



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

Dominic Dopico, Chair

Kristin King, Vice Chair

Dan Braun, Treasurer

Velislava Nikolov, Secretary

Asia Ballew

Sydney Hedges

Michael Loulias

Cheryl Washburn-Lander

Music Director/Administrator:

Valerie Yova

Office phone: 805-685-5400

email: office@stathanasius.org

Teen Program Coordinator

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

College/Young Adult Activities Coordinators

Athanasia Ballew

asiaballew@proton.me

Zac Wood

zac.wood9@gmail.com

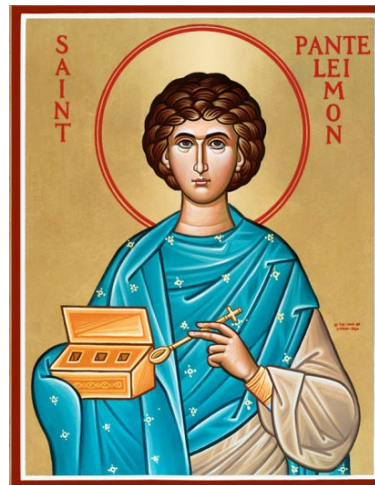
DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, July 27, 2025

Tone 6 / Eothinon 7;

**Great-martyr and healer Panteleimon
& Seventh Sunday of Matthew**

The martyred blind man healed by Panteleimon



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**

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 was 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.

**We sing the following hymns of the day after
The Little Entrance:**

Troparion of the Resurrection

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 for St. Panteleimon

Tone 3

Holy Passion-bearer and healer Panteleimon,
entreat the merciful God, //
to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!

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 Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord**Tone 7**

You were transfigured on the mountain, O Christ God,
and Your disciples saw Your glory as far as they were able,
so that when they saw You crucified,
they might know that You suffered voluntarily,
and might proclaim to the world
that You are truly the radiance of the Father.

TRISAGION (THRICE-HOLY) HYMN

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 4**

God is wondrous in His saints, / the God of Israel. (*Ps. 67:35a*)
In the churches bless ye God the Lord, from the fountains of Israel.

Timothy 2:1-10

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus; and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

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**

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 9:27-35

At that time, as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When He entered the house, the blind men came to Him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to Him, "Yes, Lord." Then He touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread His fame through all that district. As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to Him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons." And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.

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*)

The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! (*Ps. 111:6*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Holy Communion

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.

UPCOMING FESTAL SERVICES

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Tuesday, August 5

5:30 p.m. Festal Matins

6:30 p.m. Festal Divine Liturgy

POTLUCK SUPPER

**The Dormition Fast is observed from Friday, August 1 through
Thursday, August 14 after the Festal Liturgy.**

DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Thursday, August 14

5:30 p.m. Festal Great Vespers with Lamentations

6:30 p.m. Festal Divine Liturgy

POTLUCK SUPPER

BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Friday, August 29

9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS

Sunday, September 7 (transferred from Sept. 8)

Regular weekend services

ELEVATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sunday, September 14

Regular weekend services

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

We ask that you kindly clean up your own sitting area
and return service booklets at the end of each service.

Bulletins and Matins/Vespers weekly handouts may be taken home.

Thank you!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR AUGUST FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS ARE AROUND THE CORNER. We will have a potluck after the services for the feasts of the Transfiguration and the Dormition. Please see the sign-up for the first potluck, which will be on Tuesday, August 5th. We are asking people to sign up so that we can make sure we have enough of each type of food. If you don't sign up, you are, of course, welcome to bring a contribution for the meal, anyway!

You can sign up here: <https://bit.ly/PotluckTransfig2025>

MEMORY ETERNAL! We were sad to hear of the departing from this life of Bob New-som on Sunday, July 20th, the feast of St. Elijah. Bob was a long-time member of our parish who had been a resident for over a decade at Samarkand Senior Living Community here in Santa Barbara. Bob is not being buried here in Santa Barbara. We will pray a Trisagion for his soul on August 31st for the 40-day commemoration of his departing. May he rest with the saints!

TO DONATE TOWARDS A RELIEF FUND for the survivors and families of the victims of the bombing at St. Elias Orthodox Church in Damascus, you can send a check directly to the Antiochian Archdiocese, or put a check in our tithe box **MADE OUT TO THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE.**

YOU CAN DONATE ONLINE AT THE LINK BELOW.

<https://antiochian.networkforgood.com/projects/254719-2025-saint-elias-church-damascus-syria-relief-fund>

PLEASE DO NOT DONATE THROUGH OUR PARISH WEBSITE.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

7/27 Zach & Sarah Brasel

Birthdays

7/29 Douglas Meyer

7/30 Emily King, Nikolai Rice

Parents: Please help us to keep our children safe!

Parents, this is a reminder that all children under 12 need to be supervised by an adult at all times while on the Parish Campus. Children need to be under the direct supervision of either their parent, their teacher during Church School or youth activity, or the adult who their parents have asked to watch them. This means that parents need to be in the same room or space as their child, unless they have specifically asked another adult to watch them. If a parent is in the Nave, their child should be as well. If a parent is outside, their children should be, also.

Teens are expected to either be with the congregation in the Nave or helping with a ministry activity. If your child is wandering around with no supervision or not helping with a ministry they will be asked to return to you. This is for the safety of all our children, in accordance with our Archdiocese's new Youth Protection Policy.

Thank you for helping us to keep our children safe!

the

DR. HOWARD SHANNON

ANNUAL GOLF

20

25

TOURNAMENT

09.26.2025

GLEN ANNIE GOLF COURSE

DINNER & AUCTION

WWW.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. 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.
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)
Steve T.
Dn. John & Fay Y.
Kh. Peggy K.
Kh. Janet Henderson
Phyllis M.
Fr. Joseph A.
Jim M.
Gayla
Cameron B.
Galeyna T.
Jill W. and Family
Alla G.
Oleg G.
Wayne Family
Shirley D. and Family
Jesús D.
Josh W.
Briana B.

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:

Cameron Clouse
Ethan Salcedo
Tyler Vrem
Joshua Weiss

For repose of the souls of: Bob N. Kh. Maggie H., Jonathan, The martyrs of St. Elias Church in Syria

ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH BOOKSTORE

The church bookstore is located in the foyer of our building. The tables and cabinets contain items that are FOR SALE. If you need a cross or chain and jewelry is not displayed on Sunday, contact **Terri Speier at: bookstore@stathanasius.org**.

Payment should be made at the time of purchase. Cash and checks may be placed in the brown lockbox on wall next to Fr. Symeon's office. Make checks payable to **S.A.O.C. Bookstore**.

Online payment can be made at www.stathanasius.org. (Select "MAKE A DONATION," and then use the dropdown earmark for 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, July 27

9:00 a.m. Matins
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 11:45 a.m. Agape Meal in front entrance
 12:15 p.m. Open Choir Rehearsal (Guests welcome)

Monday, July 28

7:00 a.m. Daily Reader's Matins
 3:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom
 (Akathist for St. Nikiforos)

Tuesday, July 29

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, July 30

7:00 a.m. Daily Reader's Matins
 11:50 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry
 5:30 p.m. Akathist to the Mother of God

Thursday, July 31

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. Choir Rehearsal
 NO YOUTH GROUP

Friday, August 1—DORMITION FAST BEGINS

7:00 a.m. Daily Matins

Saturday, August 2

5:30 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

Sunday, August 3

9:00 a.m. Matins
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 11:45 a.m. Agape Meal

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCCHARIST BREAD

July 27	Kern
August 3	Jacobs
August 10	Morrison
August 17	Fr. Nicholas

READERS

July 27	Lange
August 3	Meyer
August 5	Butler (Transfiguration)
August 10	Kern
August 14	Gish (Dormition)
August 17	Lange

GREETERS

July 27	A. Ballew/N. Aviles
August 3	G. Hoppe/B. Eberhard
August 10	K.P. King/L. Baker
August 17	M. Wayne/K.L. King

USHERS

July 27	M. Loulias/D. Alexander
August 3	P. King/J. King
August 10	D. Washburn/D. Meyer
August 17	C. Speier/S. Speier

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

July 27	POTLUCK
August 3	Team Alexander/Hedges
August 10	Team Gish
August 17	Team Lander

THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS and the DORMITION FAST



What is the Dormition?

It is the falling-asleep of Mary, and translation into life which is celebrated on August 15th. In preparation for this great feast of the Mother of God, we observe a two-week period of fasting from August 1-14.

So why do we fast before Dormition?

In a close-knit family, news that its matriarch is on her deathbed brings normal life to a halt. Otherwise important things (parties, TV, luxuries, personal desires) become unimportant; life comes to revolve around the dying matriarch. It is the same with the Orthodox family; word that our matriarch is on her deathbed, should have a similar affect on us. We fast, not to get what we want, but to prepare ourselves to receive what God wants to give us. Fasting is intended to bring us to the realization of “the one thing needful.” It is to help us put God first and our own desires second, if not last. It also serves to prepare us to be instruments of God’s will, as with Moses in his flight from Egypt and on Mt. Sinai, as well as our Lord’s fast in the wilderness. Fasting turns us away from ourselves and toward God. It helps us become more like the Theotokos, an obedient servant of God, who heard His word and kept it better than anyone else has or could.

Fasting makes us realize that we are dependent on God. We are reminded that without God, we can do nothing. It also has the potential to increase our spiritual strength, true obedience to God, and total patience with our fellow man. It assists us to take control of our appetites that involve the physical senses. We fast from food to help us build up our self-control “muscles” so to speak - so that ultimately we can resist the temptation to sin and live according to God’s will.

As with all fasting, abstaining from food during this period of preparation does us no good if we do not also, as St. John Chrysostom teaches us, fast with:

“... the eye and the ear and the feet and the hands and all the members of our bodies. Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice. Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin. Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful. Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip. Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism.

For what good is it if we abstain from birds and fishes, but bite and devour our brothers?”
— -St John Chrysostom

(From <https://www.asceticlifeofmotherhood.com/blog/dormitionguide>)