



## 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 Met. JOSEPH,  
Archbishop of New York &  
Metropolitan of all N. America**

**Senior Pastor:**

Fr. Nicholas Speier

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**Assistant Pastor:**

Fr. Symeon Halsell

805-685-5400

frsymeon@stathanasius.org

**Priests attached to the parish:**

Fr. John Carrillo 805-770-3749 (retired)

Fr. Jon Braun (retired)

Fr. John Finley (Archdiocese Dept. of Missions)

**Deacons:**

Dn. Gary Braun

Dn. Scott Jacobs

Dn. Richard Easbey (retired)

Dn. John Young (retired)

**Subdeacons:** Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

**Music Director/Administrator:**

Valerie Yova

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**Teen Program Coordinator**

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

**College/Young Adult Coordinator**

Mitchell Denny: mitchdennyjr@gmail.com

**Parish Council 2021-2022:**

Laurie Baker, President

Dan Braun, Treasurer

Terri Speier, Secretary

Dorothy Alexander

Mary Denny

David Dillon

Glenn Hoppe

Lara Jacobs

Zak Landrum

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

Sunday, November 21, 2021

**Tone 5 / Eothinon 11**

**Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos**



### **WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!**

We are glad you are with us this morning.  
Please join us on the patio after the Liturgy for Coffee Hour.  
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

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, November 21

9:00 a.m. Matins  
9:00 a.m. Religious Ed. Classes for ages 6-12  
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
11:30 a.m. Religious Ed for Teens  
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour

### Monday, November 22

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins  
5:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry—Akathist  
by Zoom

### Tuesday, November 23

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

### Wednesday, November 24

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins  
8:30 a.m. Weekly Divine Liturgy  
10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing  
12:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry  
6:00 p.m. Akathist of Thanksgiving

### Thursday, November 25-THANKSGIVING

(Showers of Blessing moved to Wednesday this week.)

### Friday, November 26

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins

### Saturday, November 27

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

### Sunday, November 28

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

9:00 a.m. Matins  
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour

## SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

### EUCCHARIST BREAD

November 21 D. Washburn  
November 28 Kern  
December 5 Jacobs  
December 12 Sieck

### ARTOKLASIA BAKERS

Sun. Dec. 5 Fr. J. & J. Finley

### READERS

November 21 Rdr. V. Gish  
November 28 D. Meyer  
December 5 Rdr. H. Lange  
December 12 Rdr. J. Butler

### GREETERS

November 21 G. & L. Hoppe  
November 28 K. Fox/D. Lewis  
December 5 L. Baker/C. Fisher  
December 12 P. Cocores/M. Loulias

### USHERS

November 21 D. Meyer/M. Loulias  
November 28 C. Berari/D. Alexander  
December 5 P. King/J. King  
December 12 D. Washburn/K.L. King

### THURSDAY SHOWERS OF BLESSING HOSPITALITY TEAM

November 24\* M. Loulias/P. Cocores  
(\*Wed. because of Thanksgiving)  
December 2 D. Washburn/D. Alexander  
December 9 F. Young/S. Saunders  
December 16 L. Ballew/D. Franzen

### 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.*

**At the conclusion of Matins, we sing the Great Doxology followed by the Matins Dismissal Troparion:**

### THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

#### **First Antiphon—Verses for the Feast of the Presentation of the Theotokos with refrain:**

Vs. 1 Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; in the city of our God and in His holy mountain. Glorious things are spoken of you, o city of God. [Refrain]

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

Vs. 2 God is known in her palaces for a refuge. As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God. [Refrain]

Vs. 3 Glory...now & ever...Amen. [Refrain]

#### **Second Antiphon for the Feast of the Presentation of the Theotokos with refrain:**

Vs. 1 The Most High hath sanctified His tabernacle. Holiness and majesty are in His sanctuary. [Refrain]

**Refrain: O Son Of God Who rose from the dead, save us who sing to Thee, Alleluia!**

Vs. 2 This is the gate of the Lord, by which the righteous shall enter. [Refrain]

Vs. 3 Holy is Thy temple, and wonderful in righteous. [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 for the Feast of the Presentation of the Theotokos with refrain:**

Vs. 1 Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy favor.

**Refrain:**

**Today is the prelude of the good will of God,  
of the preaching of the salvation of mankind.  
The Virgin appears in the Temple of God,  
in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all.  
Let us rejoice  
and sing to her://  
“Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation!”**

Vs. 2 The King’s daughter is all glorious within: her clothing is of wrought gold. [Refrain]

Vs. 3 Virgins shall be brought to the King after her: her companions shall be brought unto Thee. [Refrain]

**AS THE CLERGY ENTER THE ALTAR AT THE  
LITTLE ENTRANCE, WE SING THE FOLLOWING  
HYMNS FOR THE DAY:**

**Troparion of the Resurrection**

**Tone 5**

Let us believers praise and worship the Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born of the Virgin for our salvation.  
For He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh  
to suffer death and to raise the dead by His glorious resurrection.

**Troparion of Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple**

**Tone 4**

Today is the prelude of the good will of God,  
of the preaching of the salvation of mankind.  
The Virgin appears in the Temple of God,  
in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all.  
Let us rejoice and sing to her://  
“Rejoice, O Fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation!”

**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 Presentation of the Theotokos****Tone 4**

The most pure Temple of the Savior;  
the precious Chamber and Virgin;  
the sacred Treasure of the glory of God,  
is presented today to the house of the Lord.  
She brings with her the grace of the Spirit,  
therefore, the Angels of God praise her:  
“Truly this woman is the abode of heaven.”

**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**

**Preparatory Psalm Verses before the Epistle (Prokeimenon)****Tone 3**

**Chanter: My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.**

Vs. For He hath regarded the low estate of His handmaiden; for, behold,  
henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

**EPISTLE READING****Hebrews 9:1-7**

Brethren, the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly sanctuary. For a tent was prepared, the outer one, in which were the lamp stand and the table and the bread of the Presence; it is called the Holy Place. Behind the second curtain stood a tent called the Holy of Holies, having the golden altar of incense and the Ark of the Covenant covered on all sides with gold, which contained a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant. Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

These preparations having thus been made, the priests go continually into the outer tent, performing their ritual duties; but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood which he offers for himself and for the errors of the people.

**Preparatory Psalm Verses with Alleluia Refrain Before the Gospel      Tone 8**

**Chanter:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**People:** Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Verse:** Hearken, O daughter, and see, and incline Thine ear. (Ps. 44:9)

**Verse:** The rich among the people shall entreat they countenance. (Ps. 44:11)

**GOSPEL READING**

**Luke 10:38-42, 11:27-28**

At that time, Jesus entered a village; and a woman named Martha received Him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet and listened to His teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving; and she went to Jesus and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But Jesus answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which shall not be taken away from her."

As Jesus said this, a woman in the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, "Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts that You sucked!" But Jesus said, "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"

**LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL**

**Meglynarion—Hymn to the Mother of God  
(For the Feast of the Presentation of the Theotokos)**

The Angels beheld the Entrance of the Pure One and were amazed.  
How has the Virgin entered into the Holy of Holies?  
Since she is a living Ark of God  
let no profane hand touch the Theotokos.  
But let the lips of believers unceasingly sing to her,  
praising her in joy with the Angel's song:  
"Truly, you are more exalted than all, O pure Virgin!"

**Hymn sung as the clergy receive the Eucharist**

I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord! Alleluia! (Psalm 116:13)

*Verse: My vows unto the Lord will I pay in the presence of all His people.*

*Verse: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints.*

*Verse: Lord, I am Thy servant; I am Thy servant and the son of Thy handmaid.  
Thou hast broken my bonds asunder.*

### **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**

**FR. NICHOLAS & Kh. JAN ARE OF TOWN THIS WEEKEND**, Nov. 20-21. They are visiting SS. Peter & Paul parish in Ben Lomond, where Fr. Nicholas presented a teaching on “The Peace the Surpasses Understanding,” and serving with Fr. Christopher Dillon today for the Feast of the Presentation of the Theotokos.

**THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28th** due to the holiday weekend.

### **COFFEE HOUR**

We have opened up Coffee Hour to include more elaborate fare and we look forward to having every household in the parish sign up for a Sunday during this new liturgical year. Donuts and simple snacks are still perfectly fine, but if you would like to serve brunch or lunch type foods, that is permitted now. To access the sign-up list: <https://bit.ly/SAOCcoffeehour>

### **LOOKING AHEAD...UPCOMING FEASTS & SPECIAL SERVICES**

- Wednesday, November 24 at 6:00 p.m. — Akathist of Thanksgiving
- Wednesday, December 1 at 6:00 p.m. — Advent Paraklesis
- Sunday, December 5 at 5:30 p.m. — Vespers for Feast of **St. Nicholas** followed by a brief celebration including the story of St. Nicholas’ life, special treats from St. Nicholas in the children’s shoes, and refreshments. And possibly a SURPRISE VISITOR.

**NETWORK MEDICAL IS HIRING** for several positions. (Executive Administrator to assist Exec. Dir.; Reality Check Director—involves public speaking; and RDMS to assist with ultrasound training) For more information, email to Jaelynn Lay, Exec. Director, at: [jaelynn@networkmedical.org](mailto:jaelynn@networkmedical.org).

## *The Presentation of the Theotokos in the Temple*

According to Holy Tradition, the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple took place in the following manner. The parents of the Virgin Mary, Sts Joachim and Anna, praying for an end to their childlessness, vowed that if a child were born to them, they would dedicate it to the service of God.

When the Most Holy Virgin reached the age of three, the holy parents decided to fulfill their vow. They gathered together their relatives and acquaintances, and dressed the All-Pure Virgin in her finest clothes. Singing sacred songs and with lighted candles in their hands, virgins escorted her to the Temple (Ps. 44/45:14-15). There the High Priest and several priests met the handmaiden of God. In the Temple, fifteen high steps led to the sanctuary, which only the priests and High Priest could enter. (Because they recited a Psalm on each step, Psalms 119/120-133/134 are called “Psalms of Ascent.”) The child Mary, so it seemed, could not make it up this stairway. But just as they placed her on the first step, strengthened by the power of God, she quickly went up the remaining steps and ascended to the highest one. Then the High Priest, through inspiration from above, led the Most Holy Virgin into the Holy of Holies, where only the High Priest entered once a year to offer a purifying sacrifice of blood. Therefore, all those present in the Temple were astonished at this most unusual occurrence.

After entrusting their child to the Heavenly Father, Joachim and Anna returned home. The All-Holy Virgin remained in the quarters for virgins near the Temple. According to the testimony of Holy Scripture (Exodus 38; 1 Kings 1: 28; Luke 2: 37), and also the historian Josephus Flavius, there were many living quarters around the Temple, in which those who were dedicated to the service of God dwelt.

The earthly life of the Most Holy Theotokos from her infancy until she was taken up to Heaven is shrouded in deep mystery. Her life at the Jerusalem Temple was also a secret. “If anyone were to ask me,” said St Jerome, “how the Most Holy Virgin spent the time of Her youth, I would answer that that is known to God Himself and the Archangel Gabriel, Her constant guardian.”

But there are accounts in Church Tradition, that during the All-Pure Virgin’s stay at the Temple, she grew up in a community of pious virgins, diligently read the Holy Scripture, occupied herself with handicrafts, prayed constantly, and grew in love for God. From ancient times, the Church has celebrated the Feast of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple. Indications that the Feast was observed in the first centuries of Christianity are found in the traditions of Palestinian Christians, which say that the holy Empress Helen (May 21) built a church in honor of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos into the Temple.



**SAVE THE DATE for a  
PRAYER RETREAT**

***The Practice of Prayer***

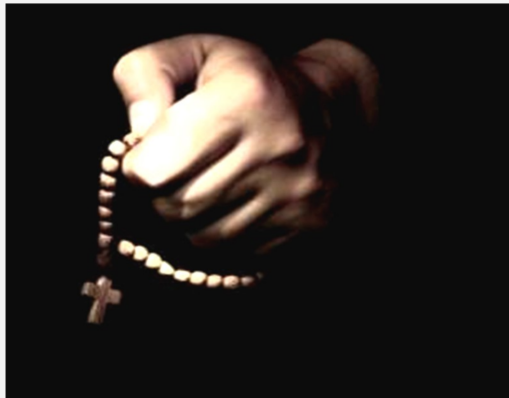
Thursday, January 20—Saturday, January 22, 2022  
at Glen Tavern Inn and St. Barbara Monastery,  
in Santa Paula

- Speakers and Workshops on  
various aspects of private & corporate prayer -

Sessions will be led by:

- Mother Victoria
- Fr. Symeon Halsell
- Subdn. Stephen Butler
  - Jane Meyer
- Dorothy Alexander

If you have questions or would like more information,  
contact Dorothy at [dotalexander@westmont.edu](mailto:dotalexander@westmont.edu)



## ***CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK***

### **Birthdays**

11/22 Jami Stetler  
11/24 Maryana Moskalyk  
11/25 Dee Kern, Elizabeth Butler, Elleney King  
11/26 Judy Braun  
11/27 Shirley Dillon

### **Patron Saint Commemorations**

11/23 St. Alexander Nevsky Alexander Nikolov, Brett Williams

11/24-25 **St. Catherine the Martyr**  
Catherine Braun, Diane Carrillo, Melissa Hedges,  
Gloria Morrison, Delaney Newhouse, Ekaterina Nikolov,  
Jami Stetler, Kate Vander Laan

11/24 **St. Clement of Rome** Farley Clementine Easbey

11/27 **St. James of Persia** James Dillon



## **A PRAYER FOR ADVENT**

Lord, Jesus Christ, at your holy birth  
you deemed a lowly cave to be a fit dwelling place.  
So in our mercy make our souls and bodies temples  
worthy to contain you, the uncontainable God.

And as we make our Advent journey,  
open our ears to heed the prophets' warning to  
"Prepare the way of the Lord!"

For we glorify you along with the angels and shepherds,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

**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:**

Metropolitan JOSEPH  
Mother Victoria  
Met. Paul & Abp. John  
Fr. Markos  
Fr. Jon B.  
Dn. Richard E.  
Kh. Diane C.  
Greg & Margaret Y.  
Hoppe Family in Albania  
Joseph Wm. B. in Kenya  
Duane F.  
Richard and Susan B.  
Monsignor J. Yanek  
Bob N.  
Kh. Melissa H.  
Cole K. (military)  
Jeremiah H. (Airforce Academy)  
Lauren & Fernando J. (military)  
Chase K. (military)

Nick & Kristine J. (military)  
Connor V. (military)  
Steve T.  
Bev R.  
Phyllis M.  
Scott L.  
Abp. Benjamin  
Kris F.  
Temmo K.  
Sarah B.  
Coleman Family (Lori, Abby, Matt)  
Jerry J.  
Chuck S.  
Mat. Trudi & Richter Family  
Linda Gish & Family  
Kevin F.  
Debbie S.  
Steve H.  
David L.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Church  
The Church & people in Lebanon  
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.

**For repose of the souls of:** Doris J.

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**ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH BOOKSTORE**

The church bookstore is located in the foyer of the fellowship hall - two enclosed cabinets containing 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. Payment should be made at time of purchase and placed in brown lockbox on wall next to Fr. Nicholas' 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 Building Fund.**

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