



ST. ATHANASIUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Ministry Team Reports

**All-parish Meeting
September 25, 2022**

ALL-PARISH MEETING

September 25, 2022

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Welcome & Review of Agenda | Fr. Symeon Halsell |
| 2. Pastor's Report/Vision | Fr. Symeon Halsell |
| 3. Golf Tournament Report | Member of the
Golf Tournament Team |
| 4. Building Fund/Finance Committee | Dr. Scott Speier |
| 5. Agape Meal Coordinator | Suzi Wiley |
| 6. Update on Teen/Young Adult Programs | Subdn. Michael Easbey |



Pastor's Report

Fr. Symeon Halsell

Dear Ones of St. Athanasius parish,

I am abundantly blessed and grateful to be your Pastor. The time of stepping into this role with you, alongside all the clergy already so well known to you, is truly a blessing. It has been several years since this community has gathered for an All-Parish Meeting. These were years of challenge and spiritual growth, a time of spiritual battle with some loss and much victory for Christ! Our Lord Jesus Christ has guided this community through a pandemic and the broader social turmoil, finishing various building projects, and a pastoral transition; not even mentioning the everyday struggles of our earthly existence! God is merciful to us and has blessed us and drawn us together as His rational sheep into His sheepfold and cared for us. I look forward as your Pastor to this year as we grow in Christ together. May we continue with Him and hear His voice. If we do this as a community we will go where we need to be with God's blessing.

We as a community will strive to work together to apply our parish Mission and Vision over this year by:

- Growing our worship and familiarity within the Orthodox Christian liturgical tradition; to be Faithful worshippers of the Holy Trinity.
- Offering more opportunities for studies in the faith for all in the community, and the development of our internal and outward looking ministries to the maturing of our spiritual lives; to become mature spiritual warriors.
- Offering greater communal hospitality within our community and toward our neighbors as the light of Christ; to deepen our experience as a church family and be a light to the community.
- Apply our efforts and offerings toward the beginning stages of building a Church Temple for glorifying the name of the Holy Trinity; to be good stewards of the many talents God has given us.

By prayer, our repentance, the blessing of God, and our effort, all of these can be fulfilled and will aid us in our salvation.

May the light of Christ's countenance shine upon us and bless us and be merciful unto us.

*Your Pastor in Christ,
Fr. Symeon Halsell*



PARISH COUNCIL

Purpose of the Parish Council (from our Constitution & By-laws)

The purpose of the Council shall be to deliberate on all administrative aspects and work of the parish, to advise the Pastor about the same, and to assist the Pastor in communicating with the parish. It shall be the continuing duty of the Pastor and Council to seek out, value, and consider the ideas, recommendations, and questions of the parish membership on all administrative aspects of the parish's life and work.

SAOC PARISH GOALS:

(Based on our Strategic Planning Process in 2018)

Faithful Worship Of the Holy Trinity:	Develop Spiritual Warriors:	Be a Loving Family Where Relationships & Members' Skills are Matched w/Other Member's Needs:	Be a Light to the Greater Goleta/SB Community:	Develop a Deliberate Financial Plan:
<p>Through Education of our people & the Community.</p> <p>Through obedience to the Tradition.</p> <p>Through outreach to our members.</p>	<p>Through the deepening of our roots in faith, prayer rules & accountability.</p> <p>Through small groups, book studies & bible studies.</p> <p>Through Encouragement & discovery of our mutual spiritual journey.</p>	<p>Through Loving each other.</p> <p>Through Helping each other.</p> <p>By showing up for one another.</p>	<p>Through sustaining & building upon the existing outreach to the homeless in need .</p> <p>Through Exploring new & innovative ways of sharing the light of Orthodoxy.</p>	<p>Through the development of a funding source utilizing the back property.</p> <p>Through implementing an ambitious capital campaign.</p> <p>Through developing long-term operating projections looking 5 years forward.</p>

Dear SAOC Family,

It has been a pleasure serving as your Parish Council President this past year! It has been an honor to work with such a great, caring, and committed team of Parish Council members and parish administrators.

The Parish Council worked diligently to ensure a balanced budget and the prudent use of parish resources while meeting the needs of the parish.

Some overarching events of this past year included:

- Celebrated with Fr. Nicholas and Kh. Jan on Fr. Nicholas' retirement as Senior Priest and welcomed Fr. Symeon as our new Senior Priest.

- Initiated the St. Catherine Lending Library which was installed with many donated books, organized by Margaret Easbey and Dana Alexander, and the beautiful shelving constructed by Patrick Gilbert.
- Completed the “warming” kitchen. Fr. Symeon blessed the kitchen and installed an icon of St. Euphrosynos, painted by Kh. Cayce-Marie.
- Converted the Building Fund to the Temple Fund and all monies contributed to that fund will go toward the construction of our Temple building.
- Recommitted to the Safe Parking program and added parking lot monitoring to help prevent trespassers onto the property and keep both the Safe Parking program and the property secure. We currently have two R.V.s that park from 7pm-7am each night.
- Installed alarm system to the building interior, and exterior doors.
- Repainted the sign at the church entrance, giving new life to the fading sign and brightening the icon of St. Athanasius.
- Provided a modest donation to St. Barbara Monastery with which, combined with the donations of many, the monastery was able to purchase the single-family residence next door to them.
- Purchased beautiful new altar covers.
- Updated several church policies, including those for use of the parish facilities for sacraments. These will be works in progress as the church implements the policies.

Looking forward...

At the County of Santa Barbara’s invitation, the church has begun discussions with the County on the possibility of allowing residential uses on the property that the church owns. This is exciting as this could be a means toward financing the cost of building our Temple. More to come on this opportunity over the coming years.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I thank you for your trust, support, and advisement over this past year. I join you in welcoming the returning and incoming Parish Council members and supporting them in this coming year.

In Christ,

Laurie Baker, Parish Council President 2021-22



Parish Council 2022-2023:

Fr. Symeon Halsell, Pastor
 Dorothy Alexander
 Dan Braun, Treasurer
 Dominic Dopico
 Glenn Hoppe
 Lizabeth Hoppe
 Lara Jacobs
 Zak Landrum
 Michael Loulias



REPORT ON FINANCES

DAN BRAUN, TREASURER

A good place to begin a report on our Parish finances is to step back in time a bit more than two and a half years to early 2020 and the start of the COVID pandemic. Looking forward as we were experiencing the early phases back in April and May of 2020, we of course maintained our faith that God would provide what was needed, but there was nevertheless some serious anxiety as to how the parish finances would be affected. Now that it appears we are past the most intense phases of this event we can look back and thank God for His faithfulness, but also all of you for your faithful and generous giving through this difficult time.

To provide a brief summary as to how we fared, we'll start pre-pandemic, with 2019. That year our tithes and non-member donations totaled \$479,666. Moving to 2020, that figure grew to \$529,066. In 2021 it increased further still to \$580,632. In addition, we received Small Business Administration loans of \$37,772 in 2020 and \$55,748 in 2021 through the Payroll Protection Plan program, both of which were forgiven and converted to grants.

The result was a surplus of \$55,040 for the two years combined.

Moving into the present, there's a major change in our general operating budget starting this year (2022). For several years the general fund contributed \$9,100 per month toward our mortgage payment of \$20,554, with the balance paid from the building fund. This year, in order that the building fund could become truly a Temple Fund with all donations going toward the new temple, the burden for paying the entire mortgage was shifted to the general operating budget. This of course led to a large jump in the operating budget, from \$661,326 in 2021 to \$758,633 in 2022. Realizing it would take a bit of time to acclimate to this jump we've projected a deficit of \$34,933 for the year, to be covered from savings from prior year's surpluses.

As of the end of August we're at a deficit of \$33,483, a bit higher than the \$25,883 deficit we'd projected for this point in the year, mostly because we're running somewhat behind our tithe and nonmember donation target of \$441,733. Our actual collections year to date are \$426,492. On a positive note, that's significantly ahead of last year's pace of \$371,801.

Unlike the government, we can't print money to cover our deficits, and we're anxious to get out of the red and back to the black, so I encourage all to consider how you are able to help close this gap. But more importantly, I just want to reiterate our thankfulness for your generosity which has brought Saint Athanasius to where we are today, and which keeps us moving forward.

Respectfully,

Daniel Braun, dbraun@storewithus.com

**St. Athanasius Orthodox Church
General Op Profit/Loss Budget Performance**

August 2022

	A	B	C	D
1				ANNUAL
2			Jan - Aug 22	BUDGET
3	Income			
4		Gen - Tithes	415,809.08	650,000.00
5		General Income (candles, Coffee Hour, general donations)	17,255.29	16,700.00
6		Pasado House Rental Income	34,394.30	57,000.00
7		Interest Income	244.86	
8		Total Income	467,703.53	723,700.00
9	Expense			
10		Mortgage Contribution (monthly contribution from General Operating	164,437.04	246,660.00
11		Tithe Expense (our 10% tithe to the Archdiocese, paid monthly)	29,037.60	40,000.00
12		Archdiocese/Diocese (dues, conferences, special collections)	4,167.30	5,520.00
13		Labor (Priest - incl. housing/auto/retirement/life ins., Pastor Emeritus housing,	191,022.31	289,177.00
14		Administrator/Music Director, Teen/Young Adult Coordinator,		
15		Health Insurance, payroll taxes, payroll service)		
16		Education (Catechesis Coordinator, Catechesis costs, Teen Activities, Seminars	3,433.99	14,900.00
17		Fellowship of St. Brigid (Monday night dinner and Showers of Blessing)		
18		(Coming out of separate St. Brigid account this year.)		
19		Festal Decorating	2,383.06	3,200.00
20		Landscape Maintenance weekly service, plant replacements & irrigation repair	11,407.61	23,000.00
21		Hospitality (generally used for visits from hierarch)	261.15	500.00
22		Insurance - Church liability, Worker's Comp	5,018.68	9,100.00
23		Missions (O.C.M.C. and Project Mexico)	2,800.00	4,200.00
24		Office Expense (Bookkeeper, Bookkeeping Assistant, equipment, phone,	21,217.93	27,625.00
25		internet, paper, supplies, postage, software and tech support)		
26		Bank Charges (for online credit card donations)	6,674.26	8,500.00
27		Outreach/Evangelism	288.61	1,700.00
28		Pasado House Expense (property tax)	1,413.38	2,800.00
29		Temple Maintenance (including weekly cleaning company, HVAC maintenance,	21,283.17	29,836.00
30		fire alarm monitoring pest control, fire extinguishers, plumbing,		
31		expenses related to setting up new kitchen, misc. repairs		
32		Pastor Benevolence (Priest's discretionary fund for charity)	2,400.00	3,600.00
33		Utilities (Gas, electric, water)	19,827.65	24,200.00
34		Sanctuary/Liturgical Expense (candles, wine, other supplies for altar)	2,942.25	3,600.00
35		Social (Parish celebrations)	2,874.62	2,850.00
36		Coffee Hour (reimbursements to hosts and weekly paper supplies, coffee)	3,009.77	2,000.00
37		(Coffee Hour income Jan-Aug. was \$2,210.25.)		
38		Music Expense (Music, supplies, payment to substitute directors, conferences)	1,009.91	3,400.00
39		Misc. One-Time Expenses (Security system, photo directory, sound system)	4,277.42	12,265.00
40				
41		Total Expense	501,187.41	758,633.00
42		Total Income	467,703.53	723,700.00
43		Shortfall for the first 8 months	-33,483.88	-34,933.00

BUILDING FUND (FUNDRAISING TEAM)

TEAM LEADER: DR. SCOTT SPEIER



TEAM MEMBERS:

Terri Speier, Jami Stetler, Angel Speier, Chris Robinson

WHAT WE DO:

Our job is to raise money for Church. There are two parts to this effort. One is encouraging ongoing regular donations to the Church. At the end of last year, we organized an effort to pay the mortgage on our current building exclusively from the General Operating Fund. Thanks to a communal effort, we successfully started this in January of this year.

We concomitantly renamed the Building Fund the “Temple Fund” and began our journey toward building the temple.

We also organize our annual fundraising golf/dinner event, proceeds of which go to the Temple Fund. Most of the team’s energy goes into the annual event.

OUR GOAL FOR THE NEXT 1-3 YEARS:

1. Encourage continued giving to the General Fund to cover the church expenses, including the mortgage
2. Increase the donations to the Temple Fund
3. Start a legacy giving program
4. Pray for clarity for proper use of the back half of our property

WHAT WE NEED:

1. If someone has the heart to see these goals accomplished, they would be a welcome member of our team.
2. Continue broad and selfless giving from an already generous parish.



ADMINISTRATION

Valerie Yova 805-685-5400, valerie@stathanasius.org

This coming January it will be 13 years since I moved to Santa Barbara from San Diego to join the staff at St. Athanasius. For those who may not know, I was hired in 2010 as a full-time staff member with my time to be divided between Administration and Music. How the time is divided differs according to the time/season of the year. During Great Lent, for example, the scale tips a bit more heavily towards music, and summer provides an opportunity to catch up on administrative projects. The official description of the Parish Administrator's primary function is:



“...to serve as a support for the Senior Pastor and to assist him in facilitating the effective day to day functioning of the church. He/she oversees the office, its activities and staff; coordinates events, facilitates good communication within the parish, and anticipates planning for activities and events with attentiveness to the Master Calendar.”

We do not have a receptionist/secretary in the church office. Because of evening rehearsals and meetings, my hours can fluctuate, so we have established general office hours as Tuesday-Friday from Noon to 5:00 p.m. We have an excellent phone system and we listen to the messages in a timely manner. For now, one cannot drop in at the church any day of the week at any time and find it open with someone in the office. The Parish Council will have to determine if, at some point down the road, the parish requires someone in the building and in the office from 9-5, five days per week.

Much of what I do is to support the many ministry teams and committees in their work by helping to communicate their needs and promoting their activities to the parish, as well as assisting as needed in planning and organizing. Since we moved into this big, beautiful building in 2014, I have taken on some of the coordination of maintenance, including supervising the weekly cleaning, extra cleaning, and making sure that any repairs that need to happen get communicated to the appropriate people. After almost 9 years, the building has continued to need more and more attention, and we will be bringing forward to the Parish Council a proposal to hire a part-time Maintenance Supervisor in 2023.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Updated parish photo directory.
- Worked with a team of volunteer experts from the parish to tighten up building security.
- Developed an instrument for conducting staff reviews/evaluations that is appropriate for parish ministry workers, both paid staff members and volunteers.
- Managed and communicated the day to day and week to week changes dictated by our archdiocese and the health department during the pandemic.

GOALS FOR THE COMING YEAR

- Work with tech staff to add capacity to our website for parishioners to schedule online RECURRING DONATIONS, especially with regard to monthly tithes.
- Conduct an online parish census to update every member's information.
- Work on Emergency Preparedness, so that we are ready to be of assistance to our own members and our neighbors in the event of an earthquake or other emergency.
- Update parish photo directory once a year.

MUSIC MINISTRY

Valerie Yova, Music Director valerie@stathanasius.org, 805-685-5400

Church in the Time of Covid

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair.” (From A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens)

In July of 2020, I wrote a reflection on what was happening in our parish as a result of the global pandemic. I waited a full year to submit it to the WORD Magazine, the official publication of our Antiochian Archdiocese, and it was published in the January/February 2022 issue. I will share some of those thoughts with you here, as a way of talking about the Music Ministry in our parish for the past 2.5 years.



The choir and chanters had worked extremely hard for the six years leading up to 2020. We rehearsed 3-4 times each month. We learned all of the festal music and had a full choir singing for all of the major feast days. We recorded a CD in 2016 and had performed on 3 concerts that were part of our parish’s Liturgical Arts Festivals. By 2019, I sensed that we were tired and needed a chance to catch our breath and reboot. There had been several deaths in the parish, and several of us had experienced personal losses in our immediate families. We lost a few key singers to relocation. As 2020 approached, I knew we needed something to help us recharge

In the autumn of 2019, we participated and co-sponsored an inter-Orthodox choral workshop in Orange County. What a joy to be in a room with 80 of our fellow church musicians, lifting up our voices in praise, and being taught and encouraged by two extremely talented musicians! It was the boost we needed to move forward towards the Nativity season.

But as the year came to a close, the early start of Great Lent seemed to be looming large and our numbers were still reduced from the previous year. With Fr. Nicholas’ blessing, I decided to simplify things a bit for Lent and Holy Week. And then...as we were just getting started with Great Lent, WHAM! Suddenly we were catapulted into a totally new reality of a “novel virus,” and a lockdown. We watched what was happening on the East Coast in shock and horror. Decisions had to be made quickly based on the little information available. On the Sunday of the Cross, only halfway through Great Lent, we started live-streaming services with a bare bones crew of clergy and singers. Talk about a “reboot!

From the very beginning of the stay-at-home orders, I was determined to keep our music comforting, familiar, and as beautiful as possible for our parish family listening from home. It did not make sense to me to suddenly do all new music, or to just chant everything. We used the music we were used to, and made it work. It meant putting a lot of responsibility on the same few singers each week (who were basically quarantined when not at church). It also meant being forced to tell all of the other singers that they had to stay home. It was a responsibility that carried heaviness and sadness.

ALL of us in the church carried a burden. There were those of us, clergy and musicians, who had the “privilege” of being at the services to make sure that the Church kept on BEING the Church, no matter what. We were coping with the pressure that comes with live streaming services through a medium that can preserve one’s every imperfection “forever and ever, Amen.” We did the best we could, and it filled a

need in a very unusual circumstance. It was a blessing to be able to do it. But it is hardly an enviable position to be one of those doing the services, “leading” a large, empty, silent room in the “Amens” and “Lord have mercies” that belong to the faithful. As a two-week shut-down turned into two and a half months, it started to feel like we had been sucked into some sort of ecclesiastical Twilight Zone. And yet, it was also filled with God’s Grace.

For those watching services from home, you all had your own strangeness and sadness with which to cope. It was impressive, and frankly miraculous to see how deeply some folks were able to enter into those liturgies, almost teleporting themselves spiritually through space and time. We felt your energy, prayers, appreciation and support across the cyberspace, and we LOVED reading your comments and greetings to each other on Facebook. You kept us going and hopefully we kept YOU going. And our all-loving and compassionate God kept us ALL going.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the assistance, expertise and professional SOUND EQUIPMENT provided by **John Butler and Subdn. Michael Easbey**. They enabled us to get up and running with high quality live-streaming of services, literally from the VERY FIRST WEEK of the lockdown! It has been a long 2 ½ years. Since March of 2020, we have gone from having the same 2-4 people singing ALL of the services, both inside and even outdoors for a while, to several small ensembles taking turns, to a slow return of everyone singing together again. Our hard work from 2015-2020 paid off, in that we were able to get by on very little rehearsal, because, well... long rehearsals were considered potential “super spreaders.”

I want to express my deep gratitude to and appreciation for our faithful singers who have continued to consistently provide beautiful music for our services throughout these challenging times. This year has been about simply trying to maintain the quality of our music while riding the roller coaster of surges in the virus. This year has also been about adjusting to the reality of Fr. Nicholas’ retirement, welcoming a new Senior Pastor, getting to know him, learning what his vision is for the parish, and adapting to each other liturgically. I am very thankful to Fr. Symeon for his support, patience, and good counsel with regards to the Music Ministry in the parish. And thankful to Fr. Nicholas for 12 years of his wise and gentle mentoring in my ministry within the Church, and for his strong and measured leadership through the pandemic and the challenges it presented in parish life.

As we continue to move little by little out of a period of crisis, we will begin to rebuild and reevaluate the Music Ministry of our parish, to ensure that it serves the CURRENT needs. We would like to recruit 4-6 new singers for the liturgy choir to replace those we have lost in the past four years to relocation or illness. We also hope to recruit and train 3-4 talented and committed chanters who are able to lead daily services, and assist with weekend Great Vespers and Matins, so that the full burden of those services does not rest on just a handful of people. If you have the interest, calling, and the gifting to join us, please contact me. Let’s talk about it! It is a big commitment and a big responsibility, and also a HUGE BLESSING! Thank you for your ongoing encouragement and prayers!

Valerie Yova, Music Director

Current choir members (Many are also chanters.) - Summer 2022

John Butler, Assistant Director

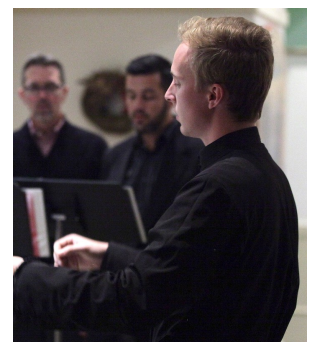
Sopranos: Catherine Braun, Fay Young

Altos: Margaret Easbey, Kh. Jan Speier, Jami Stetler

Tenors: Verne Gish, Doug King

Basses: Peter Braun, John Butler, John Ronan Meyer, Joshua Moore

Chanters for weekend and festal services: Subdn. Michael Easbey, Kh. Cayce Halsell, Erik Lawrence



ACOLYTES

TEAM LEADER:

Subdeacon Michael Easbey 805-705-6121, measbey@gmail.com



SUMMARY:

The word acolyte is derived from the Greek word *akolouthos*, meaning companion, attendant, helper, or servant. This ministry is for boys (7 & up) and men of all ages to assist the clergy in liturgical function in the sanctuary. It is an excellent opportunity for boys and young men to learn from experience and for men of all ages to assist or even explore a potential calling for ordination. Acolytes are responsible for setup and cleanup in the sanctuary. They assist with candles, prosthora preparation, censer preparation, and carry lanterns and processional items in entrances and for readings of scripture.

GOALS:

- Recruit more young acolytes! If you have a boy 7 or older that wants to train, please let us know!
- Recruit more men! If you feel compelled to serve, please let us know. This is a great entry level way to serve liturgically, and we can always use more men to assist with the younger acolytes.



READERS



TONSURED READERS: Howard Lange, John Butler, Verne Gish, Mark Kern

OTHERS with a blessing to do readings:

Dana Alexander, Douglas Meyer, David Washburn

QUARTERLY SCHEDULING OF READERS FOR SERVICES: Mark Kern

SUMMARY: Readers are responsible for preparing and executing the scripture readings during divine services, whether they be the Epistle reading at liturgies, Old Testament readings at Vespers, or a mixture of the two at sacraments and other special services. Some Readers are also Chanters.

GOAL:

To train our Readers to be able to compile the service texts and help lead a "Reader's Service," if necessary, when a priest is not able to be there.

HANDMAIDENS

TEAM LEADER:

Margaret Easbey mveasbey@gmail.com



SUMMARY:

This ministry provides girls in our parish ages 7 and up the opportunity to take an active role in service during the Divine Liturgy and other services. The Handmaidens take on a stewardship role for the nave of the church, learning how to be focused and attentive during Liturgy while also helping to maintain certain aspects of the physical space, including monitoring the candles stands, restocking candles and other supplies as needed before and after services, and cleaning up after services to ensure that the nave is reset. In addition to fulfilling the need for these services, this ministry is a way to train our girls and young women into a service minded approach to participating in our parish and worship. It is our goal that these activities will help them grow in confidence to be active in worship and parish life and to see themselves as integral parts of the parish as they grow into young adulthood and begin taking on bigger responsibilities.

HIGHLIGHTS:

It has been a delight to see the girls develop leadership and self-governance in this ministry even as they go about their duties without apparent pride or desire for attention. They need very little guidance and often work out amongst themselves who is up next in the rotation, finding replacements if someone is missing or late, and teaching each other how and what to do.

GOALS:

- Would very much like an organized person (preferably a woman/mother but not required) to assist with a more formal rotation schedule and to be “in charge” when I am not able to be there.
- Recruit two or more girls or young women into the rotation in the coming year.

WHAT WE NEED:

A co-leader to pick up my slack!

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Fr. Symeon Halsell, Coordinator

With assistance from:

Fr. John Finley

Fr. Nicholas Speier

Valerie Yova, Music Director

Subdn. Stephen Butler

Subdn. Michael Easbey

ADULT CATECHISM/INQUIRERS' CLASS:

Every year in the Autumn we offer a beginning inquirers' class for those new to the Orthodox faith, those who are catechumens, and anyone who wants to review the "basics" of Orthodox theology and practice. The class takes a short break during the Christmas and New Year holidays, and then resumes and continues until just before Pascha. Fr. Symeon is the main instructor, but he calls upon others to teach sessions on topics with which they have specific expertise.

PRE-LENTEN SEMINARS:

Just before or right at the beginning of Advent and Great Lent the parish offers seminars on a wide variety of topics, with the goal of preparing us to enter more fully into the fasting season.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

The parish has offered occasional educational opportunities in the form of shorter series focused on specific topics or books of the Bible, or book studies. We also provide educational opportunities through the Liturgical Arts Festival and other special events.

GOALS for the next 3-5 years:

The education of the faithful is critical in growing in a deeper understanding of the Church's teaching in theology, spirituality, worship and community service; to further this effort we will begin to offer regular weekday focused group studies of spiritual books, topics open for the whole parish. As we embark on this wonderful journey together, may this knowledge inspire our minds and hearts to worship our Lord more intimately and serve one another and our community more vigorously.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Catechesis of The Good Shepherd - for Youth Ages 3-12 years

JOANNE GISH, COORDINATOR 805-729-3443, jgish@westmont.edu

Level I (3yrs-Kindergarden)

Catechists – Cheryl Fisher, Teri Palmer
Assistants - Jan Speier

Level III (Grades 4-6)

Catechist - Jane Meyer
Assistant - Dorothy Alexander

LEVEL II (GRADES 1-3)

Catechist - Joanne Gish
Assistant – Liz Hoppe

The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a religious education program for children ages 3-12. Because it is attuned to the developmental and spiritual needs of children, the CGS experience is both religious education and spiritual formation. Our focus is to help each child strengthen his or her personal prayer life, enhance their participation in liturgical worship, and expand their knowledge of the Bible and of God's unfolding salvific work throughout history. This holistic approach to Orthodox catechesis enriches both our children and those who serve them, fostering a culture of continual spiritual growth.



GOALS FOR THE COMING YEAR:

- Reconciliation retreats for all who missed them over the past several years.
- Host a Level I or Level II catechist training session at St Athanasius. This will be open to our parish as well as people throughout the country.
- Train new catechists and assistants in our parish. Our goal is to add a new catechist and assistant in each level.
- The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is experiencing significant growth in the Orthodox churches in the U.S. and Canada! Our catechists traveled to Nashville in 2018 to meet with Orthodox catechists from all over North America. We would like the opportunity to continue to network and, eventually, host this meeting.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- **Pray** – Please pray for our team and the children of our parish.
- **Observe** – Visit one of the atria on a Sunday morning or Thursday afternoon.
- **Participate** – Request a tour of one or all of the atria, bring cut flowers to the atria for the children to use, attend a training, offer to help with refreshments during our reconciliation retreat.
- **Join Us!** – Do you love children? Do you love our Good Shepherd? That's all you need...the rest is easy. Reach out to one of the catechists for more information.

TEEN PROGRAM

SUBDN. MICHAEL EASBEY - TEEN PROGRAM COORDINATOR

805-705-6121, measbey@gmail.com



TEAM MEMBERS:

Elleney King (Youth Group Leader)

Craig Speier (Religious Education)

WHAT WE DO: We provide a spiritually healthy and safe environment for teenagers to build relationships with one another and grow in their faith in Christ.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- In 2019, we took 1st Place in the Western region Bible Bowl for the second year in a row.
- We had our 1st annual High School Youth Retreat. We visited the incorrupt relics of St John (Maximovich) at Holy Virgin Cathedral in San Francisco, and Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga, CA.
- We met most Thursdays and had a large, consistent teen group.

GOALS:

- Continue to meet each Thursday.
- Plan more group social activities like Miniature Golf, Beach days, Broom Ball, etc.
- Have some community service and outreach opportunities.
- Study the book of Genesis for the 2023 Bible Bowl.
- Have both a High School and a Junior High retreat.

WHAT WE NEED:

- Your prayers!
- Your food. We ask families to make the dinners for our Thursday nights. But if any other members of the parish feel like making dinner, let us know and we will sign you up!
- More prayers!



YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP

YOUNG ADULT COORDINATOR:

Subdeacon Michael Easbey 805-705-6121, measbey@gmail.com

WHAT WE DO:

Our College/Young Adult Ministry exists primarily as a venue for our young adults (college-age through thirty-somethings) to gather and connect with one another, and to assist in helping them plug in to parish life.

GOALS:

- Find regular activities that engage this age group.
- Have a few young adults join us for Project Mexico mission trip.
- Form an adult Bible Bowl Team

WHAT WE NEED:

- Consider inviting a college student or young adult to dinner.
- Consider hosting a young adult fellowship at your home.
- Consider participating in the Adult Bible bowl (this is all ages)



ST. BRIGID FELLOWSHIP

Thursday Morning Showers of Blessing Hospitality Team

TEAM LEADER: Mike Loulias
805-280-2037, bmklou@gmail.com

TEAM MEMBERS:
Fr. Symeon, Fr. Nicholas, Dana Alexander, David Washburn, Duane Franzen, Fay Young, Ken Gomez, and Lisa Ballew



WHAT WE DO:

Each Thursday, from 10:00am until 12:00pm, St. Athanasius Church hosts the Showers of Blessings mobile shower truck in our parking lot. The Showers program offers local unhoused community members a free shower and shave (if needed), fresh clothing, laundry services, and various toiletries to use on site and take with them. Social service professionals have found that the simple lack of access to showers and clean clothing are among the top factors creating distance between the unhoused and other community members. The Showers of Blessing helps restore our guests' place in the community, their sense of self-worth, and their basic human dignity. There was recently a video produced ("Showers from Heaven") highlighting the Showers of Blessing organization and how valuable their services are to the houseless community. You can watch it on Youtube here:

<https://youtu.be/sV6LWpljh7Y>

St. Athanasius Church simply offers our love and hospitality. Our ministry's main goal is to create a peaceful and warm setting where guests will feel comfortable, welcome, and wanted. They are invited to relax, socialize, and enjoy the hospitality we provide. The team members are present to interact with the Showers guests and offer the friendship of ourselves individually and as a Church collectively. The perspective one gains is invaluable!

WHAT WE NEED:

We sure could use 2-3 new volunteers willing to be available between 10:00am-12:00pm one Thursday a month. Setup is merely the ability to make coffee and help with cleanup.



FESTAL DECORATING

TEAM COORDINATORS:

Carla Brunstead 805-570-7760, cbrunstead@cox.net
Cheryl Washburn-Lander 805-698-1485, cherylynn.sb@gmail.com

TEAM MEMBERS:

Kh. Cayce-Marie Halsell, Papu McIntire, Melissa Wayne

WHAT WE DO:

We beautify the church for feast days with flowers and greens. For the 2022-2023 liturgical year we changed this ministry from being led by one individual to moving to a team. Coordinators help team members with assignments, provide instruction and directions of how-to, and oversee this ministry. Both coordinators and team members work from a list of feasts provided by Fr Symeon and sign up for a specific feast to provide flowers and greens. The assignment list includes the twelve major feasts and some minor feasts as well.

For our largest feasts - Palm Sunday, Pascha, and Nativity - we have many volunteers who come to help the Festal team. And, it is greatly appreciated!

Festal Decorating has an approved budget from Parish Council so all expenses are reimbursed.

THIS YEAR

We are thrilled to be moving into our new workspace in the newly finished storage area adjacent to the warming kitchen. Over the next several months the team will work with the church to design a workspace that will include a sink/counter worktop, storage closet, cabinets, and cold storage.

WHAT WE NEED:

More hands make light work! We have assignments that range from small to not-so-small. We will show you how and what to do. If you would like to join us, we would love to have you!



A HUGE THANK YOU...

...to Lisa Ballew for her dedicated leadership on this team for almost a DECADE. She poured her heart, soul and talent into beautifying our festal celebrations, and recruited many other talented parishioners to serve. God grant her many years!

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

TEAM LEADER: Chris Robinson
805-294-0950 willdoitSB@gmail.com

WHAT WE DO:

Building upkeep including general maintenance of the interior and exterior of the building except for landscaping.

GOAL: Keep up with the growing needs for repairs and upkeep.

WHAT WE NEED: Members with handyman skills to join our team.



LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

TEAM LEADER: Jason Wayne, Landscape Liaison

WHAT WE DO:

The Landscape Liaison works with the Parish Council, the Church Administrator and the companies that do the weekly/monthly maintenance of the landscape. (Landscape Maintenance and Pest Control) This person also coordinates with Building Maintenance when concerns or questions come up regarding the landscape. Time commitment is a weekly watering of the potted plants around the building and a walk around the grounds to check on the landscape. This is usually done on the weekends while attending services, so it doesn't add a lot of time to your personal schedule.

If there are any concerns, the team leader contacts either the landscape or pest control companies to set up an appointment to discuss the concern and set up work to remedy the problem. There is an annual budget set up by Parish Council and the committee is authorized to work within that budget.

GOALS:

1. Write up a description of this ministry for the website with pictures. Our landscape was thoughtfully planned out by a local landscape architect to include many Biblical plants. It would be interesting to highlight these plants on the website with their botanical names, Biblical histories and photos.
2. Identify the Biblical plants with markers in the different plant beds.
3. Encourage the team leaders in Festal Decorating and Catechesis of the Good Shepherd to cut specific flowers and greens from our land to beautify the church for services and/or for lessons within their programs.

WHAT WE NEED: 1-2 people to build a team of 3 that will share in the care of our landscape.



EVANGELISM TEAM

TEAM LEADER: David Washburn 615-428-3427
david.washburn64@gmail.com



TEAM MEMBERS: Fr. Symeon Halsell, Nicholas Speier,
Valerie Yova, Howard Lange
Fr. John Finley (Advisory)

WHAT WE DO:

- Help to lead the church members in sharing Christ and His gospel with our friends and the community through word and deed.
- Encourage the parish to reach out in Christ's love to the community through prayer, leadership, service, charity, activities, fellowship, teaching and preaching.

GOALS:

1. **Provide educational opportunities** for church members to be spiritually strengthened and more engaged in the Church. (Christ & His Church should be the center of our lives). Personal invitations have been proven to be the best way to introduce people to Christ and His church.

2. **Develop opportunities to invite friends and the community** to be exposed to Christ and His Church such as:

- Guest Speakers on current cultural issues
- I-Madonnari Festival participation
- Liturgical Arts Festival
- Classes open to the general public, like Dave Ramsey Financial Peace Course
- Video clips on Church Website of our ministry teams and activities
- Public Concerts, Family Nights and other activities to which we can invite friends

WHAT WE NEED:

- A few young, energetic new members on our team excited about sharing the Faith.
- More Greeters and Ushers in the rotation. **PLEASE SEE MIKE LOULIAS TO VOLUNTEER!**

ST. XENIA PRAYER MINISTRY

TEAM LEADERS:

Fay Young 805-705-0362, fay24ry@yahoo.com
Dorothy Alexander 805-708-0453, dotalexander@westmont.edu

TEAM MEMBERS:

Cheryl Fisher (parish member)

Sandy Talmadge, Nancy Gilbert, and Marilyn Gillquist
(live out of town)



WHAT WE DO:

- We meet three times a week to pray an Akathist together, intercessory prayers, and for all the children of our Church.

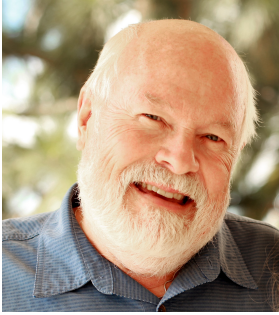
Monday:	5:15 - 5:35 p.m.	Usually 3 people (by Zoom)
Wednesday:	11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	2-3 people in the chapel
Thursday:	7:45 - 8:05 a.m.	5 people (by Zoom)
- We welcome anyone to join us.
- We keep all prayer requests in strict confidence.

WHAT WE NEED:

Your prayer requests! Please tell us by word of mouth, email, text, or phone so we can pray for them.

Please let us know if you have a preferred time to pray together so that this ministry can grow. If we can, we will accommodate the needs of our parishioners.

ST. CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA LIBRARY



TEAM LEADERS:

Margaret Easbey, Librarian mveasbey@gmail.com

Dana Alexander, dalexand@westmont.edu



SUMMARY:

The lending library is a resource for our parishioners, catechumens, inquirers, and visitors to explore and grow in the Orthodox Faith. We have organized our collection of books in the hopes that it is easy to navigate and to explore so that the right book will come to the right person at the right time. As we receive new books for the library, they are entered into a catalog, labeled, and placed on the shelves. The library is pretty much self-service so tracking how much it gets used is not possible. However, there are always books being returned and needing to be put back, so it is clear that we have some regular “customers!”

HIGHLIGHTS:

We have received numerous generous donations of books, used and new, and look forward to getting them out on the shelves over the coming months.

GOALS:

- Finish the creation of an online catalog
- Re-organize and expand our children’s collection.



WHAT WE NEED:

We could use someone to give the shelves and books a dusting once a month and make sure everything looks tidy. Donations are welcome, but please do not donate books that are in poor condition unless they are very rare or out of print. Books that are donated but not added to the library will be donated to Goodwill. Per our goal for the children's collection, we would love new and gently used Orthodox children's books.

A BIG THANK YOU...

...to Mitchell Denny and Timmy Palmer for installing our shelves and lights!



BOOKSTORE



TEAM LEADER:

Terri Speier 805 403-4600, stspeier@cox.net

TEAM MEMBERS:

Corina Berari, Sherie Shackelford, Jodi Wallace

WHAT WE DO: Run the parish bookstore - order books, icons, jewelry, and home altar supplies and manage the sale of those items. All proceeds go to the Temple Fund.

(If you ever see interesting or helpful Orthodox items that our bookstore doesn't have, feel free to send Terri all the information and she will attempt to stock the items.)

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Provided Orthodox Items for purchase to parish and visitors.
- Added more tables to have books always displayed in the narthex.
- Added more signage to make it user friendly.
- Ability to pay online at SAOC website with earmark "bookstore."
- Lockbox for cash/check payments mounted to wall by Fr. Nicholas' office.
- Jewelry kept locked in closet and brought out on request.
- Provided an extended bookstore during Christmas and Lent.

GOALS:

1. Continue to provide Orthodox items for sale at a reasonable price.
2. Provide extended bookstore for any festival or large gathering.
3. Would love to add new shelving to have permanent counters and shelves for display and storage as budget permits. Will set up meeting with Jenny Speier for design options and then submit options to PC.

WHAT WE NEED:

1. Communication. Requests in writing or email.
2. Continue to ask customer to pay at time of purchase.

WEBSITE Design & Maintenance/Photography

www.stathanasius.org

TEAM MEMBERS:

Hani AbuGhazaleh (Webmaster/Technical Advisor) Ben Hedges (Homily & Audio Recordings), David Dillon (Posting of weekly homilies), Mark Kern (Bible Studies), Valerie Yova (Content editing/Calendar maintenance)

Photographer: Nataliya Tinyayeva ntinyayeva@gmail.com

WHAT WE DO:

Our goal is to provide a vibrant, online presence to serve our parishioners and those looking for more information about our parish and faith. We do this by providing resources that provide a deeper understanding of our faith, photos and videos giving insight into the life of our parish, opportunities to donate and contribute to the financial well-being of our church, and information about upcoming events and liturgical services. We also provide secure, members-only content such as contact information for parishioners (as well as a Parish Family Photo Album), Parish Council meeting summaries, and a parishioner business directory).



CHALLENGES:

One of the biggest challenges we face is the limited number of parishioners who are proficient web developers that are able to expand on the functionality that the website offers. If you have expertise in this area, please let the Parish Administrator know.

GOALS:

- Add the technology to our website that will allow parishioners to set up recurring online donations. **(HIGH PRIORITY)**
- Integrate a third-party communication service that will allow us to efficiently communicate with our parishioners in their preferred method, whether it is by email, SMS (text message), or through social networks.
- Restructure the site's design so it is more mobile-friendly.
- Add videos to the homepage to reflect the many vibrant ministries of the parish.

WHAT WE NEED:

- A webmaster with experience in design and tech;
- A few more people with good cameras and a love for photography to photograph feast days and parish activities. Let Nataliya know if you are interested!

NOTE: We put quite a bit of time into keeping the church Master Calendar up to date with services and other activities. If you have a Google account, you can sync your own Google calendar to the parish calendar. Regardless, please keep in mind that almost all services and ministry activities are posted to the website calendar.

SOCIAL GATHERINGS & CELEBRATIONS

TEAM LEADER:

Christie Speier Robinson, 805-455-4312 christie.d.robinson@gmail.com



WHAT WE DO:

Organize celebrations and gatherings including:

- Pascha breakfast and picnic
- Meatfare Sunday Barbecue
- Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Vespers hospitality
- St. Nicholas Night
- Other occasions when we offer hospitality to our parish or the local community

WHAT WE NEED: Team members!!

IN-REACH CARE FOR PARISHIONERS WHO ARE ILL OR HOME-BOUND, OR HAVE A NEW-BORN

**Please let Fr. Symeon and/or one of the team members know
when there is a need!**

- **St. Lucia Visitation Ministry—Visitation of sick and home bound**
Kh. Jan Speier 685-5856, jlspeier@gmail.com
Fay Young 705-0362, fay24ry@yahoo.com
- **“Take-them-a-Meal” Ministry**
Margaret Easbey 266-9110, mveasbey@gmail.com



SUMMARY:

This ministry was originally set up to coordinate meal deliveries for families with new babies during the first few weeks of recovery after birth. Over the past few years, the scope has expanded to include parish members who are experiencing serious illness or recovering from significant medical treatments that pose a hardship for them or their caregivers. We have also provided meals for families who have experienced the death of a loved one.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Since September 1, 2021, our parish has provided around 175 meals through Meal Train.

GOALS:

Continue to mobilize our parish to support one another in times of need!

WHAT WE NEED: I am seeking someone to take over this ministry.

SACRAMENTS

**Fr. Symeon is the point person for all sacraments.
He will connect you with one of coordinators.**

WEDDING COORDINATORS—Assistance in coordinating details of the wedding service

Lara Jacobs cpejacobs@gmail.com
Christie Robinson christie.d.robinson@gmail.com

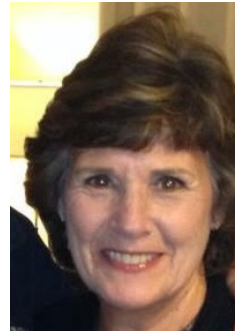


- We are the SAOC wedding service coordinators. (We are not the reception coordinators or wedding planners, though we are sometimes hired separately to do that for parish members.)
- If there is a wedding at the church or someone is getting married from our parish, we coordinate the service.
- As a team, we meet with the couple 2-4 times during their engagement to plan the wedding service.
- We coordinate the rehearsal before the wedding, during which we explain and practice the ceremony with everyone in the bridal party.
- The day of the wedding, Christie and Lara are the point-of-contact for anything ceremony related and make sure everyone gets down the aisle smoothly, with smiles on their faces and looking good!

FUNERAL COORDINATOR

June Easbey 705-3668, june1211@msn.com

The response when one of the members of our parish passes remains the same - but over the years has become more fine-tuned. The basic and immediate needs at the time of death are many.



- A printed guide is available with useful information and can be provided as needed by the priest or Funeral Coordinator. These are only suggestions and can be adjusted accordingly and at the wishes of the family and at the approval of the priest.
- The Funeral Coordinator is available to make suggestions and guide the family on how to contact providers (mortuaries, cemeteries, florists, obituaries, locations for Mercy Meal, etc.).
- The funeral coordinator also works in tandem with the Parish Administrator, whose duties include sending out e-mail announcements to the parish and printing the obituary.
- The parish priest's duties include scheduling the services, coordinating the Trisagion and Funeral Services, inviting other clergy and choir/chanters, to name a few.

AN ALTERNATIVE TO EMBALMING

In addition to the initial funeral arrangements, the very important details of how to care for and prepare the departed need to be addressed. At the recent passing of Dn. Richard, an alternative way to prepare the departed was introduced to our Parish for the first time. It is a preparation without the embalming of the body - which in turn accommodates for the encouraged three-day burial timeline. Subdeacon Michael Easbey has agreed to oversee this procedure, as needed.

WHAT WE NEED: There is a need for some others to take on duties in assisting the Funeral Coordinator. Please contact Fr. Symeon if you feel inclined to help in this much-needed ministry.

SUNDAY AGAPE MEAL

TEAM LEADER: Suzi Wiley suziwiley@cox.net, 805-448-2787

The Coffee Hour Ministry is in transition. With the blessing of Father Symeon, we are changing the name of Coffee Hour to Agape Meal. Our goal is to form teams that include all parish members, to share the responsibilities for providing food, beverages and an atmosphere of fellowship after the Divine Liturgy.



TEAM MEMBERS:

Laurie Baker, Cheryl Washburn-Lander, Michael Loulias, Penny Cocores, Natalya and Phillip Kawahara, Glenn Hoppe and Jason Wayne

WHAT WE DO:

- Assure that food and beverages are provided after each Sunday Divine Liturgy to encourage fellowship and welcome visitors;
- Coordinate Agape Meal Team sign-up schedule;
- Provide reminders, instructions and assistance to hosts;
- Monitor inventory and purchase supplies when needed;
- Assist with setting up and taking down tables;

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- We expanded the Team in 2022 to share the responsibilities for coordinating Agape Meals.
- We moved into the new kitchen and organized the new system for serving food and beverages.
- We have started to form Agape Meal Teams, consisting of several households that will share the burden of hosting Agape Meals.

WHAT WE NEED:

We need 8-10 parish members who are willing to become Agape Meal Team Leaders, to coordinate a team of households that will rotate to host Agape Meals. We envision working in teams as an easier way to host an Agape Meal, by sharing the efforts.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

TEAM LEADER: Lizabeth Hoppe 805-889-3208, hop2it1995@gmail.com

TEAM MEMBERS: Liz Hoppe, Jan Speier, Christie Robinson, Karen Jacobs, Jody Wallace



HIGHLIGHTS:

In the past year, we have appreciated the ability to gather together again. For example, we gathered for two different book clubs, and we celebrated the feast of The Annunciation with our Annunciation Tea in March. Many women are participating in Secret Sisters until the Advent season. We also recently hosted an Agape Meal after liturgy together.

In addition, the women of St. Athanasius supported several almsgiving opportunities, buying Christmas gifts for the family of a teen who had been recently rescued from trafficking, and making New Mom bags for moms who have chosen life and motherhood, and who have minimal support as they get started.

GOALS:

In the coming liturgical year, our plans will focus on three primary goals:

1. Supporting and encouraging each other.
2. Growing in our journey as Orthodox Christians.
3. Supporting those in our community who have needs through almsgiving.

We hope all women in our community feel welcome to engage in women's fellowship by nurturing relationships and sharing needs.

If you are not receiving notifications of our women's gatherings and projects, and would like to be on the contact list, please let me know!



MEN'S MINISTRY

TEAM LEADER: Howard Lange

The purpose of Men's Ministry is to enhance the spiritual growth of the men of our Church, and build our bonds of love as brothers in Christ. At present Men's Ministry offers two ongoing activities:



St. John the Theologian Fellowship

Leader: Fr. Symeon Halsell

Named for "the disciple whom Jesus loved," St. John Fellowship meets on the first Saturday morning of each month for prayer, study, and fellowship. After First Hour Prayers in the nave, we move to the patio for breakfast, a book study and discussion. To date we have been reading through and discussing Archimandrite Vassilios Papavassiliou's Thirty Steps to Heaven, a commentary on St. John Climacus' Ladder of Divine Ascent.

Fireside Gathering

Leader: Howard Lange

Hosts: Michael Loulias, Jason Wayne, Scott Speier

Fireside is a place and time when men of our Church can meet in a casual format, share what is on our minds and hearts, and support and encourage each other. Our ultimate goal is to know and grow closer to Christ and each other. With rare exception we meet around a fire in the backyard of one of our hosts. Due to the often intimate nature of the conversation, confidentiality is stressed and size is limited, though all men of the parish are welcome. As we grow we will form new groups.

GOALS:

- Inaugurate an additional St. John Fellowship meeting on a weekday evening.
- Organize periodic service projects.
- Offer "bridge events" to which our men might bring their non-Orthodox friends.

ICON GUILD

TEAM LEADER: Dorothy Alexander
805-708-0453, dotalexander@westmont.edu



TEAM MEMBERS:
Asia Ballew, Natalia Tinyayeva, Iona West, Heather West,
and Kh. Cayce-Marie Halsell

WHAT WE DO:

- We meet to encourage, educate, and practice drawing and painting icons. There are open sessions twice a month, every other month, with people from different churches who paint icons together. From 2017 till now we have been meeting monthly.
- We aim to participate in the beautification of our church through iconography.
- Monthly educational links are sent out in emails - please let us know if you want to be added to the email list.
- We hope to participate in the “I Madonnari Festival” at the Old Mission Santa Barbara, once again, as a community outreach. (See photo below.)

WHAT WE NEED:

If you have access to donated/free art supplies, let us know! Thanks to Melissa Braun for providing us with fresh eggs for our egg tempera.



ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS FOR LIFE (OCL)

TEAM LEADERS:

David Washburn 615-428-3427, david.washburn64@gmail.com

Mark Kern 805-708-5772, mark.kern@cox.net

Orthodox Christians for Life (OCL) is a non-profit religious educational pro-life organization founded in 1986 and has chapters in the United States, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, and Australia. Orthodox Christians For Life of Goleta (OCL) is a chapter of Orthodox Christians for Life.



WHAT WE DO:

This organization supports the sanctity of life and endorses the fact that human life begins at conception. Its purpose is to support pro-life programs, activities, and local pro-life organizations. We also support the activities and fundraising efforts of our local pro-life agency, Network Medical. Network Medical provides free health care services for pregnant women, including 3D color imaging of the mother's baby.

GOAL FOR THE COMING YEAR:

Recruit someone to take over leadership of this ministry and encourage Pro-Life support and participation by the Church.

www.oclif.org

www.networkmedical.org

