

# **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

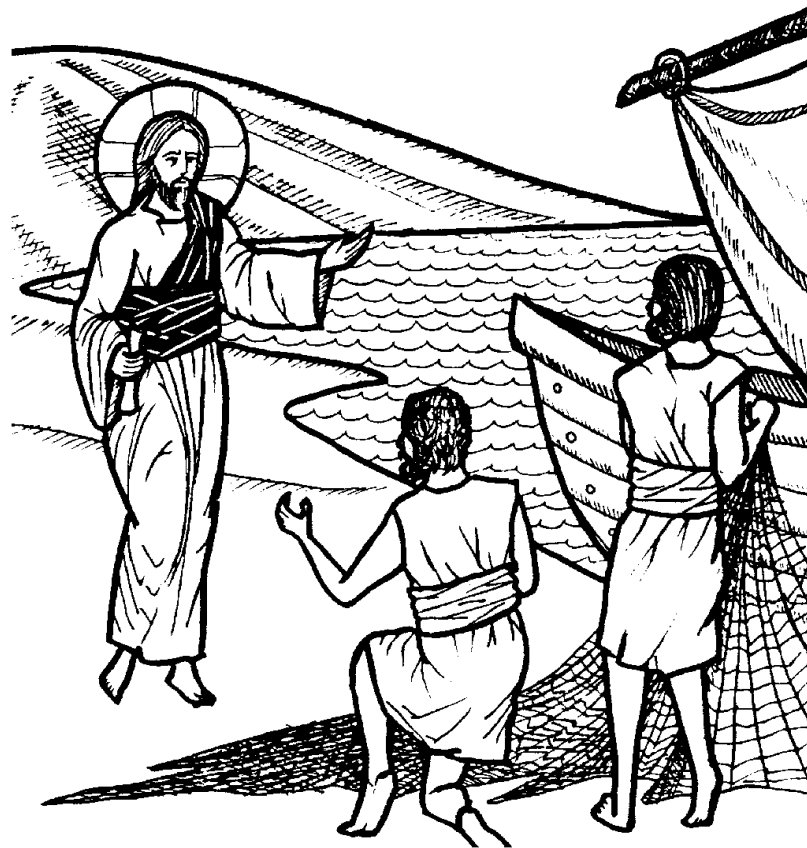
Choir Director Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Jacob Bahbah, Theresa Joubran, Mark Ellis,  
Karim Youssef

Church Office Administrator: Lydia Wakileh

Teen Advisors: Paula Rodriguez and Dana Chade

Church School After Holy Communion



**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2016**

**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**& FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE**

**OUR RIGHTEOUS MOTHER EUPHROSYNE**

## HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

**Troparion of the Resurrection in the Fifth Tone:** Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

**Troparion of Saint Euphrosyne in the Eighth Tone:** Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Euphrosyne; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

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.

Priest: **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 117,1) Tone 5:** You, O Lord, shall keep us and preserve us. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man has failed.

### **Reading from St. Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians (1:21-2:1-4)**

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

But I call God to witness against me -- it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

**Alleluia Verses (Psalm 17:48, 50)** "It is God who avenges me. God magnifies the salvation of his king; and deals mercifully with his anointed."

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)**

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

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**Holy Oblations are offered today by Austin and Saeda, Anthony and Stephanie Turk for the health and salvation of Alexander in celebration of his birthday and by Constantine Geronikolaou for the soul of his father, Efstathios, departed this life six years. We also remember our Church School students and teachers today (their first day of instruction).**

**Coffee Hour is given today by the Coffee Hour Committee.**

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

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**Ushers this week:** Michael Asaly & Gabriel Atallah  
**Ushers next week:** Teen SOYO  
**Altar boys serving this week:** Andrew Khamis, Alex Turk, Jay Skaff, Paul Rodriquez.  
**Altar boys serving next week:** James Bahbah, Peter Williams, Nicholas Bahou, Youssef Youssef

### **Quote from the Saints**

"The soul of a humble man is like the sea: throw a stone into the sea -- for a moment it will ruffle the surface a little, and then sink to the bottom. Thus do afflictions disappear down into the heart of the humble man, because the strength of the Lord is with him." -- *St. Silouan of Mount Athos*

### **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.

### **TO THE PARENTS OF OUR YOUNG CHILDREN**

- Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel you have to suppress it in God's home. All are welcome!
- Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the back of others' heads.
- Quietly explain the actions of the Liturgy (what the priests, deacon, altar boys are doing)
- Sing the hymns and responses. Children learn how to worship in church by copying you.

- Incidental noise and movement are not reasons to take your child out of church. If a child's crying or movements become a distraction to others, then it is time to leave until they are calm.
- If you have to leave the church with your child, do so but please come back. Our Lord said, "Let the children come to me and forbid them not, for such is the Kingdom of Heaven."
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and one another. Let them know that they are at home in our house of worship.

## TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH

The presence of children is a gift to the Church and they are a reminder that our parish is growing!

Please welcome our children and give a little encouragement to their parents.

### Today

**Church School Begins. Just before the Communion of the people, we will say a prayer for the children and teachers.**

**Antiochian Women of St. Mark Annual Friendship Tea at the home of Rima Tarazi**

**Teen SOYO meeting after church**

### **FOCUS North America Backpack Program**

Imagine how excitement would turn to anxiety if going back to school meant a supply list filled with items that parents couldn't afford, sneakers from last year that don't quite fit, and hand-me-down clothes from older siblings that leave you feeling less confident.

This year, as you prepare your own children to go back to school, please join FOCUS to help children in need get ready for school. Your family, youth group, or parish can participate in our fill-a-backpack program and provide a child with a complete set of school supplies. The program runs through October so there is plenty of time to help,

Here is the list of supplies to complete the backpacks with: **Glue Stick, Ruler, 3 Ring Binder, Pack of Pens, Highlighter, Subject Folder, Box of Pencils, Lined Paper, Scissors, Pencil Box Spiral Notebooks, Crayons, Calculator, Notebook Dividers, Colored Pencils.** (This list is included in each backpack)

**Please see Tammy Qutami, who will be distributing the backpacks and collecting them by Sunday October 9, 2016.** You may also return them to the church in an assigned bucket. Thank you in advance!

*This Week*

**Tuesday September 27, 7:00 p.m.** Mere Orthodoxy.

**Wednesday September 28, 6:30 p.m.** Vespers

*Next week*

**Sunday October 2, Teen SOYO Car Wash after Divine Liturgy and Taco Truck Luncheon**

**Sunday October 2, Antiochian Women meeting after church.**

**Tuesday October 4, 7:00 p.m.** Mere Orthodoxy.

**Wednesday October 5, 6:30 p.m. Vespers Upcoming Events**

**Annual Fall Gathering on October 7-9, 2016, will be held at St. Simeon Orthodox Mission in Santa Clarita, CA.** Please see flyer included for more information

**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.

**Tuesday October 11, Parish Council meeting 6:30 pm**

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

**November 11-13, 2016, Annual Pilgrimage to St. Paisius. Please see flyer included for more information**

## ORTHODOXY IN THE VINEYARD - YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

Meet and hangout with Orthodox Christian Young Adults from all over in Napa, CA at a Young Adult Fall Retreat - Hosted by the Young Adult Ministry within the Antiochian Diocese of Los Angeles and the West. We've planned a day of spiritual discussion lead by Jacob Saylor - Youth Directory at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church. The day will include time at Holy Assumption Monastery in Calistoga, CA (just outside of Napa), lunch, wine tasting at the local vineyard and dinner. Our topic will be focused on "In the world, but not of the world - How to be an Orthodox Christian in a materialistic and sometimes superficial world."

21+ Young Adult Event

Date: Saturday, November 5, 2016

Time: 8:30am - 7:30pm

Cost: \$50 Per Person (includes Lunch, Wine Tasting and Dinner)

For more info and to register, please visit [www.dlawyoungadults.com](http://www.dlawyoungadults.com). Make sure to register online by Sunday, October 30, 2016 - Space is limited!

**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](http://www.ocmc.org), e-mail [teams@ocmc.org](mailto: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](mailto:ococyp@gmail.com) or Charlie Kassaseya at 858-761-1720. You can find our events on [www.tinyurl.com/ococyp](http://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.

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### **St. Euphrosyne of Alexandria**

Our righteous Mother Euphrosyne, who lived during the reign of Saint Theodosius the Younger (408-450), was the daughter of Paphnutius of Egypt. Forsaking her father and his wealth, she renamed herself Smaragdus, and pretending to be a eunuch of the imperial palace, she dressed herself as a man and entered a monastery of men where her identity remained unknown until her repose thirty-eight years later.

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