

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

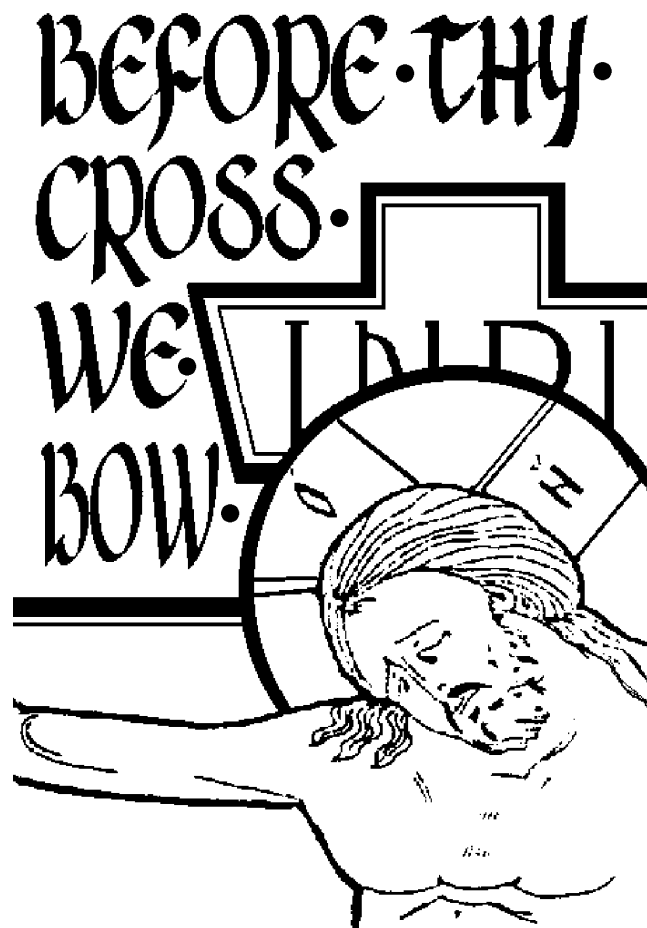
Choir Director Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Jacob Bahbah, Theresa Joubran, Mark Ellis,

Karim Youssef

Church Office Administrator: Lydia Wakileh

Teen Advisors: Paula Rodriguez and Dana Chade



SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY AFTER ELEVATION OF THE CROSS
EUMENIOS THE WONDER-WORKER**

Refrain of the Second Antiphon

Save us, O Son of God, who wast crucified in the flesh, who sing to thee. Alleluia.

DURING THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Holy Cross, in the First Tone: O Lord save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by the virtue of Thy Cross, preserve Thy habitation.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Come, let us worship... Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead, who sing to thee. Alleluia.

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Fourth Tone: Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

Troparion of the Holy Cross, in the First Tone [Repeated]

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 Holy Cross, in the Fourth Tone: As Thou wast voluntarily crucified for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Thy name; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, granting them victories over their adversaries, by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace.

+++++

Prokeimenon (Psalm 103.24, 1) Tone 4: O Lord, how magnificent are your works. You have made all things in wisdom. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians (2:16-20)

Brethren, you know that a man is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ, and not by works of the law, because by works of the law shall no one be justified. But if, in our endeavor to be justified in Christ, we ourselves were found to be sinners, is Christ then an agent of sin? Certainly not! But if I

build up again those things which I tore down, then I prove myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law, that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 44.4, 7) Tone 4: Draw your bow and prosper and reign, for the cause of truth and meekness and justice. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

The Reading from the gospel according to St. Mark (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

+++++

Since we are in the post-feast of the Elevation of the Cross, at the end of the Divine Liturgy we will sing "Before thy Cross..." three times with one prostration per verse.

+++++

Holy Oblations are offered today by Ehab & Jamie Hanna for the birthdays of their children Jeries and Zaina, by Nuha Qushair for Fr. Joseph and his family, and by the Laffoon family for Sophia Whitacre in honor of her Named Day (September 17).

Coffee Hour is given today by the Coffee Hour Committee.

+++++

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, Venezuela, Ukraine, and all people afflicted with disease and violence.

+++++

<p>Ushers this week: Ghassan Awayjan, Sami Nino Ushers next week: Michael Asaly & Gabriel Atallah</p>

Altar boys serving this week: Samir Khamis, Joseph Atallah, Andrew Bahbah
Altar boys serving next week: Andrew Khamis, Alex Turk, Jay Skaff, Paul Rodriquez.

Quote from the Saints

What is more necessary for man than God and His divine love? He is our refuge, He is our treasure, He is our food and drink, He is our raiment and shelter, He is our health and strength, He is our happiness and joy, He is our hope and our trust. Strive then, my son, to gain Him. If you succeed in gaining the One God, it will be sufficient for you; you will rejoice more in Him than if you had gained the entire world." -- St. Theodora

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

Welcome to our Guest Speaker for the last few days, Fr. Joseph Morris, Abbot of St. Gregory Palamas Orthodox Monastery (Perrysville, OH). Fr. Joseph's first pastoral assignment was as assistant pastor of our sister church of St. Luke, Garden Grove. May the Lord bless Fr. Joseph and his community!

Church School Registration.

This Week

Tuesday September 20, 7:00 p.m. Mere Orthodoxy.

Wednesday September 21, 6:30 p.m. Vespers

Next week

Sunday September 25, Beginning of Church School

Sunday September 25th, Antiochian Women of St. Mark Annual Friendship Tea at the home of Rima Tarazi. Please see flyer included for more details.

Please reserve today at the coffee hour with Lydia.

Upcoming Events

October 9, Parish Annual Meeting, All adult Orthodox Christians, pledged to St. Mark for the current year are eligible to vote. We need your participation in this meeting! Plan to be there. We will vote on a 2017 Budget, hear organization reports and elect three new Council Members. If you would like to run for a Council seat, or suggest another member for nomination, please see Fr. Michael or one of the out-going Council members: Afifa Artoul, Paula Rodriguez, Richard Jirjis and Fouad Tarazi. The list of nominees will be printed in the October 2 bulletin. In accordance with our Parish Constitution, no nominations are allowed from the floor.

Mark your calendar for the Annual Wine & Dinner tasting on Saturday November 5, at the church hall. Please see flyer included for more information.

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)

September TBA – Camping Trip

September 27 – 6:30pm Discussion

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.

Saints of the Day – Sts. Sophia and her daughters Faith, Hope & Love (September 17)

These Saints were from Italy and contested for the Faith about the year 126, during the reign of the Emperor Hadrian. Faith was twelve years old, Hope, ten, and Love, nine; each was tormented and then beheaded, from the eldest to the youngest. Their mother Sophia mourned at their grave for three days, where she also fell asleep in peace; because of her courageous endurance in the face of her daughters' sufferings, she is also counted a martyr. The name Sophia means "wisdom" in Greek; as for her daughters' names, Faith, Hope, and Love (Charity), they are Pistis, Elpis, and Agape in Greek, and Vera, Nadezhda, and Lyubov in Russian.



ST MARK CHURCH ANNUAL WINE & DINNER

PRESENTED BY: FR. JOHN FINLEY

WHEN: SATURDAY ,NOVEMBER 5th @ 7:00 PM

WHERE: ST. MARK'S CHURCH HALL

(17840 SKY PARK CIRCLE, IRVINE, CA 92614 (949) 851-8933

\$ 60 PER PERSON. COST INCLUDES: ELEGANT DINNER, WINE,

AND ENTERTAINMENT WITH THE SENSATIONAL SINGER STEEVE JUSTICE.

FOR YOUR EARLY RESERVATIONS CONTACT GISELE AWAYJAN AT: 951-454-4177



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

PLEASE JOIN THE ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN OF ST. MARK
IN A FUNDRAISING WALK FOR BCA ON

SATURDAY OCTOBER 22nd, 2016

9:00 AM—11:00 AM

We will meet at Bagels and Brew

23052 Alicia Parkway, Mission Viejo

We will walk around Mission Viejo Lake

WE WILL START THE WALK IMMEDIATELY

Dress Comfortably

In order to participate in the walk, We ask that each member raises
\$20.00 (Minimum)

Contribution from neighbors, family or co-workers

SUNDAY THE 23rd WE WILL BE SERVING
Pizza and Salad Lunch in the Church Hall

If you would like to join the Antiochian Women of St.
Mark in this great cause, please respond to:

Afifa Artoul (949) 600-3876
Email : artoulafifa@gmail.com