

# **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 OCTOBER 16, 2016**

**HOLY FATHERS OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ECUMENICAL COUNCIL**

## HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

**Troparion for the Resurrection, in the Eighth Tone:** From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

**Troparion of the Holy Fathers in the Eighth Tone:** Most glorified art thou, O Christ our God, who hast established our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to thee.

**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 (Daniel 3:26, 27)** Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For you are just in all you have done.

### **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 Verses (Psalm 43:1, 7)** O God, with our ears have we heard, for our fathers have told us the work which Thou hadst wrought in their days, in the days of old. For Thou hast saved us from them that afflict us, and them that hate us hast Thou put to shame.

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (8:5-15)**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold."

And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand."

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience. As Jesus said this, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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**Holy Oblations are offered today by** the Bahbah family for the soul of their uncle George Bahbah departed this life October 6, in Michigan. May his Memory be Eternal. And by June Anter, Paula, Tony, Leilah, & Paul Rodriquez for their beloved husband, father and Jido, in remembrance of Paul Anter's birthday. May his Memory be Eternal.

**Coffee Hour today is given today by** Roger & Carol Tierney and by Carol Nassief Wong in honor of her husband Dr. Ed Wong

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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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October is Youth Month in our Archdiocese. During the Sundays of October, members of our Teen SOYO will read the Epistles, and assist in ushering.

**Reading the Epistle:** Grace Bahbah

**Reading Special Olympic Letter:** Marianne Hanouneh & George Bahbah

**Ushers this week:** Alex Munayyer, George Bahbah, Nicole Fakhouri, Diana Aldada, Andrew Bahbah, Danny Atallah, Jay Skaff, Lylac Jolson, Marianne Hanouneh, Andrew Hanouneh

**Ushers next week: Teen SOYO**

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

**Altar boys serving next week:** Noah Fortuna, Daniel Atallah, Connor Wilde, George Aldada

### **Quote from the Saints**

If you have faith in the Lord you will fear punishment, and this fear will lead you to control the passions. Once you control the passions you will accept affliction patiently, and through such acceptance you will acquire hope in God. Hope in God separates the intellect from every worldly attachment, and when the intellect is detached in this way it will acquire love for God.

*St. Maximos the Confessor*

### **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

**Men's Club Meeting, Teen SOYO Meeting after Church**

**Dr. Edward Wong,** will be at our Coffee Hour. Dr. Wong is running for the Saddleback Valley Unified School District Board. We have estimated that approximately 35 St. Mark families live in the Saddleback District. Edward is the husband of Carole Nassief Wong of our parish. He has spent his life as a teacher and school principle.

**Please remember to take your Sunday Bulletin with you home, it will help you to remember the services and the events going on in your church. Much time and effort goes into the publishing of our bulletin so, please use it a resource!**

**Congratulations to the new Parish Council Officers for 2016-2017:**  
**Chairman, Randy Dabbah; Vice-Chairman, Barbara Scholl; Treasurer, Marwan Dabit; Secretary, Dimitri Kort; Kyra Pelachick was appointed Assistant Treasurer; Mark Ellis, Austin Turk, Lori Nour, Joe Daruty, Ghassan Awayjan.**

**The 2016-17 Parish Council will be installed this Sunday after Liturgy**

**Congratulations to the new Antiochion Women Officers for 2016-2017:**  
**President, Denise Nassif; Vice President, Marty Morrison; Secretary, Wisam Farraj; Treasurer, Gisele Awayjan and Treasurer assistant, Lydia Wakileh.**

### **This Week**

**Tuesday October 18,** Mere Orthodoxy, 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday October 19,** 6:30 p.m. Vespers

**Saturday October 22,** Breast Cancer Awareness (BCA) Walk

### **Next week**

**Sunday October 23,** BCA Luncheon after Liturgy

**Tuesday October 25,** Mere Orthodoxy, 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday October 26,** 6:30 p.m. Vespers

### **Upcoming events and services**

**Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup>,** St. Mark Annual Wine & Dinner tasting at the church hall. See Gisele Awayjan to reserve your seats. Please see flyer included for more information.

**Sunday, November 6,** A dinner for local members of the Order of St. Ignatius will be held at Red O Restaurant in Newport Beach (143 Newport Center Dr, Newport Beach, CA 92660). Social time is 5 pm. Dinner is 5:30 pm. Please

send your check for \$70/person (non-members are welcomed) to: Concetta Smarious at 3750 New Haven Road, Pasadena 91107. For more information please email Edna Deeb at [Eldmediate@aol.com](mailto:Eldmediate@aol.com).

Please see flyer included for more details

**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)

October 22 - Light the Night Walk, 4:30pm

October 25 - Compline & Discussion at St. Barnabas, 6:30pm

November 15 - Compline & Discussion at St. Barnabas, 6:30pm

November 20 - Friends-giving Dinner, Irvine, 3:00pm

December 4 - Sawdust Festival & Dinner in Laguna Beach, 3:00pm

December 13 - Compline & Discussion at St. Barnabas, 6:30pm

### **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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### **Holy Fathers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Ecumenical Council**

On the Sunday that falls on or immediately after the eleventh of this month, we chant the Service to the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, which gathered in Nicaea in 787 under the holy Patriarch Tarasius and during the reign of the Empress Irene and her son, Constantine Porphyrogenitus, to refute the Iconoclast heresy, which had received imperial support beginning with the Edict issued in 726 by Emperor Leo the Isaurian. Many of the holy Fathers who condemned Iconoclasm at this holy Council later died as Confessors and Martyrs for the holy Icons during the second assault of Iconoclasm in the ninth century, especially during the reigns of Leo the Armenian and Theophilus

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