ages. Amen.

### Alleluia before the Gospel

Tone 1

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

**Verse:** It is God Who avenges me, and subdues people under me. (*Ps 17/18:47*)

**Verse:** He gives great deliverance to His King, and shows mercy to His anointed, to David and his seed forever. (*Ps 17/18:50*)

### GOSPEL READING

#### Luke 18:35-43

At that time, as Jesus drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging; and hearing a multitude going by, he inquired what this meant. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." And he cried, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" And Jesus stopped, and commanded him to be brought to Him; and when he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me receive my sight." And Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Him, glorifying God; and all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

### 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 Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the Highest!

### 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**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF OUR FIRST ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF ON THE FEAST OF ST. ATHANASIUS! We will award their prizes at the Agape Meal today.**

First Place	Terri Speier
Second Place	Christie Robinson
Third Place	Asia Ballew

**THE JANUARY ST. BARBARA MONASTERY FRIENDS GATHERING** is TODAY, January 28th at 4:00 p.m. Fr. Symeon will be the guest speaker and the topic is “The Gift of Our Bodies: Men and Women in Christ.” After the presentation there will be Daily Vespers and a potluck supper.

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

### **AKATHISTS ON WEDNESDAYS**

Beginning this Wednesday, January 24th, we will begin praying either an Akathist or a Paraklesis Service at 5:30 p.m. 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.

January 31	Akathist
February 7	Paraklesis
February 14	Akathist
February 21	Paraklesis
February 28	Akathist
March 6	Paraklesis

### **SAVE THE DATE—SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH—ALL-PARISH MEETING**

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.

### **SAVE THE DATE — PRE-LENTEN SEMINAR**

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 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 followed by Dinner**  
**(Time TBA)**

**UPCOMING SCHEDULE of FEAST DAYS & Special Activities**

**FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE**

Thursday, February 1      5:30 p.m. Great Vespers  
6:30 p.m. Divine Liturgy

**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.”

**YEAR-END FINANCIAL UPDATE  
2023**

Tithe Goal	\$689,532
Total Tithes received	\$645,138
General Donations	\$ 48,906
Other income	<u>\$ 58,341</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$752,385</b>
Total expenses	\$766,208
Deficit	\$ 13,823
Temple Fund Total Donations	\$182,726
Golf Tournament Proceeds	\$149,502
(\$127,000 earmarked for Temple Fund and \$22,500 for improvements to current building)	
<b>Balance in Temple Fund 12/31/23</b>	<b>\$706,035</b>

**PASTOR'S BENEVOLENCE FUND  
2023**

**BENEFICIARIES of Assistance**

Our own Parishioners	\$ 8,912
Houseless Community/Non-parishioners in need	\$ 4,879
Local Charities	\$ 3,390
Orthodox Charities	\$ 2,000
Archdiocese special collections	\$ 600
Camp Scholarships	\$ 435
Other special projects & assistance	<u>\$ 1,150</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$21,366</b>

**SOURCES OF INCOME**

Donations	\$16,077
From General Operating Budget (\$300/month)	<u>\$ 3,600</u>
	<b>\$19, 677</b>



MORE THAN 225 SURVIVORS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



# #YOUKNOWTHEM

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
AWARENESS MONTH

JANUARY 2024

Visit [safesbc.org/getinvolved](https://safesbc.org/getinvolved) for more info



## ***CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK***

### **Birthdays**

- 1/29 Naomi Siragusa, Subdn. Matthew Wiley
- 1/30 Audrey Carrillo, Glenn Hoppe
- 1/31 Gloria Morrison
- 2/3 Velislava Nikolov

### **Patronal Feast Days**

- |      |                                      |                                    |
|------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1/28 | St. Ephraim the Syrian               | Peter Van Dolah                    |
| 1/31 | Holy Wonderworker & Unmercenary John | Hunter Scott (John) Braun          |
| 1/30 | Three Holy Hierarchs                 | Benjamin Hedges                    |
| 2/3  | Anna the Prophetess                  | Dorothy Alexander                  |
| 2/3  | St. Symeon the God-receiver          | Dana Alexander, Fr. Symeon Halsell |
| 2/3  | St. Oliver of Ancona                 | Oliver Palmer                      |

**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](mailto:office@stathanasius.org).  
Please pray for the health of:**

His Beatitude, Patriarch John X  
Metropolitan SABA  
Mother Victoria  
Met. Paul & Abp. John  
Fr. Markos  
Fr. Jon B.  
Fr. John & Kh. Diane C.  
Fr. Nicholas & Jan  
Audrey C.  
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.  
Abp. Benjamin  
Temmo K.  
Sarah B..  
Dn. John & Fay Y.  
Zachary B.  
Samantha & Chris N. & Family  
Kevin D. & Family  
Ethan K.  
Erik L.  
Matthew  
Wade  
Amanda Catherine  
Darcy  
Penny B.  
Nancy & Patrick G.

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:** Fr. Ivan M. Fr. Moses B., Kh. Dina B., Kh. Sally H., Alan W., Isabel E., Chuck A.

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**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](mailto: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.**

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## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, January 28

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  
 4:00 p.m. St. Barbara Monastery Friends Gathering

### Monday, January 29

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

### Tuesday, January 30—THREE HIERARCHS

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

### Wednesday, January 31

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins  
 12:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry at the church  
 5:30 p.m. Akathist to the Theotokos, "Queen of All" & Healer of Cancer

### Thursday, February 1

7:45 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom  
 10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing  
 5:30 p.m. Vespers for Feast of Presentation  
 5:30 p.m. Liturgy for Feast of Presentation

### Friday, February 2—PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins

### Saturday, February 3

5:30 p.m. Vespers/Confession

### Sunday, February 4

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  
 5:00 p.m. Teen Activity

## SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

### EUCCHARIST BREAD

January 28 Dn. G. Braun  
 February 1 Kern (Presentation)  
 February 4 Morrison  
 February 11 Fr. Nicholas  
 February 18 Jacobs

### READERS

January 28 Lange  
 February 1 Kern/Gish (Presentation)  
 February 4 Alexander  
 February 10 Kern (Vespers)  
 February 11 Butler  
 February 18 Lange

### GREETERS

January 28 M. Loulias  
 February 4 L. Baker  
 February 11 K.P. King  
 February 18 H. Lange

### USHERS

January 28 D. Alexander/D. Washburn  
 February 4 P. King/J. King  
 February 11 K.L. King/d. Alexander  
 February 18 D. Meyer/M. Loulias

### AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

January 28 Team Worthington  
 February 4 Team Loulias/Cocores  
 February 11 Team Wiley  
 February 18 Team Lander

**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.**

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.