

# **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

*Sunday Schedule: Orthros (Matins) & Confessions 8:45 a.m.*

*Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.*



**June 11, 2017**

**SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS**

## 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 Saints in the Fourth Tone:** Thy Church, O Christ our God, hath regaled herself in the blood of thy Martyrs throughout all the world, as in purple and fine linen. Through them she lifteth her voice, crying, turn with thy compassion to thy people, and grant peace to thy city, and to our souls the Great 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.

**Priest: Kontakion of All Saints in the Eighth Tone:** Unto thee, O Lord, the Author of creation, the universe doth offer the God-bearing martyrs as the first-fruits of nature. By whose prayers, through the Theotokos, do thou preserve in the profoundest peace thy Church, O most merciful One.

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**Prokeimenon** (Psalm 67:35, 26) God is wonderful among his saints. Bless God in the congregations.

### **Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews (11:33-12:2)**

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated -- of whom the world was not worthy --wandering over deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

**Alleluia Verses** (Psalm 33:17, 19) The righteous cried and the Lord heard them. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord will deliver them from them all.

**The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew** (10:32-33; 37-38; 19:27-30)

The Lord said to his disciples, "Every one who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

"He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me."

Then Peter said in reply, "Lo, we have left everything and followed you. What then shall we have?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of man shall sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And every one who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for my name's sake, will receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many that are first will be last, the last first.

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Communion hymn: "Rejoice in the Lord, O ye just: Praise is meet for the upright."

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**Holy Oblations are offered today** for our Church School teachers and students.

**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, 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:** Phillip Bahbah & Elias Nasrawi

**Ushers next week:** Nelson Mamey & James Goson

**Altar boys serving this week:** James Bahbah, Peter Williams, Nicholas Bahou, Youssef Youssef.

**Altar boys serving next week:** James Dabbah, Nadim Youssef, Nour Youssef, Matthew Dabbah.

### **Quote from the Saints**

"Return my soul to the sweet garden of paradise, and may it abide in light that, surrounded by the delights of paradise, I too may say with all the saints: Glory to the Immortal Father; honor to Him Who presents heavenly gifts to this worthless one, that he may bring a tithe of glory to the King of all!" -- *St. Ephraim the Syrian*

### **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/chrismated 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 Awards  
Parish Council Meeting.**

You should have noticed our three new icon stands in the Narthex, newly arrived from Greece. Thanks to Tammy Qutami for donating the first of these. We need sponsors for the other two. If you are interested, see Fr Michael.

We will also bless the latest icons to be added to our iconostasis: St. Raphael of Brooklyn and St. Katherine the Great-martyr. Thanks to Joe and Goldie Daruty, the donors of these icons.

**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!

The church is missing over 10 white round table clothes, please bring them in if you still have them and forgot to bring them back. Also we are missing five of the Ladies Purple Aprons which have the Ladies Logo on them. If you took them to wash them and forgot to bring them back please return them now. Thank you!

### *This Week*

#### **Monday June 12<sup>th</sup>, Start of Apostles Fast**

*The Fast of the Holy Apostles is not as strict as the Fasts of Pascha and the Nativity of Christ; rather it is more lenient in its duration and rules. The current rules of fasting, during the Apostles' Fast, were established first for the monks of the Monastery of the Kiev Caves by Metropolitan George of Kiev (1069-1072). These rules are still practiced today amongst most Orthodox Christians with minor variations, depending on the jurisdiction.*

*The rules are:*

*1- Red meat, poultry, and dairy products are not allowed during the entire fasting period in all weekdays.*

*2- Fish, wine, and oil are allowed on all days except on Wednesdays and Fridays.*

**Tuesday June 13<sup>th</sup>, Mere Orthodoxy 7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 Vespers**

### *Next week*

**Tuesday June 20, Mere Orthodoxy 7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday June 21, 6:30 Vespers**

**Thursday June 22, 6:30 p.m.** Ladies last meeting before summer. Place to be announced.

### *Upcoming Services & Events*

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

**Wednesday June 28, 6:30 Vespers**

**July 5–9, 2017 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.

**53<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Archdiocese Convention.** Hosted by: **St. George Cathedral, Coral Gables, Florida – July 23-30 2017.** Event registration form is included in this bulletin.

## **American Arabic Educational Foundation**

### **Graduating High School Seniors**

The scholarship requires that the applicant be a graduating high school senior or equivalent, planning to enter either an academic or vocational school the term following the granting of the scholarship, and that the **recipient be a resident of one of the following California Counties: Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, or Ventura; be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States; and of Arabic Heritage.**

### **College and Graduate Students**

Applications may be submitted from college and graduate students. The above eligibility and qualifications apply.

Applications can be obtained by emailing Donald P. Meena at [donmeena@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donmeena@sbcglobal.net)

The applications must be returned no later than June 15, 2017.

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

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

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

Session 3: **July 30th-Aug. 5<sup>th</sup>**

**All parents with children from 8-18years of age are encouraged to sign them up at [Campstnicholas.com](http://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](http://www.ocmc.org), e-mail [teams@ocmc.org](mailto:teams@ocmc.org), or call 1-877 GO FORTH (ext 141).

## Arabic Lessons 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](mailto: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.

### 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.

### On the Sunday of All Saints:

Honoring the friends of God with much reverence, the Prophet-King David says, "But to me, exceedingly honorable are Thy friends, O Lord" (Ps. 138:16). And the divine Apostle, recounting the achievements of the Saints, and setting forth their memorial as an example that we might turn away from earthly things and from sin, and emulate their patience and courage in the struggles for virtue, says, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every burden, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us" (Heb. 12:1). This commemoration began as the Sunday (Synaxis) of All Martyrs; to them were added all the ranks of Saints who bore witness (the meaning of "Martyr" in Greek) to Christ in manifold ways, even if occasion did not require the shedding of their blood. Therefore, guided by the teaching of the Divine Scriptures and Apostolic Tradition, we the pious honour all the Saints, the friends of God, for they are

keepers of God's commandments, shining examples of virtue, and benefactors of mankind. Of course, we honour the known Saints especially on their own day of the year, as is evident in the Menologion. But since many Saints are unknown, and their number has increased with time, and will continue to increase until the end of time, the Church has appointed that once a year a common commemoration be made of all the Saints. This is the feast that we celebrate today. It is the harvest of the coming of the Holy Spirit into the world; it is the "much fruit" brought forth by that "Grain of wheat that fell into the earth and died" (John 12:24); it is the glorification of the Saints as "the foundation of the Church, the perfection of the Gospel, they who fulfilled in deed the sayings of the Saviour" (Sunday of All Saints, Doxasticon of Vespers). In this celebration, then, we reverently honor and call blessed all the Righteous, the Prophets, Apostles, Martyrs, Confessors, Shepherds, Teachers, and Holy Monastics, both men and women alike, known and unknown, who have been added to the choirs of the Saints and shall be added, from the time of Adam until the end of the world, who have been perfected in piety and have glorified God by their holy lives. All these, as well as the orders of the Angels, and especially our most holy Lady and Queen, the Ever-virgin Theotokos Mary, do we honor today, setting their life before us as an example of virtue, and entreating them to intercede in our behalf with God, Whose grace and boundless mercy be with us all. Amen.

*Troparia for blessing of new Icons.*

TROPARION OF ST. KATHERINE THE GREAT-MARTYR IN TONE FIVE

Let us extol the all-lauded bride of Christ, Katherine, the guardian of Sinai, who is our help and our support; for by the power of the Spirit she silenced brilliantly the nobility of liars. And now that she hath been crowned as a Martyr, she seeketh for all the Great Mercy.

TROPARION OF ST. RAPHAEL IN TONE THREE

Rejoice, O Father Raphael, adornment of the holy Church! Thou art champion of the True Faith, seeker of the lost, consolation of the oppressed, father to orphans and friend of the poor, peacemaker and good shepherd, joy of all the Orthodox, son of Antioch, boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor thee.