

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

المسيح قام! حقاً قام!

CHRIST IS RISEN

· THE RESURRECTION ·



APRIL 16, 2017

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

DURING THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Feast Tone 5: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life.

Arabic: Al-ma-sih qam min bai-ni l-am-wat, wa-wa-ti-a l-mowt bil-mowt, wa-wa-ha-ba l-hayah, lil-la-dhi-na fi l-qu-bur (sung alternately with Psalm verses in between).

THE PASCHAL ENTRANCE HYMN

Priest: In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord from the springs of Israel.

People: 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 Feast Tone 5: (slow melody, in Greek, see p. 26 in the Pascha service book)

The Hypakoe of Pascha Tone 4: They who were with Mary came before the dawn, found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher, and heard the angels say unto them, why seek ye him as man with the dead, who dwells in light eternal? Behold the grave wrappings; make haste and declare to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath caused death to die; for he is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind.

Kontakion of Pascha Tone 8: Down to the grave though thou wentest immortal Lord. Yet didst thou there hurl down death by thy throne of might and art risen with vict'ry crowned, O Christ our true God; And hast hailed with glad greeting the women that came with myrrh; And unto thine Apostles hast graciously sent thy peace, O Lord that grantest the fallen to rise with thee.

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“As many as have been baptized into Christ...” replaces **“Holy God...”**

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Prokeimenon (Ps. 117:24, 29) This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endures forever.

Reading from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-8)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment

through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

Alleluia Verses Psalm 101:13, 19. You O Lord, shall rise and have mercy on Zion. The Lord has looked upon the earth from heaven.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (1:1-17)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but was to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own, and his own received him not. But to children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. [John bore witness to him, and cried, "This is he of whom I said, 'he who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'"] And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

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After the gospel, the Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom is read, followed by the singing of the saint's Apolytikion (Troparion).

"The Angel cried unto the Lady..." replaces "It is truly meet..."

“Receive ye the body of Christ and taste and see him that is found deathless.”

replaces “Praise ye the Lord...”

“Christ is risen from the dead...” (Once, slowly) replaces “We have seen the true light...”

“Christ is risen from the dead...” (Three times, quickly) replaces “Blessed be the name of the Lord...”

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PLEASE NOTE: TRISAGION PRAYERS OF MERCY for the Departed may not be said as a 9th day, 40th day, 6th month, or an anniversary memorial from Lazarus Saturday through Thomas Sunday. The only Trisagion Prayers of Mercy permitted during that period are those said for the faithful who pass from this life in these holy days. Thus the next Sunday at which the Trisagion Prayers of Mercy can be sung will be April 30.

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Holy Oblations are offered by Omar, Nichole, & Katrina Fakhouri for Fatin and Elaina on the occasion of their birthdays, by Sleiman & Siham Aldada for the health and salvation of their family, and by Ibrahim & Lydia Wakileh for the health and salvation of their family and for the soul of Ibrahim’s brother George Wakileh departed this life on Pascha 2005.

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

Ushers this week: Special team for **Pascha Sunday**

Ushers next week: Ghasan Awayjan & Sami Nino

Altar boys serving this week: Special team for **Pascha**

Altar boys serving next week: Andrew Khamis, Alex Turk, Jay Skaff, Paul Rodriguez.

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/christened 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

The Palm Sunday Bake Sale was chaired by Barbara Khamis & Julie Bahbah, thank you Ladies and thanks to Denise, Don & Kristen Nassif, Marty Morrison, Kim & Rachael Ranney, Diana Khamis and Jannae, and to all the Ladies who baked, donated and helped in setting up, selling and cleaning up. Our profits over \$ 2,100.00. Well done Ladies of St. Mark!

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. Please put the Liturgy book service back in the pocket when you are done using it. Thank you!

2017 Stewardship Pledge Campaign!

We are less than \$20,000 away from our goal! As of April 14, 2017, we have a total of \$199,954 pledged which is 95% of our total goal of \$205,000. Thank you to those who have made their 2017 pledge commitment! We have also successfully collected 131 pledge commitments.

Please help us wrap up this campaign by turning in your pledge cards. They can be turned in to the white box at the back of the church. Your financial pledge and commitment is important and supports the work of the church, the parish itself and those who work for St. Mark. Your support and commitment to St. Mark is appreciated!

In Christ,
St. Mark Stewardship Committee

This Week

April 16, Great and Holy PASCHA, Agape Vespers, 1:00 p.m. with the reading of the Gospel in many languages.

Next week

Monday April 17th, Church office is closed.

Wednesday April 19th, 6:30 p.m. Evening Bright Week Liturgy.

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday April 23rd, St. Thomas Sunday and St. George Day

Wednesday April 26th, 6:30 Vespers

Sunday April 30, Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy

Mark your calendar for two dates:

First date of **July 5–9, 2017** for the **Diocese of Los Angeles and the West Parish Life Conference**. Hosted by **St. Michael Church, Van Nuys, CA**

Please see Registration form included in this bulletin.

Second date is for the **53rd Biennial Archdiocese Convention**. Hosted by: **St. George Cathedral, Coral Gables, Florida – July 23-30 2017**. Event registration form is included in this bulletin.

St. Nichols Summer Camp sign-ups are now open!

Session 1: **July 16th-22nd**

Session 2: **July 23rd-29th**

Session 3: **July 30th-Aug. 5th**

***Earlybird price deadline is April 1st**

I encourage all parents with children from 8-18years of age to register at Campstnicholas.com to sign your kids up! The kids make friends and memories that will last a lifetime while learning about their faith!

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).

Arabic Lessons started at our Church

Lilian Zeidan is offering Arabic Lessons for ages Kindergarten to High school. The lessons are after Church School on Sunday at 12:00 noon for kids up to 7 years old, and from 1- 3 pm for adults. If you are interested please call Lilian Zeidan at 714-721-4148 or email her at lilianzeidan@yahoo.com

Orange County Forum

A place for Orthodox Christian young adults in the OC area, married and single, to have fellowship, fun and engage in social and service activities. This group serves to foster the unity of faith, love and friendship between the Orthodox young adults in the community with discussion, speakers and fun social events. Join our Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/OrangeCountyForum> for a list of scheduled events and more information. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's at St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church in Irvine starting at 6:30pm. Our upcoming schedule of events includes:

Tuesday, April 25 – Learn to Make Holy Bread

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.

The Orthodox Christian greeting of Pascha

CHRIST IS RISEN!

TRULY HE IS RISEN!

AL-MASSIH QAM!

HAKKAN QAM! (Arabic)

CHRISTOS ANESTI!

ALITHOS ANESTI! (Greek)

CHRISTOS A INVIAT!

ADEVERAT A INVIAT! (Romanian)

CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!

VOISTINU VOSKRESE! (Slavonic)

CRISTO HA RESUCITADO!

EN VERDAD HA RESUCITADO! (Spanish)