



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

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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

Office phone: 805-685-5400

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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, December 12, 2021 TONE 8 / EOTHINON 3

**Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ &
Spyridon, Bishop of Trimythous, the Wonderworker**

John, Metropolitan of Zichnon;

Hieromartyr Alexander, Archbishop of Jerusalem



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, December 12

9:00 a.m. Religious Education ages 6-18
 9:00 a.m. Matins
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour

Monday, December 1

REPOSE OF ST. HERMAN

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

Tuesday, December 14

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, December 15

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins
 12:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry
 6:00 p.m. Advent Paraklesis

Thursday, December 16

7:45 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom
 10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing
 3:30 p.m. Catechesis Level I
 5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers
 6:00 p.m. Youth Group
 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 17

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins

Saturday, December 18

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

Sunday, December 19

9:00 a.m. Religious Education ages 6-18
 9:00 a.m. Matins
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour
 12:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

**Fr. Nicholas and Kh. Jan are away
 this weekend.**

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCCHARIST BREAD

December 12 Sieck
 December 19 Cocores
 December 24 Kern
 December 26 Tinyayeva
 January 2 Fr. Nicholas

READERS

December 12 Rdr. V. Gish
 December 18 D. Meyer (Vespers)
 December 19 Rdr. J. Butler
 December 24 Rdr. H. Lange
 December 26 D. Washburn
 December 31 D. Alexander (Vesp-Liturgy)

GREETERS

December 12 P. Cocores/M. Loulias
 December 19 K.P. King/D. Washburn
 December 26 G. & L. Hoppe
 January 2 H. Lange/D. Washburn

USHERS

December 12 D. Washburn/K.L. King
 December 19 C. Speier/S. Speier
 December 26 D. Meyer/ M. Loulias
 January 2 C. Berari/D. Alexander

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

December 12 NO HOST
 December 19 HOST NEEDED
 December 26 HOST NEEDED
 January 2 HOST NEEDED

THURSDAY SHOWERS OF BLESSING HOSPITALITY TEAM

December 16 L. Ballew/D. Franzen
 December 23 ALL HANDS ON DECK
 December 30 F. Young/S. Saunders
 January 6 D. Alexander/D. Washburn

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—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, the choir and congregation sing the refrain:

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

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

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 8

(Music on p. 53 of Liturgy book)

From the heights Thou didst descend,
O Compassionate One;
and Thou didst submit to the three day burial,
that Thou might deliver us from passion.
Thou art our Life and our Resurrection,
O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Forefathers

Tone 4

Through faith You justified the Forefathers,
betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles.
These saints exult in glory,
for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit:
she who bore You without seed.//
So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Troparion for St. Spyridon

Tone 1

You were revealed as a champion of the First council
And a wonderworker, our God-bearing father Spyridon.
You spoke to one dead in the grave and transformed a serpent into gold.
While chanting your holy prayers you had angels serving with you.
Glory to Him who gave you strength!
Glory to Him who granted you a crown!
Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all!

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 (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**Tone 8**

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God! (*Ps 75/76:11*)

Verse: *God is known in Judah; His name is great in Israel. (Ps 75/76:1)*

**EPISTLE READING—for St. Spyridon
Ephesians 5:8-19**

Brethren, walk as children of light—for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth—proving what is acceptable to the Lord; and have no communion with the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them; for it is a shame even to speak of the things which they do in secret. But all things when they are exposed are made manifest by the light, for everything that is made manifest is light. Therefore, he says: “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine upon thee.” See then that you walk circumspectly, not as unwise, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit; speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and chanting in your heart to the Lord.

Alleluia before the Gospel**Tone 4**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. (Ps. 98:6)

V. They called to the Lord and He answered them. (Ps. 98:6)

GOSPEL READING —for the Holy Forefathers
Luke 14:16-24

The Lord spoke this parable: “A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come; for all is now ready.’ But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.’ And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.’ And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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 Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the Highest!
Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps. 32:1*)
(*Ps. 111:6*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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.**

Our Archdiocese has dedicated this Sunday to appreciating its Choirs and Chanters.

Thank you to our Music Director Valerie Yova and our choir and chanters who, in the words of His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph, “week after week—and sometimes day after day—fill our ears with the sweet hymnography of the Church.” Your ministry is invaluable in helping each of us to “be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (Ephesians 5:18–20)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fr. Nicholas and Kh. Jan are away this weekend.

Congratulations and many years to Lee and Chelsea Jacobs on the birth of their daughter, Corrine Irene, on Thursday, December 9th. And congratulations to the grandparents, Dn. Scott and Karen Jacobs, and to Auntie Lara.

LOOKING AHEAD...UPCOMING FEASTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

- Wednesday, December 15 at 6:00 p.m.—Advent Paraklesis
- Wednesday, December 22 at 6:00 p.m.—Advent Paraklesis
- Friday, December 24 at 9:00 am.—Royal Hours of Nativity
- Friday, December 24 at 9:00 p.m.—Festal Matins and Liturgy of Nativity
- Friday, December 31 at 6:00 p.m.—Vespertal Liturgy for St. Basil/Circumcision

COFFEE HOUR

We still have many Sundays during the current liturgical year for which there is no Coffee Hour host. Please consider signing up for a Sunday, if you have not already done so. 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>



MITTENS, GLOVES & BLANKETS for our Showers of Blessing Guests

We will be collecting warm gloves/mittens, warm neck scarves and blankets to be distributed on Thursday, December 23'rd to our guests at the Showers of Blessing as part of a Christmas celebration being planned by our Showers of Blessing team. (New items are preferred, rather than used ones.)

As you are doing your Christmas shopping, please keep this collection in mind. There will be a large box in the hallway at the church where you can drop off the gloves, scarves and blankets.

Please note: The Showers staff does not need other clothing items right now. They have a regular donor who supplies socks year round and they have other clothing that they distribute at the showers every week. They will let us know when they have a need for other clothing items.

Thanks for your help with this project!

BUILDING A HOLY TEMPLE for GOD

St. Athanasius Church is beginning an exciting transition in our building program. We are setting our sites on our ultimate goal – to build a holy temple for our God. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to build something beautiful and holy to God's glory that will be a benefit generations to come.

In 2014 we built our fellowship hall, but as you recall it was unfinished. Since then, we have been able to complete the Sunday school rooms, chapel, and patio. We also have building plans in hand and money in the bank to complete the kitchen. The fellowship hall is essentially completed. We are ready to focus our attention on the temple.

The church has a mortgage on the fellowship hall and the monthly payment is \$20,500. To date, this is being paid from 2 accounts – the General Fund (tithes) and the Building Fund. A huge step in our journey to build our temple is to pay our mortgage entirely from the general fund. This will begin in January of 2022.

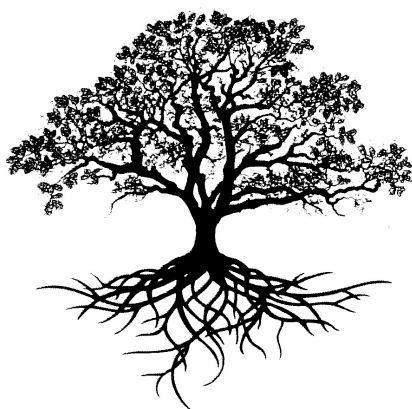
Can you help? Our goal is an increase of \$11,000/month to the General Fund. We are asking each person what they can give—over and above their current giving—to reach this goal.

A couple more details: currently, we have \$8,600/month already pledged, so we are getting close. The current “Building Fund” will be renamed the “Temple Fund” and all funds donated will go toward building the temple. The golf tournament proceeds from 2021 and from here forward will go to the Temple Fund.

God is with us!

Dr. Scott Speier, Chairperson
Building Fund & Finance Committee





You are invited to

The Practice of Prayer

A prayer retreat -- January 20 -22, 2022

*We all start
from an acorn
and aspire to be an oak.*

**In Santa Paula, CA at Glen Tavern Inn
and St. Barbara Monastery**

Speakers:

Mother Victoria, Abbess of St. Barbara Monastery
& Fr. Symeon Halsell, Priest at St. Athanasius Antiochian Orthodox Church

Workshops:

The Jesus Prayer, Intercessory Prayer, Corporate/Liturgical Prayer, Praying with Icons, and
Psalmody - All to enliven your daily prayer rule.

Overview of Schedule:

Thursday (Glen Tavern Inn)

- Check in, dinner, speaker/workshop 1

Friday

- Breakfast, Akathist, workshop 2
- To the monastery - lunch, speaker, Q/A,
Time for practice of prayers
- Dinner (GTI) and workshop 3

Saturday

- Breakfast, workshop 4
- To the monastery, lunch, workshop 5,
Time for practice of prayer & more Q/A,
- Father's exhortations, Great Vespers



Details:

- Book your rooms ASAP through Glen Tavern Inn, (805) 933-5550, 134 N. Mill St. Santa Paula
Be sure to ask for "Prayer Retreat" rate for 2 nights (standard queen -- \$99 per night inclusive of taxes and fees; 2 queen beds -- \$110/night inclusive). Includes breakfast. We have blocked off 17 discounted rooms. If you can't do stairs specify ground floor. Commuters are welcome!
- Non-refundable retreat fee -- \$90 for the 3 days; Friday/Saturday -- \$75; Saturday only -- \$50
Registration includes materials, 2 dinners and 2 lunches.
- Children 12 and under are free (No childcare is provided.)
- Registration is payable online at www.stathanasius.org or by check to SAOC with "Retreat Registration" in the memo. Or mail to Dorothy Alexander, c/o St. Athanasius Orthodox Church, 300 Sumida Gardens Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93111. Include your name, email, & phone contact to be sent more information.

All proceeds above operating costs will be donated to St. Barbara Monastery.

Questions? Contact Dorothy Alexander at: dotalexander@westmont.edu

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Birthdays

12/17 Jon King
12/18 Dorothy Alexander

Patron Saint Commemorations

12/13 **St. Lucia** Lucia Speier, Lucy Speier

12/13 **Sunday of the Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ**
King David

David Dillon, Jon King, David Lewis, David McCalmont, David Washburn

Daniel the Prophet

Dan Braun, Garrett Gish, Jase Daniel Speier

Jacob Jacob Palmer

Jesse Jesse Palmer, Jesse Speier

Adam Adam King

Rachel Rachel Friesen

Rebekah Rebekah Dillon

Ruth Liz Hoppe, Fay Young

Judith Judy Braun

Aaron Howard Lange

12/17 **St. Miriam** Miriam Vander Laan

12/18 **St. Zoe of Rome** Zoe Macdonald

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP SERVICE PROJECT GIFT TREE FOR A FAMILY IN NEED

Women's Fellowship is sponsoring a project to support a very young teen-aged girl who has been rescued from trafficking. She will celebrate Christmas with her grandmother, who is also raising younger siblings. We want to make this a special holiday for the whole family.

There will be a Table at coffee hour for sign-ups (December 12) and collections (December 19). During the week, there will be a Christmas tree outside of Fr. Nicholas office with tags on it. If you would like to buy an item to support and bless this family as they adjust to all the certain changes, just take a tag from the tree and return the UNWRAPPED ITEM no later than Sunday, December 19 to marked table in Fr. Nicholas office or coffee hour special collection.

If you would like to make a monetary gift, you can give online through the DONATION page of the parish website, using the earmark: "Women's Fellowship Service Project." Here's the link to the donation page: <https://www.stathanasius.org/donation/> Monetary donations are due no later than Thursday, December 16, so we have time to shop!

Contact Liz Hoppe hop2it1995@gmail.com or **Terri Speier** stspeier@cox.net if you have questions.

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 D.

Steve H.
David L.
Joanne R.
James A.

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: Tom W., Fr. Thomas L. Maureen W., Doris J.

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.

**FEAST OF ST. NICHOLAS
CELEBRATION
12-5-2021**

