



ST. ATHANASIUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

300 Sumida Gardens Lane
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
Office hours: Tues-Fri.
12:00—5:00 p.m.

Senior Pastor:

Fr. Nicholas Speier
805-685-5495
frnicholas@stathanasius.org

Assistant Pastors:

Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges 805-968-1903
Fr. John Carrillo 805-968-2448
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:

Valerie Yova
Office phone: 805-685-5400
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Parish Council:

Douglas Meyer, President
Dan Braun, Treasurer
Katie AbuGhazaleh, Secretary
Richard Barre
Catherine Braun
Dottie Genatone
Benjamin Hedges
Karen Jacobs
Dr. Jon King

LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM Sunday, December 20, 2015

**Tone 4 / Eothinon 7; First Day of the Forefeast of &
Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy)**
New-martyr John the Tailor of Thasos;
Daniel II, Archbishop of Serbia,
St. Ignatius of Antioch, Repose of St. John of Kronstadt



**St. John of Kronstadt
1829-1908**

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 20—St. Ignatius of Antioch, St. John of Kronstadt

9:00 a.m. Religious Ed. classes Grades 9-12
9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour
12:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Monday, December 21

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins
4:30 p.m. Outreach Dinner at St. Michael's
University Church in Isla Vista

Tuesday, December 22

3:30 p.m. Catechesis Level I
5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, December 23

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins
6:00 p.m. Advent Paraklesis

Thursday, December 24

8:00 a.m. Royal Hours of Nativity
8:00 p.m. Festal Matins & Liturgy for the
Nativity of our Lord

Friday, December 25

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

Saturday, December 26

NO ADULT CATECHISM

6:00 p.m. Vespers with memorial prayers for
those who died as children or in
childbirth, in commemoration of the
14,000 infants Slain by Herod (Dec. 29)

Sunday, December 27—ST. STEPHEN

NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. POTLUCK
1:00 p.m. Blessing of graves at Goleta Cemetery

Sunday Morning Ministries Schedule

Eucharist Bread

December 20 Meyer
December 27 Kern
January 3 Dillon
January 10 Thomas

Coffee Hour

December 20 Vander Laan
December 27 POTLUCK
January 3 NEED A HOST
January 10 POTLUCK

Greeters

December 20 D. Washburn, G. Shannon
December 27 K. & L. Jacobs
January 3 P. King, L. Baker
January 10 G. Shannon, K. King

Ushers

December 20 D. Lewis, C. Speier, J. King
December 27 G. Shannon S. Speier, P. Brunner
January 3 P. King, D. Meyer, R. Barre
January 10 D. Lewis, C. Speier, J. King

Readers

December 19 D. Alexander (Vespers)
December 20 H. Lange
December 24 R. Barre
December 27 P. Braun
December 31 V. Gish

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

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

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

**THE GREAT LITANY
(This new melody will be used during the Nativity Fast)**

①

Soprano
Alto

Lord have mercy. Lord have mercy.

Tenor
Bass

nazo zakkak

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”

After each of the verses is sung by antiphonal choirs, the choir and congregation sing the refrain:

“Remember us, O Lord, when you come in your Kingdom.”

AT THE LITTLE ENTRANCE, WE SING THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL HYMNS FOR THE DAY

Troparion of the Resurrection (Music on page 45 of Liturgy book)

Having learned the joyful message
of the Resurrection from the angel,
the women disciples of the Lord cast from them
their parental condemnation,
and proudly broke the news to the disciples
saying death has been spoiled.
Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

Tone 4 Byzantine melody
harmonized by Fr. J. Finley

Troparion of the Pre-feast of the Nativity**Fr. John D. Finley**

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 of the Ancestors of Christ**Tone 2** (Slavic Chant)

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** Byzantine melody
harmonized by Fr. J. Finley**(Music on p. 54 of Liturgy book)**

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** Byzantine melody
harmonized by F. Karam

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— 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, 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

(Music on page 64 of Liturgy Booklet)

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— St. 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.

LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

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.

Hymns sung as the clergy receive the Eucharist for the feast of the Cross

- Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)
- Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)
- The Jesus Prayer: “O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.”

Recessional: “O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Thou Dayspring come and cheer our spirit by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death’s dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

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

WE WILL PRAY OUR LAST ADVENT PARAKLESIS OF THE SEASON this Wednesdays, December 23rd at 6:00 p.m.

CELEBRATIONS for THIS WEEK

Birthdays

12/20 Hudson Zidek
12/22 Alexander Nikolov, Zachary Nikolov
12/24 Rachel Friesen, Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges, Jared Speier

Patron Saint Commemorations

12/20 **St. John of Kronstadt** John de Bruin, Jill Wallestedt
12/22 **Great Martyr Anastasia** Anastasia Brunner

2016 LITURGICAL CALENDARS AVAILABLE

Liturgical wall calendars for 2016 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.

INCOME FOR NOVEMBER 2015

	Gen. Operating	Building Fund	
Monthly Goal	\$33,000		\$14,120
Monthly Actual	\$44,328		\$26,533

St. Athanasius Orthodox Church

invites you to hear two of our extraordinary young artists:

Madeleine Meyer

&

John Butler

in an evening of music,

including many of each of their own original songs

on Friday, January 8, 2016

7-9 p.m.

at St. Barbara Greek Orthodox Church in the social hall

1205 San Antonio Creek Rd. in Santa Barbara

Proceeds will benefit the St. Athanasius Building Fund

\$20/person— includes refreshments

No children under 13, please. Advance reservations required, seating is limited.

To make reservations and pay online: www.stathanasius.org/events/

or purchase tickets at St. Athanasius Church with a check or cash on 12.27.15 and 01.03.16;

or mail a check to SAOC by January 4th: 300 Sumida Gardens Lane, Santa Barbara, CA

OUTDOOR GREAT BLESSING OF THE WATERS

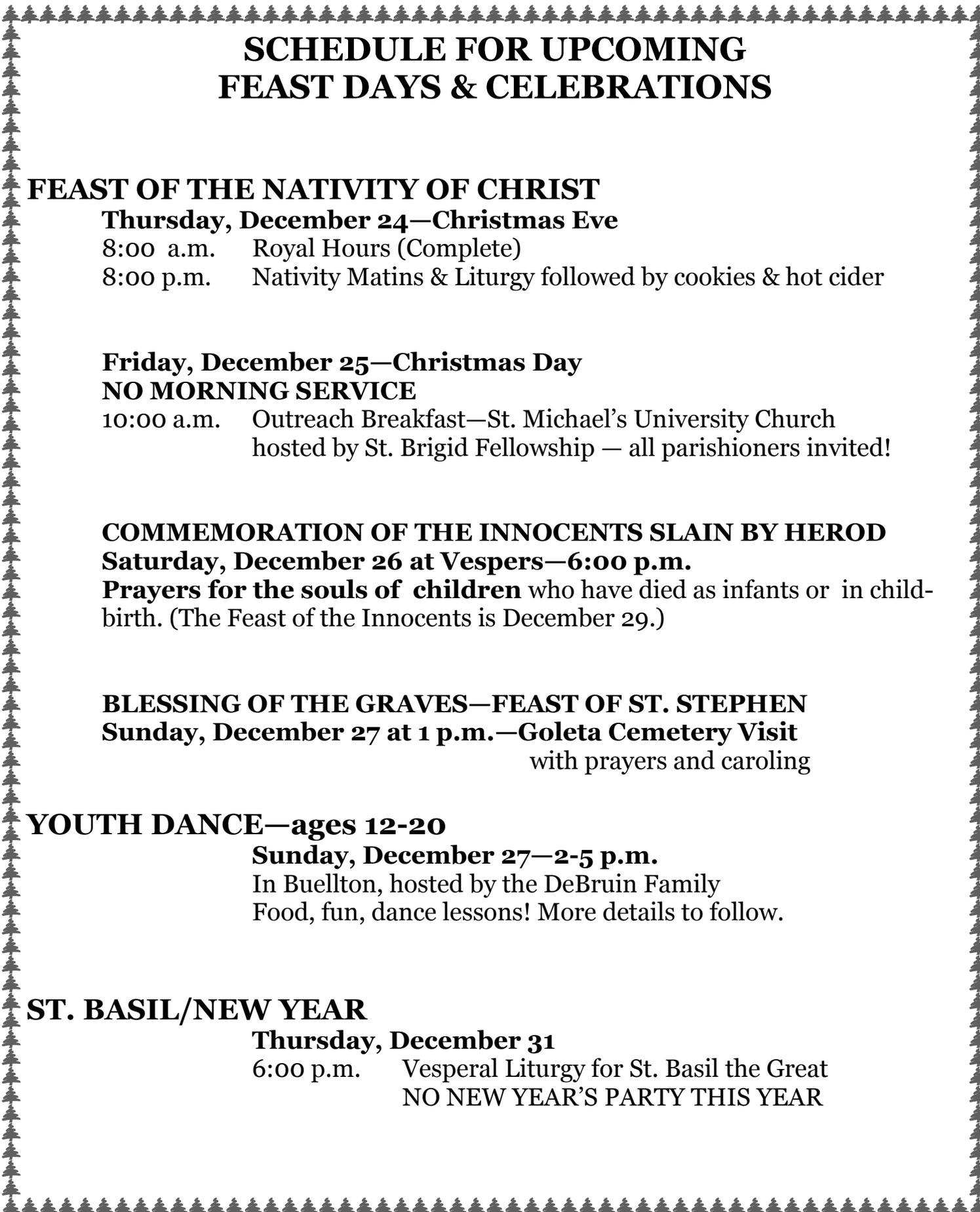
for the Feast of Epiphany

Sunday, January 10, 2016

This year we will join St. Barbara's Greek Orthodox Church and their new pastor, Fr. Haralambos "Bob" Fox for the Outdoor Blessing of the Waters on Sunday, January 10th. We will be meeting them at the Santa Barbara Harbor, near West Beach and the Santa Barbara Yacht Club. We will have a potluck that day for Coffee Hour, and no food will be served at the Harbor.

We are considering taking a bus down to the harbor at 12:30 p.m. that day, because parking is often difficult to find. An announcement will go out next week taking a poll to see who would be interested in riding the bus. There would be a small per person fee for all passengers.

We are just trying this out this year to see how we like it. We may end up alternating every other year between Goleta Beach and the Harbor. We'll be interested in your feedback after this year's Blessing.



SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING FEAST DAYS & CELEBRATIONS

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Thursday, December 24—Christmas Eve

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

8:00 p.m. Nativity Matins & Liturgy followed by cookies & hot cider

Friday, December 25—Christmas Day

NO MORNING SERVICE

10:00 a.m. Outreach Breakfast—St. Michael's University Church

hosted by St. Brigid Fellowship — all parishioners invited!

COMMEMORATION OF THE INNOCENTS SLAIN BY HEROD

Saturday, December 26 at Vespers—6:00 p.m.

Prayers for the souls of children who have died as infants or in child-birth. (The Feast of the Innocents is December 29.)

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES—FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN

Sunday, December 27 at 1 p.m.—Goleta Cemetery Visit

with prayers and caroling

YOUTH DANCE—ages 12-20

Sunday, December 27—2-5 p.m.

In Buellton, hosted by the DeBruin Family

Food, fun, dance lessons! More details to follow.

ST. BASIL/NEW YEAR

Thursday, December 31

6:00 p.m. Vespers Liturgy for St. Basil the Great

NO NEW YEAR'S PARTY THIS YEAR

2015 St. Nicholas Drive for the Needy

ST. BRIGID FELLOWSHIP IS COLLECTING ITEMS FOR THE HOMELESS to be distributed at our outreach breakfast on Christmas morning. Please keep the homeless in mind as you are doing holiday shopping and consider purchasing an item for the collection. We are asking for:

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



Drop your donated items in the large, decorated box in the hallway.

Please do NOT gift-wrap the donated items.

Please limit your gifts to the specific items requested. Thanks!!

Outreach Breakfast on Christmas Morning

Once again, our St. Brigid Ministry Team will be coordinating the lovely Christmas breakfast for the homeless and needy on Dec. 25th at 10:00 a.m. at St. Michael's University Church in Isla Vista. We need lots of help with set-up, clean-up, food preparation, and entertainment, so please sign up to lend a hand in whatever way that you are able. The list is posted on the large bulletin board in the hallway.

If it is impossible to bring food directly to the breakfast on Christmas morning, food items that do not need to be served hot may be brought to the church on Christmas Eve. Please be sure to clearly mark your food and leave it in the small kitchenette by the church office. Hot foods may be dropped off at the church by 9:30 a.m. on Christmas morning and left on the table on the patio. Please make sure that food is tightly covered and in either a box or a bag.

Bring the entire family that day and enjoy an extra special Christmas morning blessing by opening your hearts to those in need!



ST. NICHOLAS FAMILY NIGHT 2015

Thanks to all who helped to make it a wonderful celebration!

Fr. Nicholas for his blessing to create this program!

- Valerie Yova & Nancy Gilbert—Producers;
- Zak Landrum for designing our new stage;
- Mitchell Denny, Patrick Gilbert & Garrett Gish for constructing our new stage;
- Our narrators: Fr. Nicholas, Kh. Jan & Jane Meyer;
Our Actors, the Girls' Choir & Adult Choir;
The children and teachers of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd;
Nancy Gilbert, our accompanist and stage director for St. Nicholas play
- Lara Jacobs, for coordinating our teens in assisting St. Nicholas with the treats for the children's shoes!
 - Hani AbuGhazaleh, photographer
- Katie AbuGhazaleh and Alyssa Simonsen for organizing the reception, those who helped them and those who contributed refreshments;
- Our contest judges: Fr. Nicholas Speier, Jane Meyer, Cheryl Washburn-Lander
 - Asia & Noelle Ballew for assisting with the costume contest and in many other ways!
 - Fr. Nicholas Speier, Asia Ballew, Nancy Gilbert, Carla Brunstead, Lisa Ballew, and the Junior Highers for the Christmas tree, cave, and beautiful decorations!

***Thanks be to God for such an incredibly talented parish,
and to St. Nicholas
for guiding us in this process!***



TEEN SCENE

Activities—Autumn 2015

Date	Activity	Time and Location
Sunday, 12/27	Teen Dance in Buellton for youth ages 12-20 hosted by the de Bruin Family	2-5 p.m.

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*
AN EXCITING NEW MINISTRY
*
*
*

* On Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. we are hosting a shower truck for *
* the homeless of our local Goleta neighborhood . The truck was purchased *
* through the efforts of Doug and Sandy Miller, friends that we met in Isla *
* Vista through St. Brigid Fellowship. The truck is in a different location al- *
* most every day of the week, and they provide the water, toiletries, towels *
* and clean clothes. We simply provide a place for them to park the truck. We *
* are also offering coffee and sandwiches for the people who use the shower, *
* and some fellowship. Asia Ballew has been coordinating the refreshments, *
* with help from Duane Franzen and Richard Barre. If you are interested in *
* helping on Wednesday mornings, please let Fr. Nicholas know or send an *
* email to the church office. office@stathanasius.org *
*

Thought of the Day:

December 16, 2015

"I need all of you to bring peace and joy and forgiveness to your homes, to your church, to your friends, to your children, and to all your loved ones during this holy season. Call your loved ones and tell them you love them." -- His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH

☞

PRAAYER 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:

Metropolitan JOSEPH
Mother Victoria
Met. Paul & Abp. John
Dn. Richard E.
Kh. Diane Carrillo
Kh. Mary Sue W.
Greg & Margaret Y.
Hoppe Family
Kh. Mary Ellen B.
Gail S.
Dean & Penny B.
Kevin & Angel S.

Mary
Susan B.
Baby Christian F.
Duane F.
Stan and Donna F.
Angel, Helen and Family
Joy
Terri-Lynn H.
Hannah Rose H.
Holly C.
Temmo K.

Paige
Galina, Nikolai & Nataliya
Nikita
Marina
Olga Marie G.
Mike, Trevor & Adam
Emily F.
Joan, Jerry, Brenda
Kevin O.
Delaney N.
Sabina S.
Steve K.

For repose of the souls of: All who have died in the conflicts in the Ukraine,
Africa & the Middle East

ABOUT OUR PRAYER LISTS:

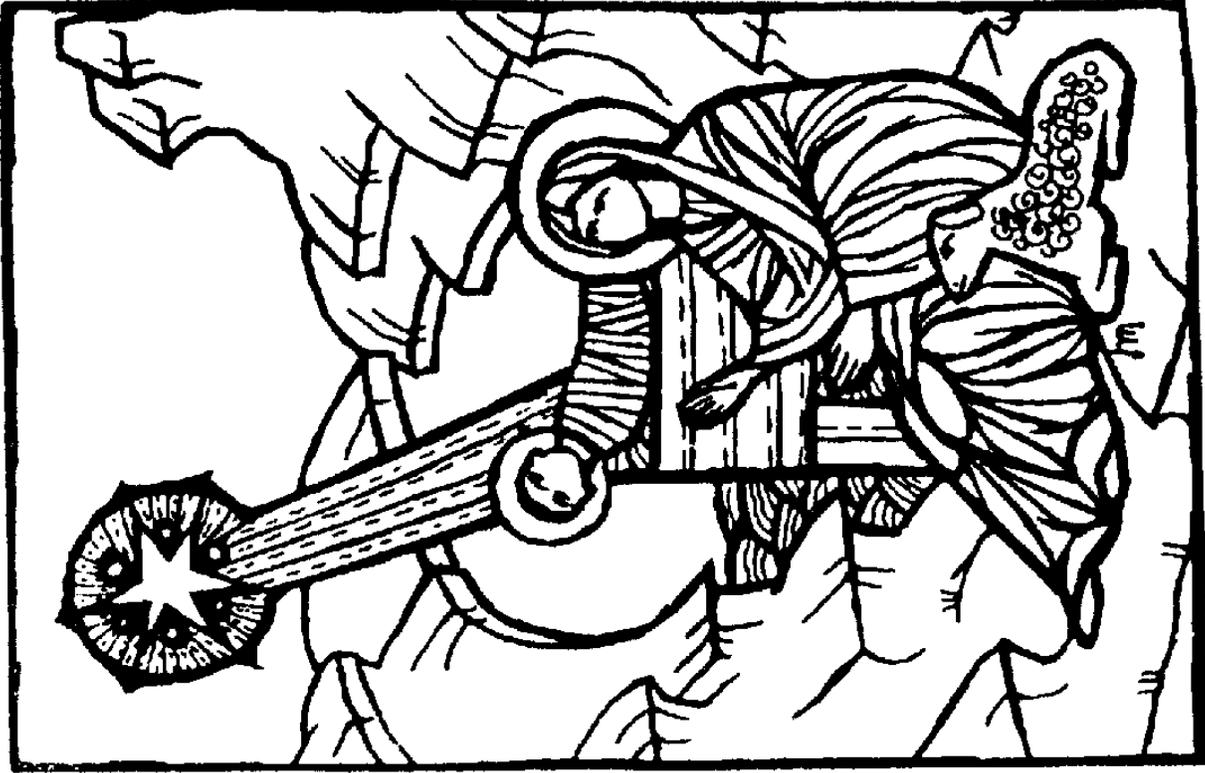
Prayer requests in the bulletin are prayed out loud during the deacons' litanies and should be submitted to the church office—office@stathanasius.org.

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 Proskomedia (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, and other items that are FOR SALE. See Terri Speier if you are looking for jewelry such as a cross or chain. Payment should be made at time of purchase and placed in the brown lock box ON THE BOOKSTORE SHELF. Make checks payable to "St. Athanasius Book Center."

All proceeds go to the parish Building Fund.



FOR THE CHILDREN TO COLOR
DURING THE HOMILY OR AT HOME -

**THE MISSION AND VISION
OF**

**ST. ATHANASIUS
ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(Ephesians 3:14-21)**

That we would be rooted and grounded in
FAITH, LOVE AND HUMILITY
so we might experience and manifest the
FULLNESS OF THE CHURCH

- in the WORSHIP of the Holy Trinity
- in the CARE AND GROWTH of the people
- in SERVING new members, catechumens,
inquirers and visitors
- In SHARING THE ANCIENT FAITH with our
community, the wayward and seekers
- In LOVING AND CARING FOR OUR COMMU-
NITY

**Unto the inheritance of the
KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**