



## 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 (retired)

Dn. John Young (retired)

**Subdeacons:** Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

**Parish Council 2025-2026**

Cheryl Washburn-Lander, President

Kristin King, Vice President

Velislava Nikolov, Secretary

Dan Braun, Treasurer

Asia Ballew

Peter Braun

Sydney Hedges

Jared Speier

**Music Director/Administrator:**

Valerie Yova

Office phone: 805-685-5400

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**Teen Program Coordinator**

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

**College/Young Adult Activities Coordinators**

Athanasia Ballew

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**DIVINE LITURGY OF  
ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM  
Sunday, December 21, 2025  
Tone 3 / Eothinon 6; Forefeast of &**

**Sunday before the Nativity of Christ  
(The Genealogy)**

Virgin-martyr Juliana of Nicomedia;

Martyr Themistokles of Myra in Lycia



**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.

#### HYMNS SUNG AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE:

##### **Troparion of the Resurrection**

**Tone 3**

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad,  
for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm.  
He hath trampled down death by death  
and become the first born from the dead.  
He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades,  
granting the world the great mercy.

##### **Troparion for the Forefeast of the Nativity**

**Tone 4**

Be prepared, O Bethlehem, Eden opens now to all;  
O Ephratha ready make: for within the stable cave,  
From the Virgin Mary pure, the tree of life has blossomed forth.  
For her womb is shown to be paradise in spirit;  
in which is the plant divine from which having truly fed,  
we will live forevermore, and not die as Adam did.  
Christ the Lord is born to raise the image that had fallen long before.

##### **Troparion for the Sunday Before the Nativity**

**Tone 2**

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!

##### **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 Preparation of Christ's Nativity**

**Tone 3**

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**

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 8**

**Chanter:** 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**

**Hebrew 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**

**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*) *Alleluia*.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps. 32:1*)

## **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.

## PRAXIS

### How we practice our Faith — Some Reminders

#### How to Partake of Communion

When you intend to commune, come with your arms crossed on your chest, right over left. When you are at the Chalice make sure the cloth is under your chin and state your Christian baptismal name, "The servant of God \_\_\_\_\_." Then open your mouth and the priest will place the spoon with the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ there. It is best and safest to close your lips over the spoon, then the priest will remove the spoon. If you do not desire to close your mouth on the spoon, open your mouth wide and tilt your head up, and the priest will deposit the body and blood, remove the spoon, and then you may close your mouth. However, all should know that there is never a need to fear getting sick when partaking of Communion, this is the Life-giver Himself!

Do not use your teeth to remove the Eucharist from the spoon nor kiss the priest's hand after communing. You may kiss the Chalice after you wipe your lips on the cloth, if you do so very carefully and gently, but this is not necessary. Never grab the Chalice! Additionally, parents or godparents please speak for your children who can't yet say their own name. If your child can walk up calmly and do all the above, then let them come to the Chalice to receive on their own. This will help them to begin to own their Faith.

If you are not communing, in this parish you may ask for a blessing at the Chalice. In that case approach without crossing your arms on your chest and say, "Father Bless." while placing your right hand over your left, palms up. The priest will then make the sign of the cross over you and bless you.

### CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

#### Wedding Anniversaries

12/27 Fr. Symeon & Kh.Cayce-Marie Halsell

#### Birthdays

12/22 Gary Braun III, Zoe Macdonald, Alexander Nikolov, Zachary Nikolov

12/23 Alban Easbey

12/24 Jared Speier

12/25 Andriy Moskalyk

12/26 Stephen Frangos, Jerry Jones

12/27 Jennifer Frangos

#### Patronal Feast Days

12/22 Great Martyr Anastasia Anastasia Brunner

12/27 Protomarty Stephen Subdn. Stephen Butler, Stephen Frangos,  
Steve Thomas

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**TO READ MET. SABA's message for this week, "SILENT HANDS," go to:**  
<https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2680>

**THANKS BE TO GOD!  
OUR ANNUAL HOWARD SHANNON  
GOLF TOURNAMENT  
realized proceeds of \$132,285!**

We are so thankful to our Golf Tournament Committee for 14 years of hard work in raising funds to support the building of a temple on our property, and to all of our members and friends who have supported the event through volunteering, donating auction items, becoming sponsors, and purchasing tickets. Special thanks and many years to:

Dr. Scott Speier — Chairperson  
Terri Speier — Auction Coordinator  
Jami Brunner Stetler  
Dorian Easbey Florez  
Angelina Speier



**LITURGICAL CALENDARS FOR 2026 ARE AVAILABLE IN THE HALLWAY.** The cost of the calendars has gone up this year to \$3 per calendar. A small donation to cover your calendar is welcome and can be put in the TITHE BOX or made online through the website. Thank you!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR** for our “Ninth Day of Christmas Family Night,” on Friday, January 2nd at 6:00 p.m. The evening will include music, an “open mic” for those who have a song, poem, or other talent to share, and holiday refreshments. If you would like to participate in the program that night, contact Kh. Jan Speier.

**JACOB FEINSTEIN**, one of our most recently illumined converts, will be moving to Washington, D.C. to attend Georgetown University and will be studying at the Walsh School of Foreign Service to pursue a Master of Arts in Security Studies. It is a two year program, and he looks forward to coming back home between breaks and holidays!



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**REVISTING OUR MISSION, VISION,**  
**GOALS & PRIORITIES**  
**—A group discussion for our active parish members—**  
**January 24, 2026**  
**9:00 a.m.— 12:00 p.m.**

## WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES

**WE WILL PRAY THE FINAL ADVENT PARAKLESIS OF THIS NATIVITY SEASON** this Wednesday, December 17th at 6:00 p.m.

## UPCOMING FEAST DAYS & SPECIAL SERVICES

Wed., 12/24	PARAMON OF THE NATIVITY	Royal Hours	9:00 AM
	<b>NATIVITY OF OUR LORD</b>	Matins/Liturgy	10:00 PM
<i>We begin the fast-free period of festal joy kept until the Eve of Theophany, January 5th.</i>			
Sat., 12/27	Commemoration of the Slaughter of the Innocents	Vespers	5:30 PM
	<i>Our Remembrance of all the victims of abortion and those affected by it.</i>		
Sun., 12/28	Blessing of the Graves at Goleta Cemetery		1:00 PM
Thurs., 1/1	<b>FEASTS OF ST. BASIL/CIRCUMCISION</b>	Liturgy	9:00 AM
Fri. 1/2	"Ninth Day of Christmas" Family Night		6:00 PM
Mon., 1/5	PARAMON OF THEOPHANY	Royal Hours	9:00 AM
	<b>GREAT &amp; HOLY THEOPHANY</b>	Festal Matins	4:30 PM
		Festal Liturgy	5:30 PM
<i>The Great Blessing of the Waters will be during Matins.</i>			
<i>The Baptism and Chrismation of Converts will be during the Divine Liturgy.</i>			
<i>Resume regular fasting times on January 7.</i>			
Sunday, 1/11	OUTDOOR BLESSING OF THE OCEAN		1:00 PM
Sunday, 1/18	PATRONAL FEAST OF ST. ATHANASIUS	Regular weekend service times	
Sunday, 2/1	<b>PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD</b>	Regular weekend service times	
	transferred from 2/2		
	also, Publican & Pharisee Sunday		

## REMINDERS & HELPFUL INFORMATION

- Some wonderful resources about the **NATIVITY SEASON** are available on the Antiochian Archdiocese website, including printable icons and arts and crafts ideas for children. You will find lots of ideas here: <https://ww0.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2261>
- The Sunday sermons are posted here:  
<https://www.stathanasius.org/media/homilies-audio/>
- You can make donations/tithes or bookstore payments online through our parish website. Please be sure to choose the appropriate **EARMARK** so that we know how to apply your payment. <https://www.stathanasius.org/donation/>
- There are lots of photos from past feast days and events posted to the parish website, going as far back as 2006, and as recent as our 2025 Golf Tournament:  
<https://www.stathanasius.org/media/photo-gallery/page1>

FINANCIAL UPDATE		
November, 2025		
	<u>Actual Income</u>	<u>Budget Goal</u>
Tithes received in Nov.	\$ 72,209	56,293 (includes \$20,555 for mortgage)
Tithes received Jan.-Nov.	585,334	619,223 (includes \$205,550 for mortgage)
Total Operating Expenses January-November, 2025		\$ 726,572
Total income January-November, 2025		<u>725,037</u>
<b>DEFICIT for the first 11 months:</b>		<b>\$ 1,535</b>
Temple donations in Nov. 2025	\$ 5,430	
Temple Fund donations Jan-Nov., 2025	\$ 63,984	
Temple Fund Balance year-to-date:	\$ 1,054.897	Reserved for Building Project

**GOLF TOURNAMENT PROCEEDS: \$132,285**  
**(15% of the proceeds will go towards building improvements.**  
**The remainder goes directly to the Temple Fund.)**

## 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  
Abp. Benjamin  
Fr. James in Nigeria (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)  
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.  
Galeyna T.  
Jill W. and Family  
Shirley D. and Family  
Penny B.  
Justin & Amber B.  
Cameron B.  
Kh. Elizabeth S.  
Zosimos S.  
Oleg  
Alla

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  
Travis & Christin Collins & Caleb  
Tanner Diamond  
Joshua Dunford  
Macario Gonzalez  
Kartik Kommu  
Blake Manning, Gia & Benjamin  
Sahit Rampilla  
Tyler Vrem  
Joshua Weiss (currently lives abroad)  
Martin Wilson  
Nathan Wright, Owain & Gavin

## For repose of the souls of:

## 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](mailto: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](http://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, December 21**

9:00 a.m.	Religious Ed. for ages 3 yrs—Grade 6
9:00 a.m.	Matins
10:00 a.m.	Liturgy
11:30 a.m.	Teen Religious Education
11:45 a.m.	Agape Meal
12:20 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
12:45 p.m.	Adult Catechism

### **Monday, December 22**

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

### **Tuesday, December 23**

5:30 p.m.	Daily Vespers
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### **Wednesday, December 24**

9:00 a.m.	Royal Hours of Nativity
11:55 a.m.	St. Xenia Prayer Ministry
10:00 p.m.	Matins of Nativity
11:00 p.m.	Divine Liturgy of Nativity

### **Thursday, December 25—NO SERVICES** FEAST OF THE NATIVITY

### **Friday, December 26—SYNAXIS OF THEOTOKOS**

7:00 a.m.	Daily Matins
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### **Saturday, December 27—MARTYR STEPHEN**

5:30 p.m.	Great Vespers/Confessions Remembrance of the 40 Infants slain by Herod, Memorial for all infants who have died in birth, shortly after, or by abortion
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### **Sunday, December 28**

#### **NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES**

9:00 a.m.	Matins
10:00 a.m.	Liturgy
11:45 a.m.	Agape Meal
12:45 p.m.	Adult Catechism
1:00 p.m.	Blessing of the Graves at Goleta Cemetery

## THANK YOU TO OUR SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS!

### **EUCCHARIST BREAD**

December 21	Dn. Gary
December 24	Kern (Nativity Liturgy)
December 28	Vander Laan
January 4	Frangos
January 11	Meyer

### **READERS**

December 20	Alexander (Vespers)
December 21	Butler
December 24	Lange (Nativity Liturgy)
December 28	Meyer
January 4	TBA
January 11	TBA

### **WELCOME MINISTRY**

December 21	N. Aviles/A. Ballew/L. Sieck
December 28	M. Wayne/K.L. King
January 4	A.G. Salinas/C. Clements
January 11	G. Hoppe/B. Eberhard

### **USHERS**

December 21	D. Alexander/D. Meyer
December 28	K.L. King/M. Loulias
January 4	P. King/J. King
January 11	S. Speier/C. Speier

### **AGAPE MEAL HOSTS**

December 21	Team Gish
December 28	Team Lander
January 4	Team Speier
January 11	Simple Coffee Hour

OUTDOOR BLESSING OF  
WATER AT THE HARBOR

### **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. Weekly bulletins and Matins/Vespers weekly handouts may be taken home.  
**Thank you!**

# Thank you ...

...to everyone who donated so generously and quickly in support of our collection for Christmas gifts for victims of human trafficking!!

Because of your generosity, we were able to give 15 gift cards to Hope Refuge. In addition, through Tree of Life, each child in the family we adopted will receive clothes, a pair of shoes, toys, and a Target gift card. The Mom will receive an Albertsons' gift card and a special gift basket.

Your giving has made a difference and shared God's love in a tangible way during this Nativity season!

