

Announcements

- ❖ **Summer Hours:** Orthros 8:30 am; Divine Liturgy, 9:30 am.
- ❖ **Please submit your Stewardship Commitment Card for 2015!** Cards are available in the Narthex and the Church Office.
- ❖ 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 Activities

- ❖ **The Small Paraklesis Service will be celebrated on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from August 1st through August 13th.** This service is a supplication service to the Most Holy Theotokos for the health of our souls and bodies, in preparation for the Feast of her Dormition on August 15th. These services will begin at 6 p.m.

Parish Activities

- ❖ **The Santa Barbara Greek Festival Continues Today, July 27th at Oak Park!** Please enjoy the Festival!
- ❖ **Monday, July 28th, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 pm, Festival Clean up at Oak Park and Saint Barbara's.**

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, August 2nd, 9th Sunday of Saint Matthew

- ❖ **Orthros, 8:00 am**
- ❖ **Divine Liturgy, 9:00 am**
- ❖ Greek Festival at Oak Park, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Monday, August 3rd

- ❖ Festival Setup, Oak Park
- ❖ **Paraklesis Service, 6:00 pm**

Wednesday, August 5th

- ❖ **Paraklesis Service, 6:00 pm**

Friday, August 7th

- ❖ **Paraklesis Service, 6:00 pm**

Sunday, August 9th, 10th Sunday of Saint Matthew

- ❖ **Orthros, 8:30 am**
- ❖ **Divine Liturgy, 9:30 am**



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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/christened 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 21st day of the month of June, we commemorate: the Holy Martyr Julian of Tarsus in Cilicia; the holy Martyr Aphrodisios; the Holy Priest-martyr Terence, Bishop of Iconium; the holy New-Martyr Nikitas from Nisyros, who witnessed on Chios in the year 1732 died by the sword.

By their holy intercessions, Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

Sunday, August 2nd, 2015
9th Sunday of Saint Matthew

Hymn for the Resurrection (*Eighth Tone*)

From on high didst Thou descend, O Compassionate One; to burial of three days hast Thou submitted that Thou mightest free us from our passions. O our Life and Resurrection, Lord, glory be to Thee.

Hymn for Translation of the relics of Stephen (*Fourth Tone*)

The crown of the Kingdom hath adorned the brow of thy head because of the contests that thou hast endured for Christ God, thou first of the martyred Saints; for when thou hadst censured the Jews' madness, thou sawest Christ thy Saviour standing at the right hand of the Father. O Stephen, ever pray Him for us, that He would save our souls.

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 Theotokos (*Seventh Tone*)

You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father.

Dormition Fast This Week

This week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, we observe a strict fast and abstain from meat, dairy, fish, wine and oil. On Thursday, fish, wine and oil are permitted in observance of the Transfiguration. On Saturday and Sunday, we abstain from meat, dairy and fish with wine and oil permitted.

This Week's Servers

Epistle Readers: Greek: Voula Aldrich
 English: Theophilos Lasswell
Acolytes: Connor Blake, Cainan Iorio, Dimitri Richardson
Ushers: Bessie Condos, Art Markos
Prosphora: Bessie Condos

Epistle Reading - Apostles 6:8-15; 7:1-5, 47-60

In those days, Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, arose and disputed with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated men, who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, and set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place, and will change the customs which Moses delivered to us." And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel. And the high priest said, "Is this so?" And Stephen said: "Brethren and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, and said to him, 'Depart from your land and from your kindred and go into the land which I will show you.' Then he departed from the land of the Chaldeans, and lived in Haran. And after his father died, God removed him from there into this land in which you are now living; yet he gave him no inheritance in it, not even a foot's length, but promised to give it to him in possession and to his posterity after him, though he had no child. "But it was Solomon who built a house for him. Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with hands; as the prophet says, 'Heaven is my throne, and earth my footstool. What house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? Did not my hand make all these things?' "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth against him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together upon him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him; and the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they

were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And he knelt down and cried with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Brethren, before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

Gospel Reading - Matthew 14:22-34

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.