

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

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

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.



June 18, 2017

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
ALL SAINTS OF NORTH AMERICA**

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the First Tone: While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body, thou didst arise on the third day, O savior, granting life to the world; for which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O Giver of Life; Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy Kingdom; Glory to Thy Providence, O Thou who alone art the Lover of mankind.

Troparion for all Saints of America in Eighth Tone: As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, the lands of North America offer to Thou, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace. Through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One.

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 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 32:22, 1) Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

Reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans (2:10-16)

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality.

All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

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.

Reading from the gospel according to St Matthew (4:18-23)

At that time, as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

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Holy Oblations are offered today by Michael, Charlotte & family in memory of Charlotte's sister Salwa departed this life 6 months, and for the health of their family, by David Tannous and the Turk family for the churching of Juliana and her new baby boy Emile, by Anton & Keitie Turk for their grandchildren Gina on her graduating from high school and for Brittany graduating from Elementary school, by Issa & Julie Bahbah for the uncrowning of their daughter Justine and her husband Matt Welch, by Joe & Salwa Bahbah for their son Nicholas on the occasion of his birthday, by Phillip and Tarize Bahbah for their twins George & Grace graduation from the High School, and for all fathers, grandfathers and godfathers on the occasion of Father's Day.

Fish luncheon is given today by the Antiochian Women of St. Mark in honor of all the fathers, godfathers and grandfathers. Men eat for free, Ladies \$8 and children under 12, \$5

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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, Kh. Katherine Tsichlis, 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: Nelson Mamey & James Goson

Ushers next week: Paul Habeeb & Don Nassif

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

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

Quote from the Saints

If you would be simple-hearted like the Apostles, you would not conceal your human shortcomings, would not pretend to be especially pious, if you would walk free from hypocrisy, then that is the path. While it is easy, not everyone can find it or understand it. This path is the shortest way to salvation and attracts the grace of God. Unpretentiousness, guilelessness, frankness of soul - this is what is pleasing to the Lord, Who is lowly of heart. Except ye become like children, ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of God (Matt. 18:13).

Elder Leonid of Optina

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

The Apostles Fast began on June 12th,

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.

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. Haitham Hanna and Sahar Barjoud are donating a second stand. Thanks and Blessings! We need a sponsor for the last one. If you are interested, see Fr Michael.

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!

Lost & Found: There are two eye glasses at the office; one is plastic pinkish frame and the other one grey or black metal frame. See Lydia if it belongs to you.
Thanks

This Week

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

Wednesday June 21st, 6:30 Vespers

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

Saturday June, 24, 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy: Birth of St. John the Baptist (Orthros 9:00 a.m.)

Next week

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

Wednesday June 28th, 6:30 p.m. Evening Liturgy, Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul (Othros 5:30 p.m.)

Thursday June 29th, Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul

Upcoming Services & Events

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.

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**

All parents with children from 8-18years of age are encouraged to sign them up 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 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.

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.

Sunday of All Saints of America

On the Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians. Here is a partial list of our American saints. I encourage to you find their stories online.

St. Innocent of America (Missionary Priest and Bishop)

St. Tikhon of America (Missionary Bishop, later Patriarch of Moscow)

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre (Missionary Priest)

St. Peter the Aleut (Martyr)

St. Joseph of Juvenaly (Priest-martyr)

St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Missionary Priest & Bishop)

St. Sebastian (Missionary Priest)

St. Mardarije (Missionary Bishop)