

# **St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Church**

**Self-ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, Diocese of the West**

17840 Sky Park Circle, Irvine CA 92614 (949) 851-8933

Church Office Hours: M-F – 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Website: [www.st-mark-church.org](http://www.st-mark-church.org)

Archpriest Michael Laffoon, Priest Patrick Irish

Protodeacon George Moubayed, Sub Deacon Athanasius Fakhouri

Choir Director Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Jacob Bahbah, Theresa Joubran, Mark Ellis,

Karim Youssef & Jake Bahbah

Church Office Administrator: Lydia Wakileh

Teen Advisors: Paula Rodriguez and Dana Chade

*Sunday Schedule: Orthros (Matins) & Confessions 8:45 a.m.*

*Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.*



**SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2015**

**14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**COMMEMORATION OF THE MIRACLE OF ARCHANGEL MICHAEL IN COLOSSAE**



**Alleluia Verses** (Psalm 88.1, 2.) Tone 5: I will sing of your mercies, O Lord, forever. For you have said: “ Mercy shall be built up for ever.

**Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (22:2-14)**

The Lord spoke this parable, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a marriage feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the marriage feast; but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, Behold, I have made ready my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves are killed, and everything is ready; come to the marriage feast.' But they made light of it and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the thoroughfares, and invite to the marriage feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment; and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and cast him into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

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**Holy Oblations** are offered today by Emilie Laffoon and family for souls of her father Samuel (18 years) and mother Jessie (43 years), In loving memory of Laurette (Nora) Dabit offered by her husband Spir, her children Marwan, George, Wissam, Rosette, and Hani, her brother Khader Dabit and their families. May God rest her soul and may her memory be eternal.

**Coffee hour is given today** by Marwan & Rula Dabit and family for the memory of his mother

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*Please remember in your prayers: Odette Chade, Maha Kureh, Darlyne Dibs, Eleanor Wackeen, Michael Asaly, Georgette Salameh, Lourice Kishek, Paul and June Anter and the suffering people of West Africa, Palestine, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Yemen, Iraq, Ukraine, Nepal and all people afflicted with disease and violence.*

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**Ushers serving Today:** Men's Club

**Ushers serving next week:** Men's Club

**Altar boys serving Today:** Andrew Khamis, Alex Turk, Jay Skaff, Paul Rodriquez

**Altar boys serving next week:** James Bahbah, Peter Williams, Nicholas Bahbah, Youssef Youssef

### **Quote from the Saints**

"I solemnly command you to live piously, in order that you might preserve your Orthodox faith – in order that no one and nothing – under any circumstance, or any kind of sorrow can turn you away from it. To achieve this, you absolutely must pray – seeking God's help to keep your faith pure." -- *St. Nikon of Optina*

### **NOTE TO OUR VISTORS**

Welcome to St. Mark's! We are pleased to have you here with us today. Please be informed that only those Orthodox Christians who are prepared through prayer, fasting, and the sacrament of confession should approach the Chalice for the Eucharist. The Orthodox Church does not practice "open communion" or intercommunion with other churches (non-Orthodox). If you have any questions concerning this, please talk to Father Michael before taking communion. Visitors are welcome to venerate the cross at the end of the service and to receive some of the blessed bread, if they so desire.

For Orthodox Christians to receive Holy Communion:

- You must be spiritually prepared and uphold the beliefs and moral teachings of the Church.
- You must keep the fast (Wednesday & Friday, and other fasting seasons)
- If married, your marriage must have been consecrated in the Orthodox Church.
- If (unfortunately) divorced, you must be formally restored to communion by the Church by confession and Episcopal decision.

**If an Orthodox Christian has left the church, or has been absent from services for a long period, and is returning, he or she must see the priest prior to receiving the sacraments of the Church**

### **Canned Food Drive**

Low employment and homelessness continue to be significant problems, even in affluent Orange County. In light of this, the ongoing canned food collection of our parish is a small but important way to help. Please try to bring something to go in the collection barrel every week.

## **Good Samaritan Fund**

Several years ago, St. Mark Church established a fund for assisting those in need, both within our parish and in the general community. From time to time we ask for contributions to the Good Samaritan Fund, and this is one of those times. If you are in need of assistance or you are aware of someone in our parish that needs financial assistance, please speak with Fr. Michael.

### **Church Etiquette**

- Please be on time for services; those arriving late should not approach the Chalice for Communion.
- To receive Communion, one must be a baptized/chrisdated Orthodox Christian who has prepared by prayer, fasting, alms giving, and regular confession.
- Confessions are heard on Saturday evenings after Great Vespers and during the week by appointment.
- Men, women, and children: please dress modestly for services.
- Please remove lip balm or lipstick before receiving Communion or kissing the holy icons, Chalice, or Gospel.
- If you wish to stand for the entire service, please do so in the back or the aisle so as not to block the view of others who may need to sit. When seated, we should refrain from a posture of relaxation (e.g., crossing legs or arms).
- Pledges, Tithes, Donations: Giving 10% of one's income is God-pleasing, as are all gifts offered by a pious and cheerful giver with a humble heart. Membership forms, renewed annually, are located in the Hall.
- Children are welcome! Yet, if they interfere with the prayers of the faithful, we all may need a break. Food and drink (and toys) are not allowed in the Temple.

### **Today**

FOCUS Ministry, Valencia Motel in Anahiem Corner of Lincoln & Magnolia. If you are able to help please call Austin Turk at (949) 922-2350

**Lost N Found Box:** Please check the lost and found box in the hall that has all lost and found items especially sweaters.

### **This Week**

**Monday September 7<sup>th</sup>, Labor Day. Church Office is closed**

**Monday evening 6:30 p.m. Divine Liturgy, Feast of Nativity of the Theotokos**  
(Orthros 5:30 pm.)

**Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 P.M. Parish Council Meeting**

**Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>, Vespers 6:30 p.m.**

**Next week**

**Monday September 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 P.M. Evening Liturgy, Elevation of the Holy Cross**

**Wednesday September 16<sup>th</sup>, Vespers 6:30 p.m.**

**Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 30th Anniversary** of our parish with *A Night at the Museum*, an evening of food and fun at the Marconi Auto Museum in Tustin on Saturday September 19. See the flyer included! **Saturday Vespers will be sung at 5:00 p.m. that day.**

**Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup>, Church School Registration – after liturgy**  
**Teacher Meeting 12:15 in the 34d & 4<sup>th</sup>, grade**  
**classroom**

**Upcoming Services & Events**

**Wednesday September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6:30 P.M. Vespers**

**Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup>, 12:30 p.m.** Ladies Guild Annual Friendship Tea at the home of Denise & Don Nassif after church. Please see flyer included for more details.

**Sunday September 27<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> day of Church School Classes**

**At our Annual Parish Meeting October 4, 2015**, the Nominating Committee will present a slate of candidates for election to three Parish Council seats. If you would like to be nominated or to suggest someone for nomination, please speak with outgoing Council Members, or Fr. Michael. Per our parish Constitution, all nominations must be made through the Nomination Committee (outgoing Council members, Nelson Mamey, Issa Bahbah, Penny Skaff and Mark Ellis). The Nominating Committee must complete its work no later than 10 days before the Annual Meeting (September 24, 2015), and the list of Nominees will be printed in the Sunday Bulletin one week before the Annual Meeting. Only Orthodox Christians 25 years of age or older, who are Regular Pledged members of St.

Mark's, are in good spiritual standing, and agree to fulfill the duties of a Council Member, may be nominated for Parish Council.

**St. Michael Church and St. Nicholas Cathedral will be co-hosting the Fall Meeting of the Archdiocese Board of Trustees and the Order of St. Ignatius Governing Council on October 22-25, 2015.** Saturday evening Vespers will be held at St. Michael Church with the ground-breaking for a new Sanctuary followed by a Banquet honoring Fr. Timothy Baclig 25 years as Pastor of St. Michael Church at the Warner Center Marriott; \$100 (Adults/Teens) and \$40 (Children: 12 and under). St. Michael is soliciting sponsors for the weekend. Sunday Hierarchal Liturgy, with the Antiochian Hierarchs will be held at St. Nicholas Cathedral followed by a Luncheon: \$25 (Adults/Teens) and \$15 (Children: 12 and under). For online registration for event tickets and Sponsorship, or information on the weekend go to: <http://www.stmichaelvannuys.org/fallmeeting>. For more information contact the weekend Co-Chairs Sondra Love: [slove1@socal.rr.com](mailto:slove1@socal.rr.com) 818.383.3489 or Michael Srour: [mcsrour@gmail.com](mailto:mcsrour@gmail.com) 818.314.9363.

For information on the Sunday Luncheon contact Rose Samore:

[rosesamore@gmail.com](mailto:rosesamore@gmail.com) 818.378.2055 or Concetta Smarius:

[concettasmarius@yahoo.com](mailto:concettasmarius@yahoo.com) 213.700.0229

### **Miracle of the Archangel Michael I Colossae (September 6)**

The feast today in honour of the Archangel Michael commemorates the great miracle he wrought when he delivered from destruction a church and holy spring named for him. The pagans, moved by malice, sought to destroy the aforesaid church and holy spring by turning the course of two rivers against them. But the Archangel appeared and, by means of the Cross and a great earthquake that shook the entire area, diverted the waters into an underground course. Henceforth, the name of that place changed from Colossae to Chonae, which means "funnels" in Greek.

### **BUY SCRIP**

Our Ladies Guild buys scrip from many and various stores and Restaurants (see list included in this Bulletin) at a 3 to 10% discount. When you buy the scrip, which is accepted just like cash at the issuing store, the Parish benefits. You pay no more for these goods and services and are making a donation to our parish. You can purchase this scrip from Saeda Turk at the coffee hour.