



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

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Kristin King, Vice Chair
Dan Braun, Treasurer
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Asia Ballew
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Cheryl Washburn-Lander

Music Director/Administrator:

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DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Tone 1 / Eothinon 1

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Martyr Pamphilos, Priest of Caesarea in Palestine
and his Companions;
Venerable Flavian the Hermit



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**

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 wast 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:**

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 1

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 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 Prodigal Son

Tone 3

I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father;
and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You gave me.
And now I cry to You as the Prodigal:
“I have sinned before You, O merciful Father;
receive me a penitent,
and make me as one of Your hired servants!”

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 1

Reader: Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have set our hope on Thee. (Ps 32/33:22)

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise is becoming to the upright.

THE EPISTLE READING

(For Sunday of the Prodigal Son)

1 Corinthians. 6:12-20

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are expedient. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the authority of anything. Foods are for the belly, and the belly for foods; but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body; and God both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid! Or, do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For, "The two," He says, "shall become one flesh." But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but whoever commits fornication sins against his own body. Or, do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have received from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

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**

THE GOSPEL READING

(For Sunday of the Prodigal Son)

Luke 15:11-32

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my fa-

ther's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants." And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

HYMN TO THE THEOTOKOS

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! (*Ps 148:1*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

WE WILL PRAY A TRISAGION TODAY for Glenn Elias Friesen, who fell asleep in the Lord on February 10th. Our deepest condolences to his brother, Stan, and the entire Friesen family. May Glenn's memory be eternal!

WE WILL ALSO PRAY A TRISAGION TODAY for Kevin Speier, who fell asleep in the Lord 8 years ago yesterday. (Feb. 15, 2017) May his memory be eternal!

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

THE MEN'S FELLOWSHIP MONTHLY FIRESIDE GATHERING will be this Thursday, February 20th at the church. If you have questions, contact Fr. Symeon or Howard Lange.

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>

OUR ANNUAL MEATFARE BARBECUE IS NEXT WEEK, FEBRUARY 23rd!

The menu includes: tri-tip, beans, salad, French bread, dessert, and beverages. Price: \$7 for adults and kids ages 13 and up, and \$3 for kids 12 and under. **CASH PAYMENT IS PREFERRED** on the day of the BBQ. If you are paying for a family, you can pay in advance through the parish website donation page. Please be sure to include the memo: MEATFARE BBQ.

We need help with clean-up. Please contact Christie Robinson to volunteer: 805-455-4312 or christie.d.robinson@gmail.com.

OUR AGAPE MEAL ON SUNDAY, MARCH 2nd is a POTLUCK for CHEESEFARE SUNDAY. Please plan ahead to bring a meatless dish to share. All forms of dairy are welcome, plus other salads, sides, chips & dips, and desserts. This is our last hurrah for dairy before the beginning of Great Lent.

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

2/19 Ben & Viktoria Hedges, Adriana & Ron Malik

Birthdays

2/17 Lincoln Brunner

2/19 Kh. Jan Finley

2/20 Noelle Aviles

2/21 Tyson Shackelford

**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!**

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."

Fr. Symeon will stay with Arabic for a few weeks until we all get used to responding.

English	Peace be to all.	And to thy spirit.
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.

**WOMEN & GIRLS OF ALL AGES:
SAVE THE DATE!
Annual Annunciation Tea
Saturday, March 29, 2025
2-4 p.m.**



**Guest speaker: Kh. Caryn Kruse,
Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor**
"Self-care for Orthodox Christian Women:
The Theotokos as our Role Model"
- When to say Yes and How to Say No -

**Paraklesis Canon & Musical Presentations
followed by
Tea and Lenten Finger Foods on the Patio**

**Proceeds benefit the Endowment for
Widowed Clergy Wives.**

DATES TO KEEP IN MIND AS GREAT LENT APPROACHES...

Soul Liturgy—Sat. Feb. 22 at 9:00 a.m.

Meatfare Sunday—February 23

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

GREAT LENT BEGINS ON MONDAY, MARCH 3rd.

SERVICES IN THE FIRST WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Monday, March 3

Tues., March 4 and Thurs. March 6

Wed., March 5

Fri., March 7

Great Compline with Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Little Compline with portion of Canon of St. Andrew

Presanctified Liturgy

Akathist

WEDNESDAYS at 5:30 p.m.

AKATHISTS & PARAKLESES out in the field by the Cross

February 19

Paraklesis in the field outside by the cross

February 26

Akathist of St. John Maximovich in the Chapel
led by Young Adult Fellowship with Ice Cream
Social afterwards

SOUL LITURGIES

The Soul Saturday liturgies (Liturgies for the Departed) have a twofold meaning. The first is the remembrance of death and our departed loved ones. The second is the hope of the Resurrection. The dead live. “God is not a God of the dead, but of the living.” (Matthew 22:32) So as we pray for mercy for the living, we also pray the same for the departed, knowing that the mercy and justice of God are moved by our heartfelt prayers. These prayers are especially effective when offered in the divine liturgy where the departed are remembered at the Proskomedia (Preparation of the Gifts) and one by one placed on the paten next to the Body of Christ.

St. John of Kronstadt says about those gone before us that the “Church of the first born, whose names are written in heaven,” (Hebrews 12:25) in her love continually prays to God for us, and expressly names before God those who pray for them—equal for equal.

You can submit names to Fr. Symeon of departed loved ones to be remembered any time before the Soul liturgies on Saturday mornings.

The first Soul Saturday liturgy is this coming Saturday, February 22nd, at 9:00 a.m. If **you have submitted names in the past**, we have kept a record of them and they will be remembered at all Soul Liturgies.

All reposed members of the parish are remembered at every liturgy, including Soul Liturgies. So you do not need to submit their names. Please only submit NEW names of those OUTSIDE the parish.

Soul Liturgies will be prayed on the following Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.:

February 22
March 15
March 22
March 29

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:**

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: Glenn Elias F., Fr. Thomas F.

* **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 ti- *
* tle. Children’s books are on the bottom shelf. See Terri Speier if you are looking for jew- *
* elry such as a cross or chain. **You can contact Terri at: 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.** *

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, February 16

9:00 a.m. Matins & Catechesis
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Trisagion for Glenn Friesen & Kevin Speier
 11:30 a.m. Teen Education
 11:45 a.m. Agape Meal
 12:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal
 12:30 p.m. All-parish Meeting

Monday, February 17

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

February 18

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, February 19

7:00 a.m. Daily Readers' Matins
 11:50 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry (in the chapel)
 5:30 p.m. Paraklesis
 6:30 p.m. Parish Council Meeting

Thursday, February 20

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
 6:30 p.m. Youth Group—Both groups
 7:00 p.m. Men's Fireside (at the church)

Friday, February 21

7:00 a.m. Matins

Saturday, February 22

9:00 a.m. Soul Liturgy
 5:30 p.m. Great Vespers/ Confessions

Sunday, February 23

9:00 a.m. Matins & Catechesis
 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 11:30 a.m. Teen Education
 11:45 a.m. **MEATFARE BBQ**

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCHARIST BREAD

February 16 Jacobs
 February 23 Dillon
 March 2 Hoppe
 March 9 Morrison

READERS

February 16 Kern
 February 22 Gish (Soul Liturgy)
 February 23 Lange
 March 2 Butler
 March 2 Alexander (Forgiveness Vespers)
 March 5 Lange (Presanctified)
 March 9 Kern

GREETERS

February 16 J. & M. Worthington
 February 23 A. Ballew/N. Aviles
 March 2 G. Hoppe/B. Eberhard
 March 9 K.P. King/L. Baker

USHERS

February 16 D. Meyer/M. Loulias
 February 23 S. Speier/C. Speier
 March 2 J. King/P. King
 March 9 K.L. King/D. Alexander

AGAPE MEAL HOSTS

February 16 Team Alexander/Hedges
 February 23 **MEATFARE BBQ**
 March 2 **CHEESEFARE POTLUCK**
 March 9 Team Gish



**57TH BIENNIAL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN
Archdiocese Convention**
July 20 – 27, 2025



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**50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE UNIFICATION OF
NEW YORK AND TOLEDO
and the
120TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE WORD MAGAZINE**

- 100+ EVENTS AND MEETINGS
- CHURCH SERVICES
- ARCHDIOCESE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
- "ASK ABOUNA" ALL WEEK
- CLUB SAINT GEORGE AGES 4-12
- BIBLE BOWL
- ORATORICAL FESTIVAL
- TEEN EVENTS
- YAM EVENTS
- WORKSHOPS
- "MY KIND OF TOWN"
- ARABIAN NIGHTS DINNER AND HAFLI
- ANTIOCHIAN LEGACY BANQUET AND GRAND HAFLI

Visit

WWW.AC2025CHICAGO.ORG

*"Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her."
Luke 1:38*

THE MIRACULOUS WEeping ICON
Cicero, IL



With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan Saba, for the first time, venerate the Miraculous Weeping Icon in the hotel Chapel all week.



SCAN ME

**Contact us
Host Parish**

Saint George Antiochian
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1220 S. 60th Court
Cicero, IL 60804

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