



## 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, Metropolitan SABA

**Pastor:**

Fr. Symeon Halsell  
805-685-5495  
frsymeon@stathanasius.org

**Priests attached to the parish:**

Fr. Nicholas Speier (Pastor Emeritus)  
Fr. John Carrillo (retired)  
Fr. Jon Braun (retired)  
Fr. John Finley (Archdiocese Dept. of Missions)

**Deacons:**

Dn. Gary Braun  
Dn. Scott Jacobs  
Dn. John Young (retired)

**Subdeacons:** Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

**Parish Council 2023-2024**

Dominic Dopico, Chair  
Kristin King, Vice Chair  
Dan Braun, Treasurer  
Velislava Nikolov, Secretary  
Asia Ballew  
Sydney Hedges  
Michael Loulias  
Cheryl Washburn-Lander

**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 Activities Coordinators**

Athanasia Ballew  
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## DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, January 26, 2025

Tone 6 / Eothinon 9;

### Thirty-second Sunday of Pentecost & Fifteenth Sunday of Luke (“Zacchaeus”)

Venerable Xenophon, his Wife, Mary, and their two sons,  
Arkadios and John, of Constantinople;  
Translation of the Relics of Venerable Theodore the Studite



## WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

We are glad you are with us this morning  
to join our worship of the Father, Son & Holy Spirit!  
Please join us on the patio after the Liturgy for  
the Agape Meal. 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

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

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

**THE GREAT LITANY**

**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”**

In Thy kingdom remember us, O Lord, when Thou comest in Thy kingdom.  
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.  
Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God.  
Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake,  
for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.  
Blessed are you when men shall revile you and shall persecute you, and shall say all  
manner of evil against you falsely for my sake.  
Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven.

**We sing the following hymns as the clergy enter the altar  
during the Little Entrance:**

**Resurrectional Troparion**

**Tone 6**

When Mary stood at Thy grave looking for Thy sacred body,  
angelic pow'rs shone above Thy revered tomb,  
and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men.  
Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted there-by,  
Thou did meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world.  
O Thou Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**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 of The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple**

**Tone 1**

By Thy Nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb!  
And didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God.  
Now Thou hast come and saved us through love.  
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

### **TRISAGION (THRICE-HOLY) HYMN**

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 6**

O Lord save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. *(PS 27/28:9)*

**Verse:** *To Thee will I cry, O Lord, O my God,  
do not be silent unto me. (PS 27/28:1)*

### **EPISTLE READING**

#### **Timothy 4:9-15**

Timothy, my son, the saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, Who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Until I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties; devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

### **Alleluia Refrain and Psalm verses before the Gospel**

**Tone 6**

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

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

Vs. 1 He Who dwelleth in the help of the Most High shall abide under the  
shadow of the protection of the God of Heaven. *(Ps 90/91:1)* **Alleluia**

Vs. 2 He will say to the Lord, Thou art my protector and my  
refuge, my God, in Him will I hope. *(Ps 90/91:2)* **Alleluia**

## GOSPEL READING

### Luke 19:1-10

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see Who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for He was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

### 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 corruption you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

### Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)

## Holy Communion & The Thanksgiving Prayers

In the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Communion is offered only to Orthodox Christians who have humbly prepared to receive through prayer, fasting, and a recent Sacramental Confession.

**Non-Orthodox people and those not communing today may approach during Communion for a priestly blessing by saying, "Father, bless." After this you may take a piece of antidoron (blessed bread) offered in the bowls.**

If you are interested in joining the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, speak with our Pastor about how to become an Orthodox Christian.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, we offer **Thanksgiving Prayers** for having received the body and blood of Christ. These beautiful prayers help us to reflect on the mystery in which we have partaken and prepare us for our transition from the Kingdom back into "the world." If you have partaken, stay to listen to these prayers after you have venerated the cross. Immediately after, the priest will bless the Agape Meal. **We ask that all your socializing take place outside of the church.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE TO THE RELIEF EFFORT FOR THE LOS ANGELES FIRE VICTIMS**, our Archdiocese is asking that donations be made through FOCUS NORTH AMERICA. Online donations can be made here: <https://www.antiochian.org/regulararticle/2315>

**THE ST. BARBARA MONASTERY FRIENDS GATHERING is today at 4:00 p.m.** Fr. John Finley will speak about “Trial by Fire: St. Nikolai of Zica on Suffering.” The presentation will be followed by Vespers and a Potluck Supper.

**ADULT CATECHISM** continues for the next 2 weeks on Saturdays from 3-5 p.m.

**WE WILL HAVE AN ALL-PARISH MEETING on Sunday, February 16th after the Agape Meal.** Please plan to stay for an update on our finances and Land Development planning.

**SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025—LENTEN SEMINAR** taught by Fr. John Finley—“The Inner Heaven of Man: Healing of the Mind, Heart, and Will according to St. Nikolai of Zica.”

**IF YOU HAVE A PROPERTY AVAILABLE FOR RENT, OR KNOW OF ANY AVAILABLE PROPERTIES**, please let Fr. Symeon know, in the event that we are contacted by families who have been displaced by the fires and are looking for houses or apartments to rent.

### **FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: HELP THE CHURCH TO BREAK EVEN...**

- If your family is not on one of our Agape Meal teams, please consider contributing weekly or monthly at the meal to help us cover the costs of supplies. (coffee, creamer, juice, paper goods) If everyone who partakes were to put in \$1 per week, we would cover our costs.
- The cost of bee’s wax candles has increased significantly in the past year. Please consider making a donation in the separate donation box for candles whenever you light one. **THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!**

### **UPCOMING FEASTS & SPECIAL SERVICES**

#### **Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple**

- Saturday, Feb. 1 -- Great Vespers at 5:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 2 — Festal Matins/Liturgy at 9:00/10:00 a.m.

Fast-free week—February 10-16

Meatfare Sunday—February 23

Cheesefare Sunday—March 2 (Forgiveness Vespers at 6:00 p.m.)

**GREAT LENT BEGINS ON MONDAY, MARCH 3rd.**

**ADULT CATECHISM SCHEDULE**  
**WINTER 2025**  
**Saturdays from 3-5 p.m.**  
February 1 - Session 4  
“Seeing and Living in the Beauty, Truth and Wisdom of God”  
  
February 8 - Session 5  
“The Age to Come: The Second Coming and the Saints”

**CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK**

**Birthdays**  
1/29 Subdn. Matthew Wiley  
1/30 Audrey Dal Porto, Glenn Hoppe  
1/31 Gloria Morrison

**Patronal Feast Days**  
1/28 St. Ephraim the Syrian Peter Van Dolah  
1/31 Holy Wonderworker & Unmercenary John Hunter Scott (John) Braun  
1/30 Three Holy Hierarchs Benjamin Hedges

<b>YEAR-END FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2024</b>	
Tithe Goal	\$ 689,000
Total Tithes received	\$ 676,964
General Donations	\$ 32,695
Other income	<u>\$ 75,310</u>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$ 784,969</b>
Total expenses	\$ 798,746
Deficit	(\$ 13,777)
Temple Fund Total Donations	\$ 76,318
Golf Tournament Proceeds	\$ 161,000
(\$141,000 earmarked for Temple Fund and \$20,000 for Bookstore Shelving & Displays)	
<b>Balance in Temple Fund 12/31/24</b>	<b>\$ 936,504</b>

## HOUSE BLESSINGS

The priests look forward to this time of year when they bless your homes and have an opportunity to spend time with you. It is a joy for them! Contact one of our priests for an appointment to have your home blessed in January. We traditionally bless homes in January after the Feast of Theophany (January 6), however you can do this at almost any time of the year. If you move into a new home, you may not want to wait until the next time we celebrate Theophany to have your home blessed.

### The Preparation for House Blessings

As Christ came to bless and sanctify the waters of the Jordan River and, through them, all of creation, so in this feast will we be blessed by the water that we take from the church to our homes. Now is the time to prepare ourselves and make ready our homes to welcome Christ as an honored guest who will bless every room for our salvation! Especially, prepare your icon corner to have a place for the holy water and blessing cross.

### The Use of Holy Water

One may ask why people drink the Holy Water at Epiphany. The meaning is revealed in the prayers of the service itself:

*Therefore, O King who loves mankind, be present now as when through the descent of Your Holy Spirit and sanctify this water and confer upon it the grace of redemption, the blessing of Jordan. Make it a source of incorruption, a gift of sanctification, a remission of sins, a protection against disease, a destruction to demons, inaccessible to the adverse powers and filled with angelic strength: that all who draw from it and partake of it may it for the cleansing of their soul and body, for the healing of their passions, for the sanctification of their dwellings, and for every purpose that is expedient.*

We believe that bread and wine offered to God in the Eucharist is given back to us as the Body and Blood of the Lord for the remission of sins and eternal life, and we can believe that water offered to God at Epiphany is consecrated and given back to us for the cleansing of souls and bodies, for the healing of the passions, for the sanctification of our dwellings, and for every purpose that is expedient!

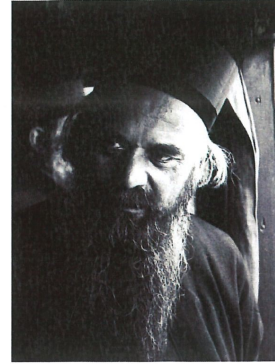
## PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

If you are an **ACTIVE parish household or a CATECHUMEN**, you can pick up a copy of the photo directory compiled this past fall. The directories are in alphabetical order in a box right outside Fr. Symeon's office. If you are not yet an active (communing) member or catechumen, you can ask Fr. Symeon for a copy of the directory. The online version of the directory can be accessed at: <https://www.stathanasius.org/resources/downloads-resources/photo-directory/>



# *The Inner Heaven of Man*

A one-day Seminar on  
The Healing of the Mind, Heart, and Will  
according to St. Nikolai of Zica,  
the Serbian saint who compiled the Prologue of Ohrid.



Presented by V. Rev. Fr. John Finley  
**Saturday, March 15, 2025**  
St. Athanasius Antiochian Orthodox Church  
300 Sumida Gardens Ln., Santa Barbara, CA 93111

## **Schedule**

9:00 a.m.	Divine Liturgy for the Departed (Soul Liturgy)
10:00 a.m.	Coffee Break
10:30 a.m.	Session 1
11:30 a.m.	Break
11:45 a.m.	Session 2
1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:45 p.m.	Session 3
3:00 p.m.	Break
3:30 p.m.	Great Vespers for Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

No registration charge. Please register by March 10, 2025 so that we know how many to plan for.

**R.S.V.P. at: <https://bit.ly/LentenSeminar2025>**

**Free-will donations will be accepted at the seminar to St. Athanasius Orthodox Academy/St. Athanasius College**



Fr. John Finley lives in Santa Ynez, California, is a member of St. Athanasius Orthodox Church in Santa Barbara, CA, and has been a field staff member of the Department of Missions and Evangelism of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America since 1996. [www.missionsandevangelism.com](http://www.missionsandevangelism.com). He was ordained to the holy priesthood in 1997. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Oklahoma Baptist University; a Master of Sacred Theology from St. Athanasius Academy of Orthodox Theology; and a Master of Arts in Musicology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Fr. John is a music composer and arranger, and the author of both **Sacred Meals** from our *Family Table*, 2005, and **The Inner Heaven of Man: A Companion to the Prologue of Ohrid**, 2024.

**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](mailto:office@stathanasius.org).  
Please pray for the health of:**

His Beatitude, Patriarch John X  
Metropolitan SABA  
Mother Victoria  
Met. Paul & Abp. John  
Abp. Benjamin  
Fr. Gabriel in Kenya (OCMC)  
Fr. Jon B.  
Fr. John & Kh. Diane C.  
Fr. Nicholas & Jan  
Fr. Turbo & St. Mary parish  
Fr. Paul and St. Moses parish  
Hieromonk Siloan  
Greg & Margaret Y.  
Hoppe Family in Albania (OCMC)  
Joseph Wm. B. in Kenya  
Duane F.  
Richard and Susan B.  
Bob N.  
Kh. Melissa H.  
Jeremiah & Sarah H. (military)  
Lauren & Fernando J. (military)  
Chase K. (military)  
Nick & Kristine J. (military)  
Julianna & Zaron D. (military)  
P. Speier (military)

Subdn. Matthew & Christina  
Steve T.  
Temmo K.  
Dn. John & Fay Y.  
Samantha & Chris N. & Family  
Wade  
Kh. Peggy K.  
Amanda, Chris & Baby James  
Kh. Janet Henderson  
Phyllis M.  
Marta C.  
Sonia T.  
Jon R.  
Penny B.  
Eden Rose  
Suzanne S.  
Jen H.  
Randall B.  
Michael  
Fr. Joseph A.

For the local agencies and their leaders who are working to fight human trafficking.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Church

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.

**OUR CATECHUMENS:**

Karti Adimulam  
Gianpaul Caceres  
Jacob Feinstein  
Isaak Lau  
Brennan Pawley  
Diego Rangel  
Ethan Salcedo  
Logan Strait  
Joshua Weiss

**For repose of the souls of:** Fr. Thomas F.

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**ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH BOOKSTORE**

The church bookstore is located in the foyer of our building. The tables and two enclosed cabinets contain 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. **You can contact Terri at: [bookstore@stathanasius.org](mailto:bookstore@stathanasius.org).**

Payment should be made at time of purchase and placed in the brown lockbox on wall next to Fr. Symeon’s 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 Temple Fund.**

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## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, January 26

9:00 a.m. Matins & Catechesis  
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  
11:30 a.m. Teen Education  
11:45 a.m. Agape Meal  
12:15 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
4:00 p.m. St. Barbara Monastery Friends Gathering

### Monday, January 27

7:00 a.m. Daily Readers' Matins  
3:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom

### Tuesday, January 28—SS. EPHRAIM & ISAAC

8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for  
St. Ephraim & St. Isaac the Syrians  
5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

### Wednesday, January 29

7:00 a.m. Daily Readers' Matins  
11:50 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry (in the chapel)  
5:30 p.m. Akathist for St. Paisios of Athos

### Thursday, January 30

7:45 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom  
10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing  
5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers  
6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
6:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group  
6:45 p.m. High School Youth Group

### Friday, January 31—THREE HIERARCHS

7:00 a.m. Matins  
8:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for SS. Cyrus & John  
the Unmercenaries

### Saturday, February 1-Eve of the Presentation

3:00 p.m. Adult Catechism Session 4 "Seeing & Living  
In the Beauty, Truth & Wisdom of God"  
5:30 p.m. Festal Great Vespers/ Confessions

### Sunday, February 2—PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

9:00 a.m. Festal Matins & Catechesis  
10:00 a.m. Festal Divine Liturgy  
11:30 a.m. Teen Education  
11:45 a.m. Agape Meal

## SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

### EUCCHARIST BREAD

January 26 Fr. Nicholas  
February 2 Meyer  
February 9 Dn. Gary  
February 16 Morrison

### READERS

January 26 Lange  
February 1 Alexander (Vespers)  
February 2 Butler  
February 9 Meyer  
February 16 Kern

### GREETERS

January 26 M. Wayne/K.L. King  
February 2 A.G. Butler/C. Clements  
February 9 M. Loulias/H. Lange  
February 16 J. & M. Worthington

### USHERS

January 26 S. Speier/C. Speier  
February 2 P. King/J. King  
February 9 D. Alexander/K.L. King  
February 16 D. Meyer/M. Loulias

### AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

January 26 Team Aviles/Wood  
February 2 Team Wayne  
February 9 Team Langer  
February 16 Team Hedges

**UPCOMING WEEKDAY LITURGIES at 8:00 a.m.**

**January**

Tue, Jan 28 Righteous Ephraim and Isaac the Syrians  
Fri, Jan 31 Cyrus & John the Unmercenarys

**February**

Tue, Feb 11 St. Theodora the Empress  
Fri, Feb 14 Holy Father Auxentius of the Mountain  
Thur, Feb 27 St. Ephraim of Katounakia

**WEDNESDAYS at 5:30 p.m.**

**AKATHISTS**

**& PARAKLESES out in the field by the Cross**

January 29 Akathist of St. Paisios of Athos in the Chapel  
February 5 Paraklesis in the field outside by the cross  
February 12 Akathist of St. Herman of Alaska in the Chapel  
February 19 Paraklesis in the field outside by the cross  
February 26 Akathist of St. John the Theologian in the Chapel

**RESPONSES IN OTHER LANGUAGES**

At the encouragement of His Eminence, Metropolitan Saba, during the Divine Liturgy Fr. Symeon is "giving the peace," in a variety of languages and the choir is responding to "Peace be to all," in the corresponding language with "And to thy spirit." These are the languages being rotated each week:

<b>English</b>	<b>Peace be to all.</b>	<b>And to thy spirit.</b>
Arabic	As-sa-la-mu li-ja- í-kum.	Wuh-li wou-ee-kah
Greek	E-ray-ney pasi.	Ke-to pnevmati-sou
Spanish	La paz sea con vosotros.	Y con tú espíritu
Slavonic	Mir fs'em	i so dukhom tw-oim
Romanian	Pace tuturor	Și duhului tău.