

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

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.



NOVEMBER 8, 2015

**HOLY ARCHANGELS MICHAEL & GABRIEL
AND ALL THE BODILESS POWERS OF HEAVEN**

HYMNS AFTER THE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Sixth Tone: When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Archangels Michael & Gabriel in the Fourth Tone: O ye foremost of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy, beseech you that by your petitions ye encompass us with the shadow of your immaterial glory, preserving us who kneel and cry ceaselessly: Deliver us from oppressions, since ye art the princes of the ranks of dominions on high.

All: Troparion to St. Mark in the Fourth Tone: From thy childhood the light of truth enlightened thee, O Mark, and thou didst love the labor of Christ the Savior. Wherefore thou didst follow Peter with zeal and didst serve Paul as a fellow laborer and didst enlighten the world with thy holy Gospel.

Kontakion of the Theotokos in the Fourth Tone: The most pure temple of the Savior, the very precious chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God, is presented today in the house of the Lord. She bringeth with her the grace of the Spirit, which the angels of God do praise. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

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Prokimenon: He makes His angel's spirits and His ministers flames of fire. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (2:2-10)

Brethren, if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard Him, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to His own Will. For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man that Thou art mindful of him, or the Son of man, that Thou carest for Him? Thou didst make Him for a little while lower than the angels; Thou hast crowned Him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under His feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to Him, He left nothing outside His control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to Him. But we see Jesus, Who for a little

while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting that He, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the Pioneer of their salvation perfect through suffering.

Alleluia Verses: I will sing of your mercies, O Lord, for ever, For you have said: “Mercy shall be built up for ever.”

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (8:41-56)

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus’ feet he besought Him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As Jesus went, the people pressed round Him. And a woman, who had had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had spent all her living upon physicians, and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind Him, and touched the fringe of His garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, “Who was it that touched Me?” When all denied it, Peter said, “Master, the multitudes surround Thee and press upon Thee! And Thou sayest, ‘Who touched Me?’” But Jesus said, “Someone touched Me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from Me.” And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before Him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched Him, and how she had been immediately healed. And Jesus said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.” While Jesus was still speaking, a man from the ruler’s house came and said, “Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more.” But Jesus on hearing this answered him, “Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well.” And when Jesus came to the house, He permitted no one to enter with Him, except Peter and James and John, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bewailing her; but Jesus said, “Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand Jesus called, saying, “Child, arise.” And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and Jesus directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but He charged them to tell no one what had happened.

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Holy Oblations are offered today by Charlotte El-Hinn and family for the soul of her husband Abe, departed this life thirteen years, by Samira & Gabi Atallah for the soul of Samira's nephew Joseph passed away last week in Lebanon, by Manuel

& Georgette Salameh and family for the souls of Albert, Alice, Ronda, Michele, Khalil, Michele Tony & Violet, and for the health and salvation of their son Ramzi, his wife Randa, and their children, Nour, Nabil & Deena, by Paul and June Anter for their daughter Paula and son in Law Tony Rodriquez on the occasion of their wedding anniversary, by Eileen and Mark Ellis for the health and salvation of Eileen's brother Christopher and his wife Mary and their children Timothy, Elizabeth, Jonathan & Christopher, and by the grandparents George & Watfa Aldada for their grandson George on the occasion of his birthday and for the health and salvation of their family. We also remember all the Michaels, Gabriels and Raphaels on today, their Name Day.

The Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Luncheon "Turkey and fixings" is offered today by the Antiochian Women of St Mark.

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

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<p>Ushers serving Today: Men's Club</p> <p>Ushers serving Next week: Men's Club</p> <p>Altar boys serving Today: Sammy Khamis Andrew Azzam, George Bahbah, Richard Tierney.</p> <p>Altar boys serving next week: Noah Fortuna, Daniel Attalla, Connor Wilde, George Aldada.</p>

Quote from the Saints

“For the Church is not a barber’s shop nor a perfume shop nor any other workshop in the markets, but a place of angels, a place of archangels, Kingdom of God, heaven itself.”

St. John Chrysostom

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

Antiochian Women of **St. Mark Pre-Thanksgiving Luncheon**. \$8 adults and \$6 children under 12. Please stay and enjoy the luncheon with us. Thank you.

We welcome **Fr. John Finley** (Department of Missions and Evangelism, and **Fr. Martin Ritsi** (Director of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center). Fr. John was our guide at last night's Wine and Food Event and Fr. Martin is the former assistant pastor of our St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church in Irvine.

This Week

Tuesday evening November 10, 6:30 p.m. "Becoming Truly Human "This is a program that presents the Orthodox Christians worldview and encourages people to participate in discussion about important issues. Our topic: Why did Jesus die? Dinner is included and all are welcome!

Tuesday November 10, Parish Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday November 11, Vespers 6:30 p.m. Office closed for Veteran's Day.

Next week

Sunday November 15, Advent begins

Monday November 16, 6:30 p.m. Advent Paraklesis

Tuesday November 17, 6:30 p.m. Becoming Truly Human

Wednesday November 18th, Vespers 6:30 p.m.

Thursday November 19th, 7:00 p.m. Men's Club meeting at the church.

Friday November 20, 6:30 p.m. Vespers : **7:30 p.m. Teen SOYO Ask Abouna**

Saturday November 21, 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy for the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple.

Saturday November 21, The Inaugural Banquet for the Antiochian Orthodox Institute at St. Luke Church in Garden Grove. please see flyer included for more information and reservation.

Upcoming Services & Events

Monday November 23, 6:30 p.m. Advent Paraklesis

Tuesday November 24, 6:30 p.m. Becoming Truly Human

Thursday November 26th, Thanksgiving Day. Church Office will be closed Thursday and Friday.

Friday November 27, 6:30 p.m. Advent Paraklesis

Saturday December 12, 2015: St. Mark Orthodox Continuing Education

Our topic: "Why Confession? The Sacrament of Repentance and Forgiveness" and our guest speaker, Fr. Steve Tsihchlis, Pastor of St. Paul Greek Orthodox Church of Irvine.

Sweetheart Ball Events

Please come and support our Debutantes!

On Saturday, November 14, 2015 at 11:30 am we will be hosting The Fashion Show/Luncheon held at the Sheraton Universal Ballroom. Come and witness the style and poise of your young ladies. It will be a special day and a lot of fun! Tickets are \$65 a piece and will be available the first week in October.

Please call Ms. Isabel Elac: 818-956-3756 for tickets and reservations.

Save the Date for the 55th Sweetheart Ball to be held at the Hyatt Century Plaza Hotel in Century City.

Cocktail hour is 6pm. Tickets are \$155. Please come and support our beautiful Debutantes. It will be an evening to remember.

Thank you! Yours in Christ,

Caren Deeb Kouri, Chairman. 818-399-8899

Meet and hangout with Orthodox Christian Young Adults from all over North America in Big Bear Lake, CA at the 2016 Young Adult Winter Retreat - Hosted by the Young Adult Ministry within the Diocese of Los Angeles and the West. We've planned a weekend full of activities; including snow tubing, snowboarding, skiing and spiritual discussions lead by the V. Rev. Father Gregory Horton and the V. Rev. Father David Sommer. Our topic will be focused on "A Christian Ending to our Life - An Orthodox Christian perspective on death." Date: **Jan 8-10, 2016** Price: Early Bird Rate (includes room/food): \$75/\$100 w/Lift Ticket

ORANGE COUNTY ORTHODOX YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Check out a list of upcoming meetings and activities. For more information and to get involved, please contact Kyra Pelachik at hi_imkyra@yahoo.com or Charlie Kassaseya at Charlesgk@gmail.com or call [858-761-1720](tel:858-761-1720). For an updated list of events, please visit www.Facebook.com/OCOrthodoxChristianYoungProfessionals

TUES, NOVEMBER 17TH @ 7PM - WE WISH YOU AN ASCETIC CHRISTMAS! THE STRUGGLE DURING THE NATIVITY FAST

Join Kevin Allen and Young Adults at Saint Barnabas as we discuss the ascetic struggle when our culture is engaged in consumerism and partying during the Christmas season.

SAT, DECEMBER 12TH @ 9AM - PROJECT MEXICO DAY TRIP

We're transforming an area into a nice park for the boys, with benches and pathways and maybe an icon shrine. For more information, please email Charlesgk@gmail.com.

TUESDAY DECEMBER 15TH @ 7PM - EAST VS. WEST

Join young adults at Saint Barnabas as V. Rev. Father Josiah Trenham leads us in a discussion about the difference between Orthodoxy and Catholicism.

"IS EVERY THOUGHT YOURS?"

It is an ongoing challenge being an Orthodox Christian living in the 21st Century.
We're here to help!

Our Young Adult forum is a group open to all college, graduate, and young professionals between the ages of 18-30 in the Southern California area. The Forum offers young adults a context in which they come together to strengthen their relationships with one another and thereby strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Join us in forming a strong community bond where fruitful conversations happen over dinner. Food and drinks are provided both for the soul and for the body. Our evenings go from 7pm-9pm.

For more information contact our young adult director
at christian@stpaulsirvine.org or visit our website
at www.stpaulsirvine.org/youth and www.facebook.com/groups/stpaulsirvine

November: 10th & 24th
December: 8th & 22nd
January: 26th
February: 9th & 23rd
March 8th & 22nd
April: 12th & 26th
May: 10th & 24th

The Synaxis of the Holy Archangels Michael and Gabriel and all the Bodiless Powers of Heaven

All the Angels, according to the Apostle Paul, are ministering spirits, - sent forth to minister to them who shall be heirs of salvation - (Heb. 1:14). God set them as overseers of every nation and people, and guides to that which is profitable (Deut. 32:8); and while one Angel is appointed to oversee each nation as a whole, one is also appointed to protect each Christian individually. He commands them to guard them that hope on Him, that nothing should harm them, neither should any evil draw nigh to their dwelling (Ps. 90:10-12). In the Heavens they always behold the face of God, sending up to Him the thrice-holy hymn and interceding with Him in our behalf, seeing they rejoice over one sinner that repents (Esaias 6:2-3; Matt. 18:10; Luke 15:7). In a word, they have served God in so many ways for our benefit, that the pages of Holy Scripture are filled with the histories thereof. It is for these reasons that the Orthodox Catholic Church, wisely honouring these divine ministers, our protectors and guardians, celebrates today the present Synaxis that is, our coming together in assembly for their common feast to chant their praises, especially for the Archangels Michael and Gabriel, who are mentioned in the Scriptures by name. The name Michael means "Who is like God?" and Gabriel means "God is mighty." The number of Angels is not defined in the divine Scriptures, where Daniel says that thousands of thousands ministered before Him, and ten thousands of ten thousands attended upon Him -(Dan. 7:10). But all of them are divided into nine orders which are called Thrones, Cherubim, Seraphim, Dominions, Powers, Authorities, Principalities, Archangels, and Angels.

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.