

St. Athanasius Antiochian Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America 300 Sumida Gardens Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93111 Office hours: Tues-Fri. 12:00—5:00 p.m.

His Eminence Met. JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York & Metropolitan of all N. America

Senior Pastor:

Fr. Nicholas Speier 805-685-5495 frnicholas@stathanasius.org

Assistant Pastor:

Fr. Symeon Halsell 805-685-5400 frsymeon@stathanasius.org

Priests attached to the parish:

Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges 805-968-1903 (Chaplain)
Fr. John Carrillo 805-770-3749 (retired)
Fr. John Finley (Archdiocese Dept. of Missions)

Deacons:

Dn. Gary Braun
Dn. Scott Jacobs
Dn. Richard Easbey (retired)
Dn. John Young (retired)
Subdeacons: Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

Music Director/Administrator:

Valerie Yova Office phone: 805-685-5400 email: office@stathanasius.org

Teen Program Coordinator Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com College/Young Adult Coordinator

Mitchell Denny: mitchdennyjr@gmail.com

Parish Council 2019-2020: Kristi King, President

Dan Braun, Treasurer Terri Speier, Secretary Dorothy Alexander Laurie Baker Corina Berari Mary Denny David Dillon Zak Landrum

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRSOSTOM

Sunday, December 6, 2020 Tone 1 / Eothinon 4 Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycia & Tenth Sunday of Luke

Nicholas, Bishop of Patara; New-martyr Nicholas of Karamania in Asia Minor



We welcome children of all ages in our worship.

"Let the little children come unto Me for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Luke 18:16

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 6—ST. NICHOLAS NO RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES

9:00 a.m. Matins

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Monday, December 7

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins 5:00 p.m. Akathist by Zoom

Tuesday, December 8

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, December 9

CONCEPTION OF THEOTOKOS

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins
12:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Ministry

6:00 p.m. Advent Paraklesis

Thursday, December 10

9:00 a.m.-Noon Showers of Blessing 7:45 a.m. Akathist by Zoom 5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

6:00 p.m. Jr. High Youth Group 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group

Friday, December 11

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins

Saturday, December 12—ST. SPYRIDON

4:30 p.m. Adult Orthodox Study 6:00 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

Sunday, December 13

SUN. OF FOREFATHERS OF CHRIST NO RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES

9:00 a.m. Matins

10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCHARIST BREAD

Dec. 6 Jacobs
Dec. 13 Sieck
Dec. 20 Kern
Dec. 24 Hedges

Dec. 27 D. Washburn

READERS

Dec. 6 Rdr. J. Butler Dec. 13 D. Washburn

Dec. 19 D. Alexander (Vespers)

Dec. 20 M. Braun Dec. 24 Rdr. J. Butler Dec. 27 Rdr. V. Gish

USHERS

Dec. 6
Dec. 13
Dec. 20
C. Berari, D. Meyer
C. Speier, S. Speier
D. Washburn, M. Loulias

Dec. 27 P. King, J. King

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 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.

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

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.

Tone 4 **Troparion to St. Nicholas of Myra (Music on back of this booklet)**

You appeared to your flock as a rule of faith,

An image of humility and a teacher of abstinence.

Because of your lowliness, heaven was opened to you;

Because of your poverty, riches were granted to you.

O holy bishop Nicholas, pray to Christ our God to save our souls.

Troparion to St. Athanasius

Tone 3

Holy Bishop Athanasius,

you became a stronghold of Orthodoxy,

strengthening the Church through your divine teachings.

Opposing the heretical opinion of Arius,

you explained and taught that the Son is equal in nature with the Father.

O holy Father, intercede with Christ God that He may grant us abundant mercy.

Kontakion for the Preparation of Christ's Nativity

Tone 3

The virgin cometh today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth, at the message; with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him Who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

TRISAGION (THRICE-HOLY) HYMN

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.

Introductory Psalm Verses [Prokeimenon]

Tone 7

Chanter: Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of all His saints.

Verse: What shall I render to the Lord for all that He has given me?

EPISTLE READING

(For St. Nicholas) **Hebrews 13:17-21**

Brethren, obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account. Let them do this joyfully, and not sadly, for that would be of no advantage to you. Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. I urge you the more earnestly to do this in order that I may be restored to you the sooner. Now may the God of peace Who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Alleluia before the Gospel

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Verse: It is God Who avenges me, and subdues people under me. (*Ps 17/18:47*) **Verse:** He gives great deliverance to His King, and shows mercy to His anointed.

to David and his seed forever. (Ps 17/18:50)

GOSPEL READING Luke 13:10-17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, He called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." And He laid His hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrite! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As Jesus said this, all His adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by Him.

HOMILY

Meglynarion—Hymn to the Mother of God

It is truly meet to bless you, O Theotokos, ever blessed and most pure and the Mother of our God. More honorable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim. Without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*) The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. (*Ps 111/112:6*) Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Tone 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE LENDING LIBRARY TEAM

The library is coming soon! As the library team works to get the system up and running, you may notice that there are finally books going on the shelves. Please do not take or move library books from the shelves until we are finished processing them! We will make an announcement when it is all ready to go. Thank you for your patience and for all the generous donations that have made this project possible.

ON SATURDAYS AT 4:30 p.m., ALL ADULTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AN OR-THODOX STUDY GROUP.

UPCOMING TOPICS for ORTHODOX STUDY GROUP

Dec. 12 The Divine Services: Entering Heavenly Realities

Dec. 19 Incarnation: God became man so that man could become god.

- THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES UNTIL FUR-THER NOTICE.
- **ORTHODOX LIFE IN KENYA: The Impact of Missions**

Join OCMC for a livestream webinar series on Thursday, Dec. 10th. Topics include the "Effects of Dependency," "Response to Change," and "Education and Liturgical Needs." Preregister by email at: orthodoxkenya18@gmail.com

LITURGICAL CALENDAR — LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesdays, December 9 and 16 at 6:00 p.m. Advent Paraklesis

Thursday, December 24

9:00—11:00 a.m. **Royal Hours of Nativity**

8:00—10:15 p.m. Nativity of our Lord—Matins & Liturgy

Thursday, December 31 at 6:00 p.m. Vesperal Liturgy for St. Basil

and Feast of Circumcision

CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

12/11 Dn. Richard & June Easbey

12/12 Dn. Scott & Karen Jacobs, Fr. Jon-Stephen & Melissa Hedges

Birthdays

12/9 Teri Lynn Palmer, Jesse Speier

Patronal Feast Days

12/6 St. Nicholas the Wonderworker Nicholas Berari, Nicole Berari, Nicholas Butler,

Nikolay Nikolov, Fr. Nicholas Speier,

Nikolai Rice

12/9 Hannah, Mother of the Prophet Samuel
 12/10 St. Angelina of Serbia
 Hannah Sieck
 Angelina Speier

SAFETY PROTOCOLS UPDATE

Metropolitan Joseph has given us a blessing to continue to do our services inside the nave. The Parish Council asks the members of the parish to adhere to the following:

- During services, please maintain at least 6 ft. of distance on all sides, including in the Communion line, and wear a mask that covers both YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE. (Families may sit together but should have six feet of space in front and behind them.
- The Sunday Divine Liturgy is being broadcast in the hallway and on the patio for overflow crowd and for those who are not comfortable sitting inside the nave.
- There will be no COFFEE HOUR for now. Please do not linger inside the building after the services unless you are buying something from the Bookstore.

Blessings to you this Advent season!

Since our beginnings in Isla Vista, our parish has made helping our houseless neighbors a high priority. In recent years St. Athanasius Church has hosted the **Showers of Blessing**, a mobile shower truck that sets up once a week in our parking lot, providing hot showers and warm smiles for our local unhoused community members. Several St. Athanasius volunteers and I have worked closely with the Showers for several years, seeing firsthand the blessing which this project has been to those in need. **Please prayerfully consider making the Showers of Blessing one of the community organizations you support this Advent.**

May God bless you, and our dear neighbors.

Fr. Nicholas



PO Box 1135, Goleta CA 93116

November, 2020

Dear Friend and Neighbor,

Executive Director

John Tamiazzo

Because of the kindness and generosity of remarkable people like you, Showers of

Development Dir. Nancy Shobe

Blessing Santa Barbara has been able to provide compassionate services for the most vulnerable and fragile individuals in our community.

Site Coordinator Wade Volk

Our extraordinary staff and dedicated volunteers have been doing this one day at a time for over six years and continue to provide the Showers program during this pandemic. Of course, we take great care in making certain our guests, staff, and volunteers wear masks and all necessary protective gear to create a safe and welcoming environment. And through it all, they give with extraordinary kindness.

What does it cost Showers of Blessing in a year to provide one site for our houseless guests? \$40,000. Multiply that by five sites and it costs \$200,000 a year. This cost includes Showers' staff, soap, sanitizers, toiletries, underwear, socks, bottles of water, vehicle maintenance, and fuel, but does not include administrative salaries.

Board Members: Ed Bastian

Anita Blume Sally Hamilton

Kim Holmquist Marty Jelnkins

Howard Lange Mick Mathis

Wayne Mellinger Barbara Morais

Brenda Powell Ken Ralph

Russ Sheppel Melinda Staveley Showers of Blessing is completely donor supported and therefore relies on contributions from thoughtful and compassionate people like you who foster the mission of providing comfort, respect, dignity, and guidance for our houseless guests.

Please visit our website at showersofblessingiv.org to make your donation or send it back in the envelope provided.

Your continued financial assistance extends loving hands to the most vulnerable

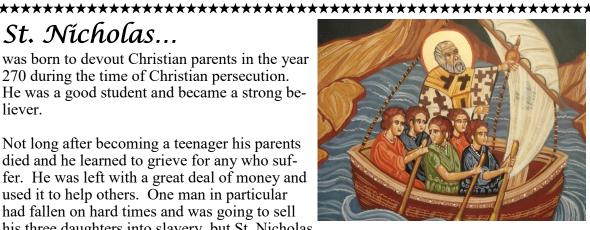
members in Santa Barbara community. Thank You!

Sally Hamilton, Board President John Tamiazzo, Executive Director

St. Nicholas...

was born to devout Christian parents in the year 270 during the time of Christian persecution. He was a good student and became a strong believer.

Not long after becoming a teenager his parents died and he learned to grieve for any who suffer. He was left with a great deal of money and 🕏 used it to help others. One man in particular had fallen on hard times and was going to sell his three daughters into slavery, but St. Nicholas



secretly gave him gold coins so that the three daughters would have dowries and could marry.

St. Nicholas soon became a priest who loved and cared for God's people. Once on a boat trip to Jerusalem, he was caught in a storm. He prayed to the Lord that the sea be still and the storm subsided. Soon he was made Bishop of Myra through the leading of God, but was imprisoned for his beliefs early in his ministry as Bishop.

In 313 the persecution of Christians ceased, Christianity became legal, and the church grew rapidly. In 325 a special council was called in Nicaea where St. Nicholas struck the heretic Arius and was put in prison. Here he was visited by Jesus and Mary who freed him from his chains and he was then released.

As Bishop, St. Nicholas miraculously helped many. He saved three innocent men from execution, three generals from prison, and the Province of Lycia from famine.

After St. Nicholas' death a large church was built in Myra to contain his body. Many miracles have happened as a result of prayers to St. Nicholas. He has been particularly helpful to sailors, young married women, prisoners, children, merchants and students.

A PRAYER FOR ADVENT

Lord, Jesus Christ, at your holy birth You deemed a lowly cave to be a fit dwelling place, so in Your mercy make our souls and bodies temples worthy to contain You, the uncontainable God. And as we make our Advent journey, open our ears to heed the prophets' warning to "Prepare the way of the Lord!"

For we glorify you along with the angels and shepherds, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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:

Kh. Erin K. Metropolitan JOSEPH Cole K. (military) Nina Mother Victoria Jeremiah H. (Airforce Academy) Dasha Met. Paul & Abp. John Lauren & Fernando J. (military) Wendy R. Fr. Jacob Chase K. (military) Bev R. Mother Christophora Nick & Kristine J. (military) Phyllis M. Fr. Jon B. Steve T, Joseph B. Olga Marie G. Dn. Richard E. Dn. John Y. The Ethiopian Orthodox Church Glenn F. Kh. Diane C. The Church & people in Lebanon Greg & Margaret Y. Mitch D. Sr. Hoppe Family in Albania Michael K. All those suffering and David W. Joseph Wm. B. in Kenya in danger in Ukraine, Duane F. Dn. Gary B. Africa, and the Middle East Richard and Susan B. Harvey G. Monsignor J. Yanek Stephen B. Please pray for the raising up and Kent F. Kris F. support of long-term missionaries from Dn. Gary B. Bob N. our parish. Fr. Jon-Stephen H. David D. Anneli C.

For repose of the souls of:

Met. Maximos, Jim R., Zac B., Hilda, Robert M.

All who have died in the conflicts in Ukraine Africa & the Middle East Those who lost their lives in the explosion in Lebanon

*********************** ST. ATHANASIUS CHURCH BOOKSTORE ****** * * The church bookstore is located in the foyer of the fellowship hall - two enclosed cabinets containing items that are FOR SALE. One cabinet holds icons, crosses, incense, prayer ropes, etc. The bookshelf has books for sale, arranged alphabetically by book title. Children's books ** are on the bottom shelf. See Terri Speier if you are looking for jewelry such as a cross or ** chain. Payment should be made at time of purchase and placed in brown lockbox on wall next ** to Fr. Nicholas' office. Make checks payable to S.A.O.C. Bookstore. (The pamphlets in the rack are FREE, as are the 12-month liturgical calendars.) * ※ All proceeds go to the parish Building Fund. ※



