

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

Church Office Administrator: Lydia Wakileh

Teen Advisors: Paula Rodriguez and Dana Chade



JULY 17, 2016

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FATHERS OF THE FOURTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

GREAT-MARTYR MARINA

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Third Tone: Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

Troparion of the Holy Fathers in the Eighth Tone: Thou, O Christ, art our God of exceeding praise Who didst establish our Holy Fathers as luminous stars upon earth, and through them didst guide us unto the true Faith, O most merciful One, glory to Thee.

Troparion of St. Marina in the Fourth Tone: O Lord Jesus, unto Thee Thy lamb doth cry with a great voice: O my Bridegroom, Thee I love; and seeking Thee, I now contest, and with Thy baptism am crucified and buried. I suffer for Thy sake, that I may reign with Thee; for Thy sake I die, that I may live in Thee: accept me offered out of longing to Thee as a spotless sacrifice. Lord, save our souls through her intercessions, since Thou art great in mercy

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 Second Tone: O undisputed intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix unrejected by the Creator, turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners. Come to us in time, who cry to thee in faith, with assistance; for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

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Prokeimenon (Psalm 31.11, 1) Tone 8: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous. Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven.

Section from the Epistle of St. Paul to Titus (3:8-15)

Titus my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all.

Alleluia Verse (Psalm 43:1,7) O God, we have heard with our ears. You have saved us from those who afflict us.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (5:14-19)

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

"Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

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Holy Oblations are offered today by the Khamis family for the soul of their father Jabara Khamis departed this life 35 years and their mother Mary Khamis Departed this life 5 years, by Lydia, Ibrahim, Charlie & Michael for Christopher on the occasion of his birthday 7/13, and for sister Esperance on her birthday 7/15, by Melad & Wafa Hanna for the health and salvation of their children Michael, Amanda & Sameer, and for Melad's parents Mikhail & Salma, for the souls of Wafa's parents Ibrahim & Jamileh and for the souls of Jack and George, and by the Turk family for Stephanie & Brittney on their birthdays.

Luncheon is given today by the Khamis family for the memory of Jabra & Mary Khamis

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Please remember in your prayers: Michael Debbas, Reham Turk, Maha Kureh, Darlyne Dibs, Eleanor Wackeen, Georgette Salameh, Lourice Kishek, June Anter and the suffering people of Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, Ethiopia, Palestine, Bangladesh, Ukraine, and all people afflicted with disease and violence.

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Ushers this week: Michael Asaly & Gabriel Atallah

Ushers next week: Sleiman Aldada & Sam Kishek

Altar boys serving this week: James Dabbah, Paul Youssef, Nour Youssef, Mathew Dabbah.

Altar boys serving next week: Sammy Khamis, Andrew Azzam, George Bahbah, Richard Tierney.

Quote from the Saints

Confession of Faith of the Fourth Ecumenical Council (451): We, then, following the holy Fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable [rational] soul and body; consubstantial [co-essential] with the Father according to the Godhead, and consubstantial with us according to the Manhood; in all things like unto us, without sin; begotten before all ages of the Father according to the Godhead, and in these latter days, for us and for our salvation, born of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, according to the Manhood; one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, only begotten, to be acknowledged in two natures, unconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, but rather the property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in one Person and one Subsistence, not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the same Son, and only begotten, God the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ; as the prophets from the beginning [have declared] concerning Him, and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself has taught us, and the Creed of the holy Fathers has handed down to us.

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 Wednesday and 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

Most of the items in the St. Mark Book of Needs have been sponsored (Thank You!) The following items are still in need of sponsorship

Candles Stands (2)

Epiphany Holy Water Font

New Altar Server robes. We are looking to provide two sets (one light and one dark), totaling 32 robes. Twenty five have been sponsored; we have 7 robes to go!

This Week

Fr. Michael is attending the Archdiocese Clergy Symposium at the Antiochian Village. No evening services or classes are schedule for this week.

Next week

No Vespers on Wednesday July 27

Upcoming Services & Events

August 1 to 14, Dormition Fast

FOCUS National Summer Feeding Program, which will begin mid-June, in two locations within Southern California. Nearest to Orange County, FOCUS OC is working with the YMCA of Long Beach to get regular meals to kids throughout the summer, and we need the help of you and your parish communities to assemble lunches!

How It Will Work

For 6 weeks during the summer, **June 27 - August 5, 2016**, FOCUS will be implementing this program, gathering volunteers at local kitchen prep sites (our is at **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church** at the address - 5761 E Colorado St, Long Beach, CA 90814.), and assembling lunches (from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.). These will then be delivered to youth centers.

We are hoping that our parish can take the lead for one of the six weeks, and we need a volunteer to lead this effort. Please see Austin Turk or Fr. Michael for more details.

UN"GOLF DINNER AND HOEDOWN, Saturday, September 10 from 6-10 pm. Join us for our annual fundraising dinner at Strawberry Farms as we host an "Un"Golf Barbecue Dinner & Hoedown! Come learn to western line dance, two step or try your luck at our 50/50 raffle and putting contest! All proceeds benefit St. Mark Orthodox Church. Every paid ticket purchased at St. Mark Church receives one box of Girl Scout cookies per ticket. This venue has a limited seating of 250. \$50 per ticket if paid before 8/28. \$60 per ticket if paid after 8/28. \$30 for children 12 and under. For "Hoedown" sponsorship packages, see Nelson Mamey. Questions? Tickets can also be purchased online at www.st-mark-church.org Contact event chairs, Kyra Pelachik and Barbara Scholl. You'll have a 'yee-haw' good time!

Orthodox Christian Mission Center opportunities for mission work. Empower youth and teens in countries where youth ministry is emerging and opportunities for youth leadership exist. Orthodox Mission Teams to Alaska, Kenya, and Albania will offer programs for students and adult leaders, giving them the opportunity to develop vision for their youth groups, as well teach the Biblical basics of youth ministry and what it means to be a leader. These teams will model servant leadership by assisting in small groups, recreation, and worship. OCMC invites you to join these opportunities in youth ministry. For more information, please visit www.ocmc.org, e-mail teams@ocmc.org, or call 1-877 GO FORTH (ext 141).

Orange County Orthodox Christian Young Professionals

Young adults are welcome to join us for a social and spiritual/discussion each month. Contact Kyra Pelachik at ococyp@gmail.com or Charlie Kassaseya at 858-761-1720. You can find our events on www.tinyurl.com/ococyp or Facebook (search: OC Orthodox Christian Young Professionals)

July 17 – 2:30pm-5:00pm, Duffy Boat Ride in Newport Beach

July 26 – 6:30pm, Discussion at St. Barnabas Orthodox Church with Deacon Stephen Bell

August TBA – Hike with Fr. Patrick O' Grady

August 23 – 6:30pm, "Life of the Theotokos" Discussion at St. Barnabas Orthodox Church, 6:30pm

September TBA – Camping Trip

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.

Saint of the Day: Holy Great Martyr Marina (July 17)

This Martyr lived during the reign of Claudius II (268-270). She was from Pisidia of Cilicia and was the only daughter of a certain priest of the idols. On being orphaned by her mother, she was handed over to a certain woman who instructed her in the Faith of Christ. When she was fifteen years old, she was apprehended by the ruler of Olmbrius, and when asked her name, homeland, and faith, she answered: "My name is Marina; I am the offspring of the Pisidia; I call upon the Name of my Lord Jesus Christ." Because of this she endured bonds, imprisonment, and many whippings, and was finally beheaded in the year 270. Saint Marina is especially invoked for deliverance from demonic possession.