



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
805-685-5495
frnicholas@stathanasius.org

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
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

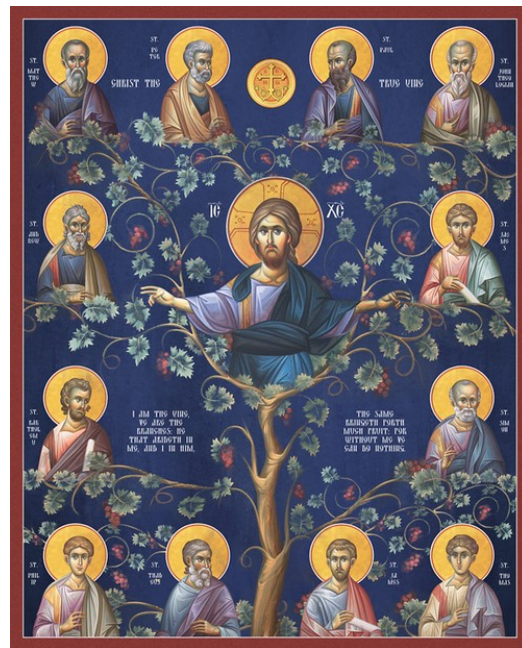
DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Tone 1 / Eothinon 4

Sunday before the Nativity of Christ (The Genealogy)

Martyrs Boniface and Aglaïs of Rome;
Boniface the Merciful, Bishop of Ferentino in Tuscany;
Martyrs Eutychios & Thessalonica
and their Companions



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 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

Monday, December 20

ST. JOHN OF KRONSTADT/ST. IGNATIUS

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

Tuesday, December 21

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, December 22

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

Thursday, December 23

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

Friday, December 24

9:00 a.m. Royal Hours of Nativity
9:00 p.m. Festal Matins & Liturgy for
Feast of the Nativity
followed by a brief Reception

Saturday, December 25

4:30 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

NOTE TIME CHANGE ON THIS DAY ONLY!

Sunday, December 26

NO RELIGIOUS ED. CLASSES

9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. **CHRISTMAS POTLUCK**

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCCHARIST BREAD

December 19 Cocores
December 24 Kern
December 26 Tinyayeva
January 2 Fr. Nicholas
January 9 Meyer

READERS

December 19 Rdr. J. Butler
December 24 Rdr. H. Lange
December 26 D. Washburn
December 31 D. Alexander (Vesp-Liturgy)
January 2 TBA
January 9 TBA

GREETERS

December 19 K.P. King/D. Washburn
December 26 G. & L. Hoppe
January 2 H. Lange/D. Washburn
January 9 K. Fox/D. Lewis

USHERS

December 19 C. Speier/S. Speier
December 26 C. Berari/D. Alexander
January 2 P. King/J. King
January 9 D. Meyer/M. Loulias

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

December 19 Kawahara
December 26 **CHRISTMAS POTLUCK**
January 2 McCalmont
January 9 King Family

THURSDAY SHOWERS OF BLESSING HOSPITALITY TEAM

December 23 ALL HANDS ON DECK
December 30 F. Young/S. Saunders
January 6 D. Alexander/D. Washburn
January 13 F. Young/S. Saunders

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 1

(Music on p. 40 of Liturgy book)

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 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 (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

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**
(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

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 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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

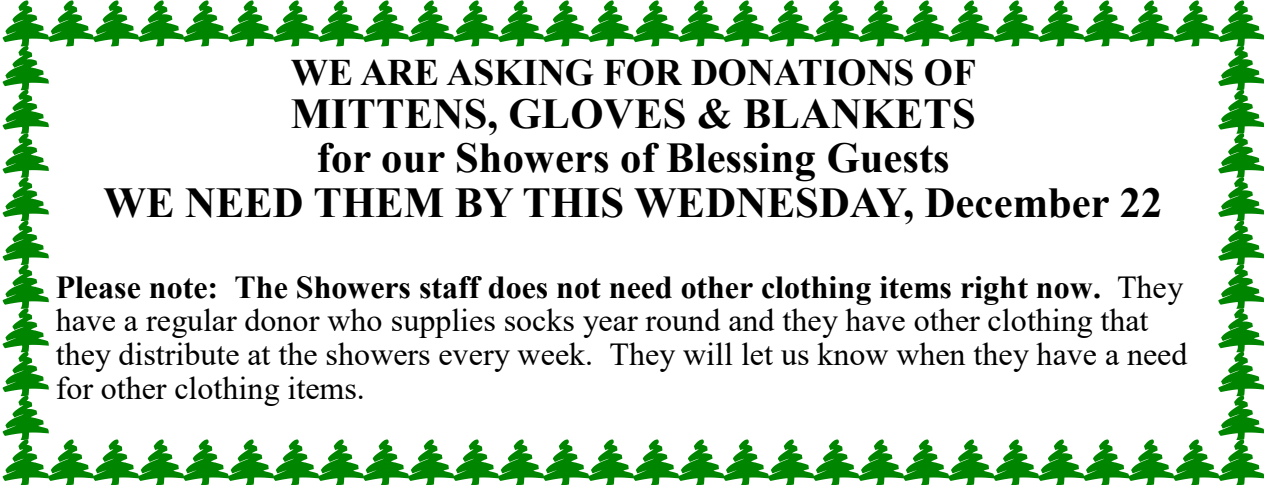
LOOKING AHEAD...UPCOMING FEASTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

- Wednesday, December 22 at 6:00 p.m.—Advent Paraklesis
- **FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF CHRIST**
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/ Reception
- Saturday, December 25 at 4:30 p.m.— Great Vespers (**NOTE EARLIER START TIME THIS WEEK**)
- Sunday, December 26— **POTLUCK AFTER LITURGY**
- Friday, December 31 at 6:00 p.m.—Vespers Liturgy for St. Basil/Feast of the Circumcision

THE MEN’S FIRESIDE will be on Monday, December 27th at 7 p.m. at the home of Mike Loulias and Penny Cocores (instead of this Monday, Dec. 20th)

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/SAOCcoffeecoffeehour>



**WE ARE ASKING FOR DONATIONS OF
MITTENS, GLOVES & BLANKETS
for our Showers of Blessing Guests
WE NEED THEM BY THIS WEDNESDAY, December 22**

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.

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



The Practice of Prayer

**A prayer retreat for MEN AND WOMEN
Thursday, January 20—Saturday, January 22, 2022**

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

Here are the Workshops for the 3 days:

The Jesus Prayer & Finding the Heart—Fr. Symeon Halsell

Part 1: Intercessory Prayer—Dorothy Alexander

Part 2: Praying with Icons—Kh. Cayce-Marie Halsell

The Most Ancient Prayer Book of the People of God:

Praying with the Psalter—Fr. Symeon Halsell

Corporate & Liturgical Prayer: All are Active - Subdn Stephen Butler

Ways to Pray - Jane Meyer

See the bulletin board for more information, or contact Dorothy Alexander:
dotalexander@westmont.edu

PRAY FOR US, FR. JON-STEPHEN!

Many of us remember that Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges used to stand at the table on the right side of the church in the front after most Divine Liturgies and pray for anyone needing extra prayer and anointing.

We should be confident that he continues to pray for us, though we do not see him physically. As he told Kh. Melissa before he passed from this life, “Look for me in the church!”

Let us remember him and pray for his eternal memory before God on his upcoming birthday, December 24th. (Photo sent by Papu McIntire)



CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

12/12 Dn. Scott & Karen Jacobs (Missed them last week!)

Birthdays

12/20 Hudson Zidek

12/22 Zoe Macdonald, Alexander Nikolov, Zachary Nikolov

12/24 Rachel Friesen, Jared Speier

12/25 Andriy Moskalyk

Patronal Feast Days

12/20 **St. John of Kronstadt** Jill Wallerstedt

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Pre-Lenten Seminar

St. Athanasius Orthodox Church—Santa Barbara

Saturday, February 26, 2022 —Time TBA

“The Crucifixion of the King of Glory”

A deep dive into the Crucifixion of Christ
from a historical, medical, legal and patristic perspective

Presvytera/Dr. Jeannie Constantinou

Based on her new book, due out in April 2022

Catch Dr. Jeannie on her live podcast — **“Search the Scriptures”**

on Ancient Faith Radio on Mondays at 5:00 p.m.

All of the shows are archived on Ancient Faith:

<https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/searchthescriptureslive>

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.
Joanne R.
James A.
Dn. John & Fay Y.

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.



BROOMBALL FEST—DECEMBER 11, 2021
TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS from ST. ATHANASIUS &
ST. TIMOTHY'S in LOMPOC