



ST. ATHANASIUS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

300 Sumida Gardens Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Office hours: Tues-Fri. 12:00—5:00 p.m.

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

Senior Pastor:

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

Assistant Pastor:

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

Priests attached to the parish:

Fr. John Carrillo 805-770-3749 (retired)
Fr. Jon Braun (retired)
Fr. John Finley (Archdiocese Dept. of Missions)

Deacons:

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

Subdeacons: Stephen Butler & Michael Easbey

Music Director/Administrator:

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

Teen Program Coordinator

Subdn. Michael Easbey: measbey@gmail.com

College/Young Adult Coordinator

Mitchell Denny: mitchdennyjr@gmail.com

Parish Council 2021-2022:

Laurie Baker, President
Dan Braun, Treasurer
Terri Speier, Secretary
Dorothy Alexander
Mary Denny
David Dillon
Glenn Hoppe
Lara Jacobs
Zak Landrum

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Sunday, December 26, 2021

Tone 2 / Eothinon 5

**Synaxis of the Most Holy Theotokos &
Sunday after the Nativity of Christ**

Commemoration of Joseph the Betrothed, David the
Prophet and King, and James the brother of God



WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS!

We are glad you are with us this morning.
Please join us on the patio after the Liturgy for Coffee Hour.
We'd love to meet you!

We welcome children of all ages in our worship.

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

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 26

9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and Prayer for
the souls of infants who have died
in childbirth, through abortion, or
shortly after birth (in commemoration
of the 14,000 Holy Innocents slain by
Herod in Bethlehem. January 29)
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour

Monday, December 27

1st MARTYR & 1st DEACON STEPHEN

6:45 a.m. Daily Matins
5:00 p.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry—Akathist
by Zoom
7:00 p.m. Men's Fireside

Tuesday, December 28

5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers

Wednesday, December 29

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

Thursday, December 30

7:45 a.m. St. Xenia Prayer Ministry by Zoom
10:00 a.m. Showers of Blessing
3:30 p.m. Catechesis Level I
5:30 p.m. Daily Vespers
6:00 p.m. Youth Group Xmas Party
6:15 p.m. Parish Council Dinner

Friday, December 31

6:00 p.m. Vespers-Liturgy for Feasts of
St. Basil and Circumcision of Christ

Saturday, January 1—ST. BASIL/CIRCUMCISION HAPPY NEW YEAR!

6:00 p.m. Great Vespers/Confessions

Sunday, January 2—ST SERAPHIM

NO RELIGIOUS ED. CLASSES

9:00 a.m. Matins
10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
11:45 a.m. Coffee Hour
1:00 p.m. Blessing of graves/Goleta Cemetery

SUNDAY MORNING MINISTRIES SCHEDULE

EUCCHARIST BREAD

December 24 Kern
December 26 Tinyayeva
January 2 Fr. Nicholas
January 9 Meyer
January 16 Dn. G. Braun

READERS

December 26 D. Washburn
December 31 Rdr. M. Kern(Vesp-Liturgy)
January 2 Rdr. H. Lange
January 6 TBA (Theophany Liturgy 8:30am)
January 9 Rdr. V. Gish
January 16 D. Washburn

GREETERS

December 26 G. & L. Hoppe
January 2 H. Lange/D. Washburn
January 9 K. Fox/D. Lewis
January 16 L. Baker/C. Fisher

USHERS

December 26 C. Berari/D. Alexander
January 2 P. King/J. King
January 9 D. Meyer/M. Loulias
January 16 D. Washburn/K.L. King

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

December 26 **CHRISTMAS POTLUCK**
January 2 McCalmont
January 9 King Family
January 16 Celebration for Fr. Nicholas

THURSDAY SHOWERS OF BLESSING HOSPITALITY TEAM

December 30 ALL HANDS ON DECK
January 6 D. Alexander/D. Washburn
January 13 F. Young/S. Saunders
January 20 L. Ballew/D. Franzen

HOLY COMMUNION

In the Orthodox Church, the sacrament of Communion is offered only to Christians who are baptized in the name of the Trinity and chrismated into the Orthodox Faith. Non-Orthodox believers **may approach the chalice for a blessing and the blessed bread instead of the Eucharist**. So that the priest is aware of this, please just say,
“Father, bless” when you get to the chalice.

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

THE DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

THE GREAT LITANY

First Antiphon for the Feast of the Nativity of Christ (*Ps. 111*)

Verse: I will give thanks to Thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will make all Thy wonders known. In the company of the upright, in the congregation, great are the works of the Lord!

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Verse: They are sought out according to His will. Full of honor and majesty is His work, and His righteousness endures forever. **[Refrain]**

Verse: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **[Refrain]**

Second Antiphon for the Feast of the Nativity of Christ (*Ps. 112*)

Verse: Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His commandments. His descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

Refrain: O Son of God, born of the Virgin, save us who sing to Thee: Alleluia!

Verse: Glory and wealth are in his house and his righteousness endures forever. **[Refrain]**

Verse: Light rises in the darkness for the upright; the Lord is merciful, compassionate and righteous. **[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 for the Feast of the Nativity of Christ*(Ps. 110)*

Chanter: The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand, until I make Thine enemies Thy footstool.”

All:
Thy Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore Thee,
the Sun of righteousness,
and to know Thee, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

Chanter: The Lord will send Thee the scepter of power from Zion: “Rule in the midst of Thine enemies.”

People: Thy nativity, O Christ our God...

Chanter: With Thee is dominion on the day of Thy birth, in the radiance of holiness.

People: Thy nativity, O Christ our God...

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

Troparion of the Resurrection

Tone 2

(Music on p. 42 of Liturgy book)

When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death,
O Thou deathless and immortal One,
then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly pow’r,
and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth,
all the pow’rs of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee.
O Christ, Thou art the Giver of life, Glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Nativity of Christ**Tone 4**

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God,
hath given rise to the Light of knowledge in the world,
for they who did worship the stars
did learn from them to worship Thee, O Sun of Justice,
and to know that Thou didst come from the east of the Highest.
Glory to Thee O Lord!

Troparion for Sunday after Nativity of Christ**Tone 2**

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph,
to David, the ancestor of God;
You saw a Virgin great with child;
You gave glory with the shepherds;
You worshipped with the Magi;
You received the news from the Angel.
Pray to Christ 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 Nativity of Christ**Tone 8**

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One.
Angels with shepherds glorify Him;
The wise men journey with the star,
since for our sakes the eternal God is born as a little child!

ANTI-TRISAGION

As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (3 times)
Glory to the Father & to the Son & to the Holy Spirit, now & ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.
(Repeat: As many...)

Prokeimenon—Preparatory Psalm Verses before the Epistle**Tone 4**

God is wonderful in His Saints, the God of Israel.

Verse: In the churches bless ye God the Lord, from the
Fountains of Israel.

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 1:11-19

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

Preparatory Psalm Verses with Alleluia Refrain Before the Gospel **Tone 2** (Music on page 64 of Liturgy Booklet)

Chanter: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Verse: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble!
 May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! (Ps 19/20:1)

Verse: O Lord, save the King in the day we call on Thee! (Ps 19/20:9)

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:13-23

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent forth and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more."

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

LITURGY OF THE FAITHFUL

Meglynarion for the Feast of the Nativity—Hymn to the Mother of God

O my soul, magnify her who is more hon'orable and who is more glorious than the heav'nly host. A mystery I behold which is strange and wondrous, the cave is heav'n, and the virgin is the throne of the Cherubim, in the confines of the manger is laid the infinite, Christ our god, whom we praise and magnify.

Communion of the Clergy (Liturgy Book page 32)

The Lord has sent redemption to His people, Alleluia!

After Communion, instead of singing “We have seen the true light”, we sing the Festal Troparion: “Thy Nativity, O Christ our God...”

Thanksgiving Prayers after Communion

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, we offer the prayers of thanksgiving for having received the Body and Blood of Christ. These beautiful prayers help us to reflect on the mystery in which we have just partaken, and prepare us for our transition back into the “world.” We invite you to listen to these beautiful prayers during and after the veneration of the cross at the end of the service, and **ask that you show courtesy to those who are remaining to hear the prayers in their entirety by waiting until Coffee Hour to socialize.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR...

Pre-Lenten Seminar

Saturday, February 26, 2022 10:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

at St. Athanasius Orthodox Church

“The Crucifixion of the King of Glory”

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

Presvytera/Dr. Jeannie Constantinou

Based on her new book, due out in April 2022

Catch Dr. Jeannie on her live podcast — “Search the Scriptures”
on Ancient Faith Radio on Mondays at 5:00 p.m.

All of the shows are archived on Ancient Faith:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MEN'S FIRESIDE will be tomorrow, Monday, December 27th at 7 p.m. at the home of Mike Loulias and Penny Cocores.

OUR CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION AT THE SHOWERS OF BLESSING got postponed due to rain. We are still accepting donated MITTENS, GLOVES and BLANKETS UNTIL THIS WEDNESDAY, December 29th. Thanks to all who have already contributed items for this project!

LOOKING AHEAD...UPCOMING FEASTS & SPECIAL SERVICES

Friday, December 31 at 6:00 p.m.—Vesperal Liturgy for St. Basil/Feast of the Circumcision

Sunday, January 2 at 1:00 p.m.—Blessing of the Graves at Goleta Cemetery

THEOPHANY

Wednesday, January 5 at 9:00 a.m.—Royal Hours of Theophany

Thursday, January 6

7:30 a.m.—Festal Matins of Theophany

8:30 a.m.—Festal Divine Liturgy of Epiphany, Blessing of the Water

Sunday, January 9 at 1:00 p.m. — Outdoor Blessing of the Water at the Yacht Club

PRAY FOR US, FR. JON-STEPHEN!

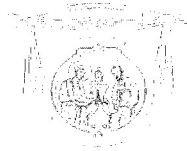
Many of us remember that Fr. Jon-Stephen Hedges used to stand at the table on the right side of the church in the front after most Divine Liturgies and pray for anyone needing extra prayer and anointing.

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

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



His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York &
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Nativity 2021

From the heights our Savior, Christ, the Dayspring of the East, is come to visit us. And behold! we, who once were in the shadow and the dark, have now found the truth. For from a holy Virgin, the Lord hath been born today.

—The Exapostelation of the Nativity of Christ

CHRIST IS BORN! GLORIFY HIM!

Even today, the light of Christ comes to warm and brighten a world haunted by spiritual shadow and darkness. His birth is celebrated each year as a joyful reminder that God has not abandoned us. In the person of His Son, He visited us in our wounded human condition, and He visits us still. Like a spiritual Sun, He rises each day to enlighten our minds, warm our hearts, and energize our spirits. As we glorify His descent into our midst, may each of us find healing, guidance, and help, in the bright rays of His love.

With prayers and best wishes for a most joyous feast, I remain,

Yours in the service of Christ,

+JOSEPH
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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CELEBRATIONS THIS WEEK

Wedding Anniversaries

12/27 Fr. Symeon & Kh.Cayce-Marie Halsell
 12/31 Penny and Michael Loulias

Birthdays

12/26 Jerry Jones
 12/29 Karen Jacobs, Ruslan Moskalyk, Tyler Speier
 1/1 Nikolay Nikolov

Patronal Feast Days

Sunday after the Nativity of Christ

St. Joseph the Betrothed Dn. Scott Jacobs

King David

David Dillon, Jon King, David Lewis, David McCalmont, Jared Speier, David Washburn

St. James, the Brother of Jesus James Arnold, Richard Barre, Jim Morrison

12/27	Protomartyr Stephen-	Subdn. Stephen Butler, Steve Thomas
1/1	St. Gregory of Nazianzus	Glenn Hoppe
1/1	St. Emmelia, Mother of St. Basil	Amelia Rose Macdonald

FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT—January-November, 2021

Goal for Tithes January-November, 2021	\$ 458,333
Actual Tithes January-November, 2021	\$ 493,060

Building Fund Goal for Jan.-November, 2021	\$ 155,320
Actual Building Fund donations Jan.-November, 2021	\$ 124,964

2021 GOLF TOURNAMENT — \$140,000 for the Temple Fund!

Monthly tithe goal = \$41,667

Tithes received per month:

January	\$37,625	May	\$50,358	September	\$44,021
February	\$46,485	June	\$47,493	October	\$53,576
March	\$59,535	July	\$50,714	November	\$29,359
April	\$47,921	August	\$25,973		

We prepared for a significant deficit when planning the budget for this year due to having two full-time priests on staff. Thanks to your generosity, lower operating costs than expected, and a government Payroll Protection grant of \$55,700, we only had a deficit of **\$7,800** as of the end of November.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayer requests received through the parish office will be printed in the bulletin and will be prayed for during the litanies at the daily services. Prayer requests received in the box at the church will be prayed for quietly at the altar at all services. Prayer requests remain for 40 days unless requested otherwise.

Send prayer requests for the bulletin to: office@stathanasius.org.

Please pray for the health of:

Metropolitan JOSEPH
Mother Victoria
Met. Paul & Abp. John
Fr. Markos
Fr. Jon B.
Dn. Richard E.
Kh. Diane C.
Greg & Margaret Y.
Hoppe Family in Albania
Joseph Wm. B. in Kenya
Duane F.
Richard and Susan B.
Monsignor J. Yanek
Bob N.
Kh. Melissa H.
Cole K. (military)
Jeremiah H. (Airforce Academy)
Lauren & Fernando J. (military)
Chase K. (military)

Nick & Kristine J. (military)
Connor V. (military)
Steve T.
Bev R.
Phyllis M.
Scott L.
Abp. Benjamin
Kris F.
Temmo K.
Sarah B.
Coleman Family (Lori, Abby, Matt)
Jerry J.
Chuck S.
Mat. Trudi & Richter Family
Linda Gish & Family
Kevin F.
Debbie S.

Steve H.
David L.
Joanne R.
James A.
Dn. John & Fay Y.
Zachary B.

The Ethiopian Orthodox Church
The Church & people in Lebanon
All those suffering and
in danger in Ukraine,
Africa, and the Middle East

Please pray for the raising up and support of long-term missionaries from our parish.

For repose of the souls of: Archpriest Nicholas N. ,Tom W., Fr. Thomas L, Maureen W.

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.
