

## Announcements

- ❖ **Please do not forget to submit your Stewardship Commitment Card for 2015!**
- ❖ Our monthly bulletin, *The Epistle*, is available on the parish website and via email. Visit our **website** [www.saintbarbara.net](http://www.saintbarbara.net) and sign up if you would like to keep up to date with what is happening in our Parish.

## Religious Education

- ❖ **Studies in the Faith, Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm in the Orthodox Center!** We will be discussing “Sacrifice in the Old and New Testaments.”
- ❖ **Bible Study, Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm.** We will be continuing our study of the book of Revelation.

## Parish Activities

- ❖ **Vasilopita cutting is today following Liturgy in the Orthodox Center.**
- ❖ **The Parish Council will be taking the Oath of Office today after the Liturgy service.**
- ❖ **The Epiphany Celebration will be on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at Goleta Beach** with St. Athanasius Orthodox Church at **Goleta Beach for the “Diving for the Cross” Service at 1:00 pm.**

## Philoptochos/Metropolis Activities

- ❖ **2015 Icon Calendars** are here! See a Philoptochos member to buy one!

## This Week's Servers

Epistle Readers:      Greek:      Alex Trigonis  
                                 English:      Jackson Kwiatkowski

Ushers:              Bessie Condos, Art Markos

Prosfora:            Bessie Condos

Coffee Hour:      Dr. Robert Forinash in memory of his wife, Rosalie

## Modified Fast This Week

On Monday and Friday of this week, we observe a strict fast and abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil. On Wednesday, we fast from meat and dairy with fish, wine and oil permitted.



## *Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church*

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We welcome you to Saint Barbara Greek Orthodox Church and are blessed that you have come to our worship service. We hope that this worship experience is both enlightening and inspirational. Each Sunday is the day in which we commemorate the Resurrection of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. The Christian Orthodox Church is the Church of the Resurrection and we rejoice in the Lord's triumph over death.

If you are a visitor to our Parish we encourage you to follow the Divine Liturgy book to assist you in following the Liturgy. Please understand that the Christian Orthodox Church does not practice inter-communion with other Christian denominations. Though we may share a common belief in the Holy Trinity, our churches are not yet one in faith and practice. We believe that Holy Communion is not the means to Christian unity but it is in fact the fullest expression of that unity. We fervently pray for this unity as noted in every divine service of the Orthodox Church. Please do not approach for Holy Communion if you are not a baptized/chrisdated Orthodox Christian. Feel free to contact Father Simon if you desire to learn more about the Christian Orthodox Church, the Church of the New Testament.

We would like to remind all Orthodox Christians to be spiritually prepared and in proper canonical standing with the Church in order to partake of the Holy Eucharist.

## THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS

On this, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of the month of January, we commemorate: the Synaxis of the Holy and glorious 70 Apostles; the devout Saint Theoktistos, the Abbot of Koukouma in Sicily, reposed in peace; the Holy 6 Martyrs reposed in peace; the Holy Martyrs Zosimas the Monk and Athanasios the Notary; the devout Apollinaria the Senator; the Holy Martyrs Chrysanthos and Ephimia, who was close to the Holy Martyr Akakios; the holy New-Martyr Onuphrios, who witnessed on Chios in the year 1818.

By the intercessions of Your Saints, O God, have mercy and save us. Amen

***Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015***  
***Sunday before Epiphany***

**Hymn for the Resurrection (*Fifth Tone*)**

O Faithful, let us sing a hymn of praise and worship to the Logos, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, who was born of the Virgin for our salvation. Of His own will He went upon the Cross in the flesh and suffered death, to raise the dead through His glorious Resurrection.

**Hymn for the Forefeast of Theophany (*Fourth Tone*)**

Make ready, Zebulon, and prepare, Nephtali! And you, Jordan River, stop your flow and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized. And you, Adam, rejoice with the first mother, Eve, and do not hide as you did of old in Paradise: for Christ at the sight of your nakedness has come forth to clothe you with the robe of innocence. Indeed, Christ has come forth to renew the whole creation.

**Hymn for Saint Barbara (*Fourth Tone*)**

Let us honor Saint Barbara; for the all-modest one prevailed over the snares of the enemy, and was freed from them as a sparrow, with the Cross as aid and weapon.

**Kontakion for the Forefeast of Epiphany (*Fourth Tone*)**

To the flowing streams today of River Jordan comes the Lord and cries aloud to John the Baptist, and He says, "Be not afraid to baptize me now; for I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man."

***Gospel Reading- Mark 1:1-8***

The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who shall prepare your way; the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And there went out to him all the country of Judea, and all the people of Jerusalem; and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, and had a leather girdle around his waist, and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

***Epistle Reading- 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy 4:5-8***

Timothy, my son, always be steady, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

***Memorial Service***

A memorial service will be prayed this morning for the handmaid of God, **Rosalie Ann Forinash (7 years)**, wife of Dr. Robert Forinash.

***This Week's Schedule***

**Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, Sunday before Epiphany**

- ❖ Orthros, 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am
- ❖ Sunday school
- ❖ Parish Council Oath of Office
- ❖ Vasilopita cutting

**Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, Forefeast of Epiphany**

- ❖ Royal Hours, 8:00 am
- ❖ Divine Liturgy, 9:30 am
- ❖ Blessing of the Waters, 10:30 am

**Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, Epiphany**

- ❖ Orthros, 8:00 am
- ❖ Divine Liturgy, 9:00 am
- ❖ Blessing of the Waters, 10:00 am
- ❖ Philoptochos Board Meeting
- ❖ Studies in the Faith class, 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, Feast of St. John the Baptist**

- ❖ Orthros, 8:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 9:00 am

**Thursday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

- ❖ VIP Lunch/Meeting, 12 noon, Cody's Café

**Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

- ❖ Youth Vespers and Bowling Night, 6:00 pm

**Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Saint Luke**

- ❖ Orthros, 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy, 10:00 am
- ❖ Sunday school/Youth Choir
- ❖ Philoptochos Meeting
- ❖ Blessing of the Waters/Diving for the Cross, 1:00 pm, Goleta Beach