

BULLETIN – Ss. ATHANASIOS & CYRIL, PATRIARCHS OF ALEXANDRIA

ChurchOffice@ssppaoc.org ♦ (831) 336-2228 ♦ Office hours: 9 am-1 pm, Mon.-Thurs.

Father's office hours: 9 am-3 pm, Mon.-Thurs. or by appt. ♦ (805) 708-6066 ♦

frchristopherdillon@gmail.com

Bulletin Submissions Deadline – 10 am Wed. ♦ church website: <https://ssppaoc.org>

Ss Peter & Paul Mission: preserve, practice, and proclaim the Gospel of our Lord, God, & Savior Jesus Christ in order to glorify God in the parish and wider community.

This Week @ Ss. Peter & Paul -
January 19-25, 2026

- 1/19 Mo 5:30 pm – Adult Choir rehearsal
- 1/20 Tu 8:00 am – Divine Liturgy for **Euthymius the Great**
- 1/21 Wd 6:00 pm –Vespers
7:00 pm – Parish Council
- 1/22 Th 7:00 am – Men's Reading Group
- 1/24 Sa 9:00 am – Women's Book Study
6:00 pm – Great Vespers & Litia
- 1/25 Su 8:20 am – Orthros
9:30 am – Divine Liturgy – **Gregory the Theologian**
10:20 am – Church School Catechism
Adult Choir rehearsal in the church office
2:00 pm – Community Diner

Looking ahead –
January 27 Morning Akathist for Healing
January 28 Morning Divine Liturgy
Paraklesis
January 31 AAF

Lenten Triodion Begins
February 1 Sunday of the Pharisee & Publican

Transfer of the Feast of the Presentation of Christ
Barn Game Night

February 8 Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Catechism

February 10 Morning Divine Liturgy

February 14 Morning Divine Liturgy

February 15 Sunday of the Last Judgement (Meatfare)

Meatfare BBQ

February 18 Morning Divine Liturgy

Parish Council

February 19 Akathist to Jesus & Koffee w/Khouria

.....
Many Years – Birthday

Rdr. Nikodemos

January 18

Stephen and Amanda Baillie

January 18
.....

HOUSE BLESSINGS

Neighborhood blessings will continue on Sunday afternoons. If you are not available for your neighborhood blessing, call the church to schedule an individual weekday/weeknight house blessing on **Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday**. House blessings should be completed before the Lenten Triodion begins on February 1.

COMMUNITY DINNER

Sunday, January 25

2:00 pm

Donations of non-perishable food items, money, and helpers to make and distribute the dinner needed.

Leave food items in the parish hall kitchen or industrial refrigerator marked for Community Dinner, **not the residential refrigerator**. To volunteer, contact Marc Sacoolas @ (408) 334-1924.

July 1-5, 2026
At the Marriott Marquis San Diego
Marina
Hosted by St. George Church
San Diego, CA

House Blessings

Why do we bless homes?

We spend a good amount of time in our homes. Some work from home, raise children, study, pray, eat meals, and sleep. We want these activities to take place in a blessed context. As Christ sanctified the waters of the Jordan by his presence, we bless our homes with holy water to cleanse it from anything evil or sinful.

I had my home blessed last year. Why does it need to be blessed again?

Throughout the year we think, say, and do things that are sinful in our home. These things tarnish the purity of the home, in addition to ourselves. Some did not have their homes blessed last year which means they are especially in need of God's blessing and purity. If your home has never been blessed (especially if you moved or you are new to Orthodoxy), there is a special blessing that is done. Please let the priest know if this applies.

What do I need to do before the priest arrives?

It is customary to pick up around the home before the priest arrives. This not only allows a clear path to walk through the house, but also allows all the surfaces to be blessed. If you are able, have a small surface near your icon corner where the priest can set Holy Water, a candle, and cross. You may have a cloth and your own candle set-up if you like.

The service text for the house blessings can be found at this link:

<http://www.dowama.org/sites/docs/TheophanyHouseBlessing.PDF>

Holy Water

Holy water is that water which is blessed on the Feast of Theophany, the celebration of Christ's baptism in the Jordan, blessing the waters (and all of creation) by His presence therein.

On Theophany, the faithful bring Holy Water containers to fill and take home. It is sprinkled and consumed "for the purification of the souls and bodies of all those who, with faith, shall draw and partake of it," "that Satan may speedily be crushed under our feet, and that every evil counsel directed against us may be brought to naught," and to "illumine us with the light of understanding and of piety, and with the descent of the Holy Spirit." (*service of the Blessing of the Waters, Feast of Theophany*)

Holy Water is kept in the church so that the faithful may use it, for healing and strength in the case of illness or dealing with struggles in life, especially of a spiritual nature. The Holy Water in the church is also available to replenish your home containers. **Whether at home or at church, Holy Water should always be consumed with prayer.** Holy Water should be kept in a container set apart and dedicated for that purpose.

St. Luke of Crimea advised, "Drink holy water as often as possible. It is the best and the most effective medicine. I'm saying that not just as a priest but also from experience as a doctor."

+Fr Christopher

6:00 am January 28

Divine Liturgy – Ephraim & Isaac
the Syrians

Memory Eternal

January 18	Jessica Brees
January 19	Stuart Brink
January 20	Elizabeth Union

8:00 am January 20

Divine Liturgy – Euthymius the
Great

Diocese of Los Angeles & the West
Parish Life Conference (PLC)