



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

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

March 3, 2024

Tone 6 / Eothinon 6

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Martyrs Eutropios, Kleonikos, and Basilikos of Amasea;
Hieromartyr Theodoretos of Antioch



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

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:

Resurrectional Troparion

Tone 6

When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred body,
angelic pow'rs shone above Thy revered tomb,
and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men.
Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted there-by,
Thou did meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world.
O Thou Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

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 for the Prodigal Son

Tone 3

I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father;
and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You gave me.
And now I cry to You as the Prodigal:
“I have sinned before You, O merciful Father;
receive me a penitent,
and make me as one of Your hired servants!”

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)

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

THE EPISTLE READING

(For Sunday of the Prodigal Son)

1 Corinthians. 6:12-20

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are expedient. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the authority of anything. Foods are for the belly, and the belly for foods; but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body; and God both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid! Or, do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For, "The two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but whoever commits fornication sins against his own body. Or, do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have received from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Alleluia Refrain and Psalm verses before the Gospel

Tone 6

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Vs. 1 He Who dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the protection of the God of Heaven. (Ps 90/91:1) **Alleluia**

Vs. 2 He will say to the Lord, Thou art my protector and my refuge, my God, in Him will I hope. (Ps 90/91:2) **Alleluia**

THE GOSPEL READING
(For Sunday of the Prodigal Son)
Luke 15:11-32

The Lord spoke this parable: “There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.’ And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to make merry.

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE ...

Holy Communion & The Thanksgiving Prayers

In the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who have humbly prepared to receive through prayer and a recent Sacramental Confession.

Non-Orthodox people and those not communing today may approach during Communion for a priestly blessing by saying, “*Father, bless.*” After this you may take a piece of antidoron (blessed bread) offered in the bowls.

If you are interested in joining the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, speak with our Pastor about how to become an Orthodox Christian.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, we offer **Thanksgiving Prayers** for having received the body and blood of Christ. These beautiful prayers help us to reflect on the mystery in which we have partaken and prepare us for our transition from the Kingdom back into “the world.” If you have partaken, stay to listen to these prayers after you have venerated the cross. Immediately after, the priest will bless the Agape Meal. **We ask that all your socializing take place outside of the church.**

Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

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!

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.

**UPCOMING SCHEDULE of FEAST DAYS,
GREAT LENT & SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

SOUL LITURGY & PRE-LENTEN SEMINAR — Saturday, March 9

9:00 a.m. Soul Liturgy
10:30 a.m. Pre-Lenten Seminar (after brief Coffee Break)
“The Soul’s Cry to the Lord: the Lenten Prayers
of St. Ephrem the Syrian and the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete”

MEATFARE SUNDAY — Sunday, March 10

BBQ after Liturgy

CHEESEFARE SUNDAY — Sunday, March 17

Project Mexico Misson Team Fundraiser/Luncheon after Liturgy

FORGIVENESS VESPERS at 6:00 p.m.

GREAT LENT BEGINS — Monday, March 18

FIRST WEEK OF GREAT LENT—Services every evening at 6:00 p.m.

Monday 3/18 Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew
Tuesday 3/19 Little Compline with portion of Canon
Wednesday 3/20 Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday 3/21 Little Compline with portion of Canon
Friday 3/22 Akathist to the Mother of God

**During the remaining 5 weeks of Great Lent,
we do not have Tuesday/Thursday Daily Vespers.**

We pray the following services at 6:00 p.m.:

Great Compline on Mondays
Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesdays
Akathist on Fridays

SOUL LITURGIES will be served on March 9 & 30, and April 6 and 14.

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. Vespers-Liturgy at our parish

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO SALLY COOK, Co-founder of Hope Refuge/Olive Crest. She will speak briefly today after the Liturgy about the life-saving work being done at Olive Crest. Sally will be available to answer questions during the Agape Meal.

JOIN US NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 10th, ON THE PATIO FOR OUR ANNUAL MEATFARE BARBECUE. The menu includes: tri-tip, beans, salad, French bread, dessert, and beverages. Suggested donation for adults is \$5. We need help with clean up. Please contact Christie Robinson to sign up: christie.d.robinson@gmail.com or 805-455-4312.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED TO MAKE THE PASTORAL VISIT of Metropolitan Saba so festive. Special thanks to Christie Robinson and Suzi Wiley for coordinating the dinner afterwards and to all who provided the delicious meal and assisted with set-up and clean-up. May God grant our hierarch many years!

YOU CAN ACCESS PHOTOS FROM METROPOLITAN SABA'S VISIT on our parish website here: <https://www.stathanasius.org/media/photo-gallery/february-20-2024-visit-of-metropolitan-saba/>
THE RECORDING of Met. Saba's homily can be found here:
<https://www.stathanasius.org/media/homilies-audio/>

THE MEN'S FIRESIDE gathering for March will be a week from this Monday, on March 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Scott and Terri Speier. For more information, contact Howard Lange at hman3000@verizon.net.

THE ADULT CATECHISM CLASS FOR THIS WINTER has begun. The class meets on Saturdays at 3:00 p.m. The remaining three sessions will meet on:

March 9, March 16 & March 30

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

AKATHIST/PARAKLESIS ON WEDNESDAYS

This Wednesday, March 6th, we will pray the Paraklesis Service at 5:30 p.m. Weather permitting, we will pray out in our field at the cross that is planted where our temple will stand. This will be our last Wednesday Paraklesis or Akathist until after Pascha. We will begin again on May 15th. During Great Lent, we offer the Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

SOUP DINNERS ON WEDNESDAYS DURING GREAT LENT

We will continue our tradition of offering a simple meal of soup and bread after our Wednesday evening Presanctified Liturgies during Great Lent. Please see the online sign-up list to help us make that happen!

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE

DURING GREAT LENT we will, once again, be collecting food items for our local Food Bank. Also, we will be collecting monetary donations for Food for Hungry People, a coordinated effort through our Antiochian Archdiocese. Coin collection boxes are available for parents who wish to use them at home with their children during Lent. All monetary donations will go to Food for Hungry People and can be made through our tithe box or online through our website. **Please be sure to include the memo: Food for Hungry People, and make checks out to St. Athanasius Church.** Starting in the first week of Lent, we will have a designated collection area for food items. We are asking for very specific items that are listed on the Food Bank's **"MOST NEEDED" LIST**. More details will be available next week, or see the flyer in the entry-way of the church.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

- 3/3 Mark Kern
- 3/4 Juliana Brunner, Dominic Dopico, Natalya Kawahara, Marleyanna Worthington
- 3/7 Mateo Finley
- 3/9 Dottie Genatone

Patronal Feast Days

- 3/4 St. Gerasimas of the Jordan Mason Speier



SAVE THE DATE!
St. Athanasius Women's Fellowship

Annunciation Tea

- for Women & Girls of all ages -
Bring your daughters, granddaughters
and goddaughters!

Saturday, March 30, 2024

11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

More details to follow soon.

PARISH COUNCIL CORNER

- We will be praying an additional prayer during liturgy for our “land use,” asking for God’s blessing and guidance as we develop our land. Fr. Symeon encourages everyone to add this also to their private prayers.
- The Parish Council approved a few one-time expense projects in our 2024 Budget, which include a small cutting garden for the Festal Decorating team, hiring a sound consultant, and having our website redesigned.
- A financial summary for 2023, the reports from the All-parish meeting, and the 2024 budget are available in the PASSWORD PROTECTED AREA of the parish website. You must be an active, communing member of the parish to receive a password to that section. If you do not yet have a password, please contact the church office at: office@stathanasius.org.

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.
Kh. Peggy K.
Laura & Jeff & Family

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.

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, March 3

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. Sally Cook — Guest Speaker
 12:00 p.m. Agape Meal
 12:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Monday, March 4

7:00 a.m. Daily Readers Matins
 5:45 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom
 (Akathist for St. Nikiforos)

Tuesday, March 5

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, March 6

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

Thursday, March 7

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

Friday, March 8

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

Saturday, March 9

9:00 a.m. Soul Liturgy
 10:30 a.m. Pre-Lenten Seminar
 3:00 p.m. Adult Catechism
 5:30 p.m. Vespers/Confession

Sunday, March 10

9:00 a.m. Catechesis for children 3yrs-6th grade
 9:00 a.m. Matins
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Baptism
 11:30 a.m. Teen Education
 11:45 a.m. MEATFARE BBQ
 5:00 p.m. Teen/Young Adult Broomball

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCCHARIST BREAD

March 3 Hoppe
 March 10 Dillon
 March 17 Dn. G. Braun
 March 24 Morrison

READERS

March 3 Lange
 March 10 Gish
 March 17 Lange
 March 17 Alexander (Forgiveness Vespers)
 March 20 Gish
 March 24 Butler

GREETERS

March 3 M. Loulias
 March 10 L. Baker
 March 17 K.P. King
 March 24 H. Lange

USHERS

March 3 P. King/J. King
 March 10 D. Washburn/D. Alexander
 March 17 K.L. King/D. Meyer
 March 24 C. Speier/S. Speier

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

March 3 Team King
 March 10 MEATFARE BBQ
 March 17 PROJECT MEXICO TEAM
 Fundraiser/Luncheon
 March 24 Team Speier

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	

SOUL LITURGIES

The Soul Saturday liturgies (Liturgies for the Departed) have a twofold meaning. The first is the remembrance of death and our departed loved ones. The second is the hope of the Resurrection. The dead live. “God is not a God of the dead, but of the living.” (Matthew 22:32) So as we pray for mercy for the living, we also pray the same for the departed, knowing that the mercy and justice of God are moved by our heartfelt prayers. These prayers are especially effective when offered in the divine liturgy where the departed are remembered at the Proskomedia (Preparation of the Gifts) and one by one placed on the paten next to the Body of Christ.

St. John of Kronstadt says about those gone before us that the “Church of the first born, whose names are written in heaven,” (Hebrews 12:25) in her love continually prays to God for us, and expressly names before God those who pray for them—equal for equal.

You can submit names to Fr. Symeon of departed loved ones to be remembered any time before the Soul liturgies on Saturday mornings.

The first Soul Saturday liturgy is this coming Saturday, March 9th at 9:00 a.m. If **you have submitted names in the past**, we have kept a record of them and they will be remembered at all Soul Liturgies.

All reposed members of the parish are remembered at every liturgy, including Soul Liturgies. So you do not need to submit their names. Please only submit NEW names of those OUTSIDE the parish.

Soul Liturgies will be prayed on the following Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.:

March 9
March 30
April 6
April 13