



ST. ATHANASIUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Office hours: Tues-Fri.
11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Senior Pastor:

Fr. Nicholas Speier
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Assistant Pastors:

Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges 805-968-1903
Fr. John Carrillo 805-968-2448
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Fr. Jon Braun, Attached Priest (retired)
Fr. John Finley, Attached Priest

Deacons:

Dn. Gary Braun
Dn. Scott Jacobs
Dn. Richard Easbey
Dn. John Young

Music Director/Administrator:

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Parish Council:

Dana Alexander, President
Dan Braun, Treasurer
Douglas Meyer, Secretary
Katie AbuGhazaleh
Karen Jacobs
Jon King
Laurence Lander
Craig Speier

LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, December 22, 2013

**Tone 1 / Eothinon 4; Fore-feast of &
Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy)
Great-martyr Anastasia the deliverer from potions and her
teacher the Martyr Chrysogonos**



WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

*We are glad you are with us this morning.
If you are not Orthodox, we invite you to
partake of the blessed bread during
Communion and to join us at Coffee Hour ~
we'd love to meet you!*

Calendar for this Week

Sunday, December 22

8:45 a.m. Rel. Ed. 3 yrs – High School
9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour

Monday, December 23

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins

Tuesday, December 24

8:00 a.m. Royal Hours (complete)
8:00 p.m. Nativity Matins & Liturgy

Wednesday, December 25

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

10:00 a.m. St. Brigid Outreach Breakfast
at St. Michael's University
Church in Isla Vista

Thursday, December 26

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Friday, December 27

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins
7:00 p.m. Christmas Family Night

Saturday, December 28

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers

Sunday, December 29

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour
1:00 p.m. Blessing of the Graves at
Goleta Cemetery

Sunday Morning Ministries Schedule

Eucharist Bread

December 22 Meyer
December 29 Thomas
January 5 Hedges
January 12 Tinyayeva

Coffee Hour

December 22 Kern/Vander Laan
December 29 Potluck: Christmas treats
January 5 Gray/Matthews/Ferraez to
commemorate St. Genevieve of Paris
January 12 (Only Coffee & Tea after Liturgy)
Picnic at Goleta Beach after Great
Blessing of the Water

Greeters

December 22 D. & D. Alexander
December 24 P. King/P. Matthews
December 29 D. Washburn/D. Lewis
January 5 K. & L. Jacobs
January 12 S. & C. Shackelford

Ushers

December 22 Jon King, P. King
December 24 P. King, R. Barre
December 29 S. & L. Speier, P. Brunner
January 5 D. Meyer, R. Barre, D. Lewis
January 12 C. Speier, Rita Schneider, P. King

**ENJOY THE LAST DAY OF OUR EXPANDED
BOOKSTORE AND BROWSE FOR
CHRISTMAS GIFTS DURING COFFEE HOUR.**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE
BUILDING FUND!**

CHANGEABLE TEXTS FOR THE DAY

AT THE END OF THE MATINS SERVICE, WE SING THE GREAT DOXOLOGY.
(“Glory to You, Who have shown us the light...” - Complete text is
in the front of the Liturgy Book.)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

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”

After each of the verses sung by the choir, the congregation sings the refrain:
“Remember us, O Lord, when you come in your Kingdom.”

- PROCESSION OF THE CLERGY - AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE, WE SING THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL HYMNS FOR THE DAY:

Troparion of the Resurrection (music on p. 40 of Liturgy Book)

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 the Sunday of the Ancestors of Christ

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 of the Pre-feast of the Nativity

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 to St. Athanasius (Music on p. 54 of Liturgy Book)

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 (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 8

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 FOR THE DAY

Hebrews 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, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release 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 tempted, 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

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 FOR THE DAY Matthew 1:1-25 "The Genealogy of Christ"

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 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 fulfil 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 commanded him; he took his wife, but knew her not until she had borne a son; and he called his name Jesus.

LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

Meglynarion—Hymn to the Mother of God (Liturgy Book, Page 27)

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.

Hymn sung as the clergy receive the Eucharist: (Liturgy Book, Page 32)

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

Hymn during Communion of the People (Liturgy Book, Page 33)

Of Thy mystical Supper, O Son of God, accept me today as a communicant. For I will not speak of thy mysteries to Thine enemies. Neither like Judas will I give Thee a kiss. But like the thief will I confess Thee: Remember me, O Lord, in Thy Kingdom!

Receive the Body of Christ, taste the fountain of immortality. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

HOLY COMMUNION

*In the Orthodox Church, the sacrament of Communion is offered only to Christians who are baptized in the name of the Trinity and chrismated into the Orthodox Faith. Non-Orthodox believers **may approach the chalice for a blessing and the blessed bread instead of the Eucharist.** So that the priest is aware of this, please just say, "Father, bless" when you get to the chalice.*

Thanksgiving Prayers after Communion

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 you show courtesy to those who are remaining to hear the prayers in their entirety by waiting until Coffee Hour to socialize.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

You can access a complete calendar of services and other parish activities on our website: **www.stathanasius.org**.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE

Today was the last day of Religious Education classes until we are settled into our new building. The teachers will keep parents informed of the date on which classes will resume.

HOLIDAY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN IN GRADES K-6—Thurs. January 2nd

We will offer a one-day vacation school on Thursday, January 2nd from 9 a.m.– 2 p.m. We will have a lesson on the Nativity and Epiphany, and take a field trip — probably to the Botanical Gardens. For more information or to sign up, contact Libby Kinman at libn8r@hotmail.com or 680-2520.

MEMORIAL PRAYERS FOR INFANTS/UNBORN

On Saturday, December 28th (The Feast of the Holy Innocents) after Great Vespers we will say the Trisagion Prayers in memory of all infants, known and unknown, who have died in childbirth or shortly thereafter, and unborn children who have died as a result of abortion. All in attendance will have the opportunity to write down the names of children they know of who have died before the age of one, and to light a small candle for each one.

EPIPHANY CELEBRATIONS

Friday, January 3	6:45 a.m.	Royal Hours
Monday, January 6	6:00 p.m.	Vespertal Liturgy
Sunday, January 12	12:30 p.m.	Great Blessing of the Water at Goleta Beach along with St. Barbara Greek Parish followed by our traditional Picnic. A donation of \$5/person is requested to cover the lunch.

Consider inviting your friends and relatives to join us this year at the beach! Youth ages 8 years and older are invited to come dressed to dive into the ocean for the cross. Parents, please bring a towel and a change of clothing for them.

LITURGICAL CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Liturgical wall calendars for 2014 are now available (first come-first served) in the narthex of the church. They list all major feast days, major saints and fasting days, and daily readings. They are a great reference tool for every Orthodox Christian.

CELEBRATIONS for THIS WEEK

Birthdays

12/22 Alexander Nikolov, Zachary Nikolov
12/24 Rachel Friesen, Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges, Jared Speier
12/29 Karen Jacobs

Patron Saint Commemorations

12/22 **Great Martyr Anastasia** Anastasia Brunner

12/27 **St. John the Apostle** Johnny Heiduk

12/27 **St. Stephen the Protomartyr** Sbdn. Stephen Butler,
Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges, Steve Thomas

12/29 **Sunday after the Nativity of Christ**

St. Joseph the Betrothed Joe Ballew, Dn. Scott Jacobs

King David Gage Braun, Josh Braun, David Dillon,
David Giordani, Jon King, David McCalmont,
David McConnell, Jared Speier, David Washburn

St. James, the Brother of Jesus Richard Barre, Fr. Jim King, Jim Morrison
Zavien Van Wagoner

Last day to contribute gift items for Drive for the Needy

ST. BRIGID FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS to be distributed at our outreach breakfast on Christmas morning:

- **white tube socks**
- **warm hats and mittens**
- **new or gently used/clean sweatshirts**
- **new or gently used/clean sleeping bags or blankets**

Today is the last day to put your donated items in the large,
decorated box in the fellowship hall.

Thanks!!

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING FEAST DAYS

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Tuesday, December 24

8:00 a.m. Royal Hours (Complete)

8:00 p.m. Nativity Matins & Liturgy

Wednesday, December 25

NO MORNING SERVICE

10:00 a.m. Outreach Breakfast—St. Michael's University Church
Hosted by St. Brigid Fellowship — all parishioners
invited!

Sunday, December 29 at 1 p.m.—Goleta Cemetery Visit with prayers and caroling

ST. BASIL/NEW YEAR

Tuesday, December 31

6:00 p.m. Vespertine Liturgy for St. Basil

☼ Outreach Breakfast on Christmas Morning

Our St. Brigid Ministry Team will be coordinating the lovely Christmas breakfast, once again, for the homeless and needy this coming Wednesday, Dec. 25th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Michael's University Church in Isla Vista. If you would like to contribute a food item that does not need to be cooked or heated but you cannot attend the breakfast, **you can bring it to Christmas Eve service and leave it in the kitchen, or you can drop off hot items at our church on Christmas morning between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m.** Of course, you are also welcome to bring the food directly to the breakfast on Christmas morning and to stay and help us welcome and serve our guests. If you are dropping off food at St. Michael's on Christmas morning, please plan to bring it hot and ready to serve at 9:45 a.m. We have no ovens or warmers on site.

You can still sign up on the large bulletin board in the fellowship hall today. We look forward to seeing many of our St. Athanasius parishioners on Christmas morning!

Thanks!

Richard Barre and the entire St. Brigid Team

Christmas Family Night

Friday, December 27, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Carol sing-a-long, including our traditional
"Twelve Days of Christmas!"

Open-mic talent show— all ages welcome!

If you or anyone in your family would like to sing,
dance, tell a joke, do a magic trick, read a poem, play an
instrument or share some other talent, please contact

Verne Gish at
vgish9@gmail.com or 453-7891.

Bring an hors d'oeuvre or dessert to share.

Beverages provided.



Parish Founders Meeting

On Saturday, December 14, 2013, the adult founding members of St. Athanasius Parish met for several hours to reflect on the successes and growth of the past 26 years, and to give their input and wise counsel about the values and goals that we want to carry forward with us as we move to our new "home." The results of that meeting will be shared with the entire parish in the next several months.

St. Nicholas Night 2014

**-A celebration of the life of St. Nicholas of Myra,
and an evening of story telling, music, fellowship and fun-**

**Thanks to all of our composers, musicians, narrators, technical crew,
photographers, videographers and reception coordinators! There are
copies of the program in the narthex and on the website.**





Photos by Nataliya Tinyayeva. More photos at:
<http://www.stathanasius.org/media/photo-gallery/>

TEEN SCENE

JOURNEY TO ADULthood

Schedule of Activities and Service Projects
September- November 2013

J2A Grades 9-10

Sunday, 12/22 POSTPONED: Great American Melodrama for the Holiday Extravaganza, New date TBA

YAC Grades 11-12

Sunday, 12/29 Christmas Party/White Elephant Gift exchange

MARK YOUR CALENDAR—UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **YES! Weekend** (Youth Equipped to Serve) - January 17-19, 2014
(Martin Luther King Weekend)
- Camp St. Nicholas **Winter Teen Camp** - February 14-17, 2014
(Presidents' Weekend)
- Project Mexico Mission Trip—August 13-19, 2014

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:

Fr. Alexander Atty	Kh. Luann B.	Eleni Z.
Mother Victoria	Gail S.	Sylvia G.
Met. Paul & Abp. John	Olga G.	Jimmy
who have been	Leona G.	Molly M.
kidnapped by terrorists	Mick K. & Family	Infants Luke & Andrew
in Turkey.	Mary & Susan	Joy
Fr. Gordon & Mary Sue W.	Duane F.	Victoria T.
Fr. Luke H. and Family	Marna D.	
Greg & Margaret Y.	Frank G.	
Mary Ellen B.	Baby Christian F.	
Kate, David, Salem & Baby Miriam	Richard	

For repose of the souls of: Bill, Presbyter Katherine H., Patrick B., Andrew S.

ABOUT OUR PRAYER LISTS:

Prayer requests in the bulletin are prayed out loud during the deacons' litanies and should be submitted to the church office—office@stathanasius.org.

Prayer requests put into the **wooden box in the narthex** will be said silently at the altar at most services. During the **Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy**, only Orthodox Christians are commemorated, and that list is comprised of the sick, those celebrating special occasions listed in the bulletin, and those who prepared the Eucharist bread. Others are prayed for during the Proskomedie (Preparation of the Bread and Wine for Communion).

ST. ATHANASIUS BOOK CENTER

The church bookstore is located in the fellowship hall. The two enclosed cabinets hold icons, books, jewelry and other items that are FOR SALE. Payment should be made at time of purchase and placed in the brown lock box. Make checks payable to "St. Athanasius Book Center."



WHO IS JESUS?

A Christmas Activity
for Children

*Read the clues and fill in the blanks with the missing letters.
Use your Bible to help.*

1. Jesus is the **C** _ _ r _ _ _ _
(Messiah or Anointed One) Mt. 16:15-16
2. Jesus is the **H** _ _ _ y _ _ n _ _ of _ _ _ _ _
(set apart) Mk. 1:24
3. Jesus is **R** _ _ _ h _ _ e _ _ _ _
(good, just, blameless) 1 John 2:1
4. Jesus is **I** _ _ m _ _ _ _ e _ _
(God with us) Isaiah 7:14
5. Jesus is our **S** _ _ _ i _ _ _ _
(one who saves us from our sins) Lk. 2:10-11
6. Jesus is our **T** _ _ _ _ _ _ _ r _
(one who instructs, gives us commandments to live by) Mt. 19:16
7. Jesus is our **M** _ _ _ i _ _ _ o _ _
(one who prays to God the Father for us) 1 Tim 2:5
8. Jesus is **A** _ _ m _ _ _ h _ _ _ _
(the powerful one, one who has authority) Rev. 1:8
9. Jesus is the **S** _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _
(second person of the Holy Trinity) Mt. 27:54

Answers: 1. Christ 2. Holy One of God 3. Righteous 4. Immanuel
5. Savior 6. Teacher 7. Mediator 8. Almighty 9. Son of God