



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)
Fr. John Carrillo (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

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Kristin King, Vice Chair
Dan Braun, Treasurer
Velislava Nikolov, Secretary
Asia Ballew
Sydney Hedges
Michael Loulias
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DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM Sunday, April 13 2025

ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM



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

**THE DIVINE LITURGY
OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**

THE GREAT LITANY

FIRST ANTIPHON verses with refrain: (Psalm 114/115)

Vs. I am well content: for the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Vs. Tribulations and sorrow have I found; and I called on the name of the Lord. [Refrain]

Vs. Glory...now & ever... [Refrain]

SECOND ANTIPHON verses & refrain (Psalm 115/116)

Vs. I believed, therefore have I spoken: But I have been humbled exceedingly.

**Refrain: O Son of God, Who sat on a colt, save us who sing to Thee,
Alleluia.**

Vs. What shall I render to the Lord for all He has rendered to me? [Refrain]

Vs. My vows will I pay unto the Lord, in the presence of His people. [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 with Troparion Refrain – Psalm 117/118

Verse: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.
Let the house of Israel now say that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.

Refrain:

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion,
Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of death:
Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Verse: Let the house of Aaron now say that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. **Refrain:** By raising Lazarus...

Verse: Let all that fear the Lord now say that He is good:
for His mercy endureth forever. **Refrain:** By raising Lazarus...

HYMNS SUNG AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of Lazarus

Tone 1

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion,
Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God.
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of death:
Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Troparion for Palm Sunday

Tone 4

O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism,
we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to Immortal Life.
Wherefore we praise Thee, crying: Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord.

Kontakion of Palm Sunday

Tone 6

Sitting on Thy throne in heaven;
carried on a colt on earth, O Christ God,
accept the praise of angels and the songs of children, who sing:
Blessed is He Who comes to recall Adam.

TRISAGION HYMN

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, Have mercy on us. (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.

Prokeimenon before the Epistle

Tone 4

Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us.

Vs. O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

THE EPISTLE READING

Philippians 4:4-9

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

Alleluia before the Gospel

Tone 1

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Verse: O sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things!

Verse: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

THE GOSPEL READING

John 12:1-18

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of His disciples [he who was to betray Jesus] said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

Hymn to the Mother of God (Meglynarion)

God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Celebrate the Feast and come with gladness! Let us magnify Christ with palms and branches, singing: Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord.

Communion Hymn

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord and hath revealed Himself to us.

Instead of "We have seen the true light . . ." we sing the Troparion for Lazarus

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God. Like the children with the palms of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

AT THE END OF THE LITURGY there will be a procession OUTSIDE with the palms.

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, fasting, 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MANY THANKS TO THE CHALA FAMILY (Marta, Sonia & Veronica) for donating the palms for today's service, in memory of Evonne Chala. Evonne donated our Palm Sunday palms for many years when she was with us. May her memory be eternal.

MANY THANKS TO Connor Clements and our young adults for being the set-up and clean-up team for our Soup Dinners during Great Lent. Many years to you!

Congratulations and many years to the newly illumined who were baptized and chrismated yesterday!

NEWLY ILLUMINED

Karti Adimulam
Gianpaul Caceres
Jacob Feinstein
Isaak Lau
Brennan Pawley
Diego Rangel

SPONSOR(S)

Nikolay and Velislava Nikolov
Nikolay and Velislava Nikolov
Dana and Dorothy Alexander
Howard Lange
Howard Lange
Howard Lange

Palm Sunday appeal from Met. SABA for our Patriarchate in the Middle East:

Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy and Christ-loving Faithful of this Archdiocese,

Greetings to you and your families on this Great Feast of the Church. As we complete the forty-day fast and prepare to enter into the most solemn week of the Church year, we pause this weekend to celebrate the raising of Lazarus and our Lord's triumphant and radiant entry into the holy city of Jerusalem.

Today, as we celebrate this feast, we also take time to remember our beloved Mother Church, headed by our Father in Christ, His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X. For more than a decade, the lands of the Patriarchate have endured immense hardship, marked by war, displacement, economic collapse, and social instability. In recent months, these trials have deepened, and the remaining Christian communities throughout the region continue to experience heightened vulnerability, uncertainty, and fear. Let us fervently pray for His Beatitude, the hierarchs, clergy, and all the faithful of the entire region as they endure ongoing suffering with steadfastness and faith.

Each year on this special day, we appeal to you—the faithful of our God-protected Archdiocese—for an offering of love to be sent to His Beatitude from his spiritual children across North America. Amid the ongoing difficulties, His Beatitude is burdened with the sacred responsibility of sustaining the life and witness of the Church in conditions of great instability. Our spiritual brothers and sisters are in need—many are hungry, without heat, and lacking opportunities for work. While we lift them up in prayer, let us also offer material support as an expression of solidarity and love.

Wishing you a prayerful Holy Week and a most joyous and radiant Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,



+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

RESPONSES IN OTHER LANGUAGES

At the encouragement of His Eminence, Metropolitan Saba, during the Divine Liturgy Fr. Symeon is “giving the peace,” in a variety of languages and the choir is responding to “Peace be to all,” in the corresponding language with “And to thy spirit.”

Fr. Symeon will stay with Arabic for a few weeks until we all get used to responding.

English	Peace be to all.	And to thy spirit.
Arabic	As-sa-la-mu li-ja- í-kum.	Wuh-li wou-ee-kah

**Meditation for Great and Holy Wednesday
From His Grace, Bishop Anthony**

When events and circumstances align themselves in ways that please us, we say: “Things couldn’t have worked out better. What a blessing!” Sometimes, maybe most of the time, that’s true, but not all the time.

When the elders and priests gathered together to plan our Lord’s arrest and crucifixion and colluded with the Roman authorities to make it happen, Judas broke into this meeting and gave them just what they were looking for, the answer to this problem. And there, from that moment, the Scripture says, “and it was night.” It was the darkest night ever.

These conspirators might have said, “Things couldn’t have worked out better.” They couldn’t have worked out better for the absolute worst!

For us, we should be careful. Maybe when our plans fall apart, and our life takes a stressful turn, and what we expected would be a great success was actually a surprising failure, it was our Lord protecting us, not indulging us. Sometimes, by hindering us, God helps us. Sometimes, not getting a blessing is the blessing!

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

- ★ 4/14 Olga Marie Gabrie
- ★ 4/15 Hunter Braun, Corie Sieck, Ysabella Madrigal
- ★ 4/16 Maria Butler, Nicholas Butler
- ★ 4/17 Giana Grace Brunner, Adriana Malik

Patronal Saint’s Day

- ★ 4/18 St. Athanasia the Wonderworker Athanasia Ballew

2025 Divine Services for Holy & Great Week and Pascha at St. Athanasius Orthodox Church in Santa Barbara, CA

(Also available on the parish Google Calendar.)

Palm Sunday

The Great Feast of the Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem

Saturday, April 12	5:30 PM	Great Vespers for Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 13	9 AM	Orthros with the Blessing of Palms
	10 AM	Divine Liturgy with Procession with Palms

POTLUCK MEAL — Allowance for Fish, Wine & Oil for the feast.

HOLY WEEK

Service commemorations begin Sunday evening in anticipation

Sunday, April 13	6 PM	Bridegroom Orthros for Great Monday <i>Strict fasting resumes</i>
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Great & Holy Monday

The Commemoration of the Patriarch Joseph as a Prototype of the Lord's Passion

April 14	9 AM	Presanctified Liturgy
	6 PM	Bridegroom Orthros for Great Tuesday

Great & Holy Tuesday

The Commemoration of the Parable of the Ten Virgins

April 15	9 AM	Presanctified Liturgy
	6 PM	Bridegroom Orthros for Great Wednesday

Great & Holy Wednesday

The Commemoration of the Sinful Woman Who Repented Contrasted with Judas

April 16	9 AM	Presanctified Liturgy
	6 PM	The Sacrament of Holy Unction

Great & Holy Thursday

The Inauguration of the Mystical Supper of the Lord

April 17	8 :15 AM	Orthros for Holy Thursday
	9 AM	Vesperal Liturgy of the Mystical Supper, <i>followed by</i> The Rite of the Washing of the Twelve's Feet
	6 PM	Orthros for Holy Friday, <i>with the Passion Gospels,</i> <i>the Procession to Golgotha, and Nailing to the Cross</i>

Great & Holy Friday

The Passion, Crucifixion, and Burial of Our Lord

April 18	9 AM	The Great Hours & Typika for Holy Friday
	3 PM	Vespers <i>with the Removal of Christ from the Cross</i>
	6 PM	Orthros for Holy Saturday <i>with Burial Lamentations and Procession of the Bier</i>

Great & Holy Saturday

The Harrowing and Despoliation of Hades by Our Lord

April 19	9 AM	Vesperal Liturgy of the Harrowing of Hades Coffee Hour
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Great & Holy Sunday: PASCHA

The Bodily Resurrection of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ from the Dead.

April 20	4:45 AM	Nocturnes
	5 AM	Rush Service, Orthros, and Divine Liturgy <i>The fast is broken. All foods are allowed.</i>
	9 AM	Agape Vespers <i>with Gospel Reading in Many Languages</i>

Join us for the After-feast!

*A Festal Agape Meal and an Egg Hunt will take place
on the church patio immediately after the Liturgy.*

*We will continue our celebration with BBQ and Games
at 3 PM over at Tucker's Grove Park.*

Let us share abundantly in the joy of the Lord's Resurrection.

***CHRIST IS RISEN!
INDEED, HE IS RISEN!***

SERVICES OF BRIGHT WEEK

Monday, 4/21/25	7:00 a.m.	Paschal Matins at 7:00 a.m.
Tuesday, 4/22/25	—————	NO VESPERS
Wednesday, 4/23/25	9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy for St. George
Thursday, 4/24/25	5:30 p.m.	Paschal Vespers
Friday, 4/25/25	7:00 a.m.	Paschal Matins

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. Gabriel in Kenya (OCMC)
Fr. Jon B.
Fr. John & Kh. Diane C.
Fr. Nicholas & Jan
Fr. Turbo & St. Mary parish
Fr. Paul and St. Moses parish
Hieromonk Siloan
Greg & Margaret Y.
Hoppe Family in Albania (OCMC)
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)
Julianna & Zaron D. (military)
P. Speier (military)

Subdn. Matthew & Christina
Steve T.
Temmo K.
Dn. John & Fay Y.
Samantha & Chris N. & Family
Wade
Kh. Peggy K.
Amanda, Chris & Baby James
Kh. Janet Henderson
Phyllis M.
Marta C.
Sonia T.
Jon R.
Penny B.
Eden Rose
Suzanne S.
Jen H.
Randall B.
Michael
Fr. Joseph A.
Jim M.
Gayla

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.

OUR CATECHUMENS:

Karti Adimulam
Gianpaul Caceres
Jacob Feinstein
Isaak Lau
Brennan Pawley
Diego Rangel
Ethan Salcedo
Logan Strait

For repose of the souls of: Dn. George, Kh. Christina O., Fr. David O.

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, April 13—PALMSUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Matins & Catechesis
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:30 a.m. Teen Education
11:45 a.m. POTLUCK
5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins

Monday, April 14

9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy
3:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom
(Akathist for St. Nikiforos)
6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 15

9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy
6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday, April 16

9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy
12:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry
6:00 p.m. Holy Unction

Thursday, April 17

8:00 a.m. Matins of Holy Thursday
9:00 a.m. Institution Liturgy/Foot Washing
10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing
6:00 p.m. Matins with 12 Passion Gospels

Friday, April 18

9:00 a.m. Royal Hours
2:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
3:00 p.m. Burial Vespers
6:00 p.m. Matins with Lamentations

Saturday, April 19

9:00 a.m. Vespersal Liturgy with Baptisms and
Chrismations followed by Reception

Sunday, April 20—PASCHA

5:00 a.m. Rush Service/Paschal Matins/Liturgy
8:00 a.m. Pascha Break-fast & Egg hunt for kids
9:00 a.m. Agape Vespers
3:00 p.m. Pascha BBQ at Tucker's Grove

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCCHARIST BREAD

April 13 Fr. Nicholas (Palm Sunday)
April 19 Dillon
April 20 Kern
April 27 Dn. G. Braun
May 4 Meyer

READERS

April 13 Butler
April 14 Meyer (Morning Presanctified)
April 15 Kern (Morning Presanctified)
April 16 Alexander (Morning Presanctified)
April 16 Lange (Unction)
April 17 Alexander (Morning Vesp-Lit.)
April 18 All available (Royal Hours)
April 18 Meyer (3pm Vespers)
April 18 Butler (Lamentations)
April 19 Kern, Gish, Butler, Lange
April 20 Lange (Pascha)
April 27 Kern
May 4 Alexander

GREETERS

April 13 A. Ballew/N. Aviles
April 20 K.P. King/M. Wayne
April 27 G. Hopper/B. Eberhard
May 4 K.P. King/L. Baker

USHERS

April 13 D. Meyer/D. Washburn
April 20 S. Speier/C. Speier
April 27 M. Loulias/D. Alexander
May 4 P. King/J. King

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

April 13 PALM SUNDAY POTLUCK
April 20 PASCHA BREAKFAST
April 27 Team Lander
May 4 Team Wayne

PASCHA CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 20, 2025

4:45 a.m. Nocturnes
5:00 a.m. Paschal Procession & Rush (Matins) Service
6:15 a.m. Paschal Liturgy and Blessing of Meat, Cheese and our Baskets



8:00 a.m. Break-fast on the patio — Bring your own Pascha basket.
The church will provide:
Pascha eggs
Meats (breakfast sausage, bacon and ham)
Pascha cheese
Bread
Strawberries
Coffee, tea, hot cocoa, juice, chocolate milk, water

8:30 a.m. Egg Hunt for the kids in the field behind the church

9:00 a.m. Agape Vespers

3:00 p.m. Picnic at Tucker's Grove
(Includes BBQ'd tri-tip, chili, and side dishes.)

Attendees will need to provide their own beverages, utensils, cups, plates, napkins, tablecloth & a side dish or salad to share.

(There will be no charge for the picnic, thanks to several generous sponsors, but donations will be welcome in the food line.)

**TO HELP WITH
SET-UP & CLEAN-
UP, TO BRING
MEATS/DYED
EGGS FOR THE
BREAKFAST:
[https://bit.ly/
PaschaBreak-
fast2025](https://bit.ly/PaschaBreakfast2025)**

**TO BRING SIDE
DISHES TO THE
PICNIC.
[https://bit.ly/
PaschaPicnic2025](https://bit.ly/PaschaPicnic2025)**

PARENTS: For the egg hunt

- Please bring **one dozen FILLED PLASTIC EGGS** for each child (preschool through Grade 6) who will be participating.
- Bags will be provided for the kids to use when collecting eggs.
- Filled eggs need to be brought to the church **no later than 6:00 a.m. on Pascha morning.** There will be a cart in the hallway near the church office where you can drop off eggs throughout Holy Week.
- **Please mark the filled eggs according to the age of your child: Pre-school/Kindergarten, Grades 1-3, or Grades 4-6.**

Questions? Contact Christie Robinson: christie.d.robinson@gmail.com

If you do not have children participating but would like to donate eggs for the hunt for children who might be visiting that day, or for a particular family in the parish, your donations are welcome! Please let Christie know.