

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.



August 13, 2017

LEAVE-TAKING OF THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

REFRAIN OF THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Save us, O Son of God, who wast transfigured on Mount Tabor, who sing to thee. Alleluia.

During the Entrance the Choir sings:

Troparion of Transfiguration in the Seventh Tone: Thou was transfigured on the mount, O Christ our God, revealing thy glory to thy disciples, as far as they could bear it. Let thine everlasting light shine upon us sinners, through the prayers of the Theotokos, O Giver of light: Glory to thee.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Priest: With thee is the fountain of life, and in thy light shall we see light.

People: Save us, O Son of God, **risen from the dead**, who sing to thee. Alleluia.

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

All: **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 of Transfiguration in the Seventh Tone [repeated in Arabic]

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 Transfiguration, in the Seventh Tone: Thou wast transfigured on the mountain, O Christ our God and thy disciples, beheld thy glory as far as they could bear it; so that when they would behold thee crucified, they would understand that thy passion was voluntary, and would proclaim to the world that thou art truly the Radiance of the Father.

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

Reading from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. (Chapter 4:9-16)

Brethren, I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but

you are strong. You are held in honor, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we hunger and thirst, we are ill-clad and buffeted and homeless, and we labor, working with our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become, and are now, as the refuse of the world, the off scouring of all things.

I do not write this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you have countless guides in Christ, you do not have many fathers. For I became your father in Christ Jesus through the gospel. I urge you, then, be imitators of me.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 17:47, 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. Matthew (17:14-23)

At that time, a man came up to Jesus and kneeling before him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to your disciples, and they could not heal him." And Jesus answered, "O faithless and perverse generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly. Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. This kind never come out except by prayer and fasting."

As they were traveling together through Galilee, Jesus said to them, "The Son of man is to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him, and he will rise on the third day."

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Holy Oblations are offered today by Greg and Janeatte Ganter for the health and salvation of their family, and by the Bahbah family for Randy on his birthday.

Falafel Luncheon is given today by Greg & Janeatte Ganter (Awad)

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Please remember in your prayers: Michael Debbas, Reham Turk, Maha Kureh, Darlyne Dibs, Nuha Qushair, 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.

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Ushers this week: Austin Turk & Roger Tierney

Ushers next week: Phillip Bahbah, Elias Nasrawi.

Altar boys serving this week: Noah Fortuna, Daniel Atallah, Connor Wilde, George Aldada.

Altar boys serving next week: Samar Khamis, Joseph Atallah, Andrew Bahbah.

Quote from the Saints

"But I say to you," the Lord says, "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, pray for those who persecute you." Why did he command these things? So that he might free you from hatred, sadness, anger and grudges, and might grant you the greatest possession of all, perfect love, which is impossible to possess except by the one who loves all equally in imitation of God.

St. Maximus the Confessor

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 Parish Council will meet after Liturgy.

Falafel Luncheon is given today by Greg & Janeatte Ganter. Free Will donation is appreciated for the benefit of our building fund.

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 still missing over 10 **white round table clothes**, if you took some home to launder, please return them now. We are also missing five of the **Ladies Purple Aprons** which have the Ladies Logo on them. If you took them to wash them, 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

Tomorrow is the last day of the August Fast in honor of the Theotokos began August 1 and lasts to the 14th. The Church prescribes the following fast: we abstain from all meat, dairy products (including eggs), fish, wine and olive oil (in some traditions olive oil is allowed). Shellfish may be eaten throughout the fast. Wine and olive oil are permitted on Saturdays and Sundays only. Please make

every effort to fast according to the best of your ability and to come to the Sacrament of Holy Confession during this holy season!

Tuesday August 15, Feast of Dormition of the Theotokos, 10:00 a.m. Liturgy (Orthros 9:00 a.m.)

Wednesday August 16, Vespers 6:30 p.m.

Next week

Wednesday August 23, Vespers 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Services & Events

BOOTS and BLING DINNER AND HOEDOWN, Saturday, September 9 from 6-10 pm. Join us for our annual fundraising dinner at Strawberry Farms Golf Club as we host a Barbecue Dinner & Hoedown! Come learn to western line dance, two step or try your luck at our 50/50 raffle, silent auction and putting contest! All proceeds benefit St. Mark Orthodox Church. Every paid ticket purchased at St. Mark Church (i.e. before the day of the event) receives one gift per ticket. This venue has a limited seating of 250 and last year we sold out. Tickets are \$50 per ticket if paid before 8/27 and \$65 per ticket if paid after 8/27. \$30 for children 12 and under. For "Hoedown" sponsorship packages, see Nelson Mamey. Tickets can also be purchased online at www.st-mark-church.org Questions? Contact event chairs, Kyra Pelachik and Barbara Scholl (949)533-4634. Make reservations at church or at this website: <http://tiny.cc/bootsbling> You'll have a 'yee-haw' good time!

Sunday September 24, 12:30 p.m. The Annual Antiochian Women of St. Mark Friendship tea, at the home of Denise Nassif.

October 6, 7, 8 Diocese of the West Fall Gathering, hosted by St. Timothy Orthodoxy Church of Fairfield CA. This is an annual meeting of representatives of Teen SOYO, Antiochian Women and Young Adult Ministry. St. Mark's should be represented for all three groups. Information regarding registration and hotel accommodations is available on our information table. You may also access this at www.antiochianladiocese.org (click on Diocesan Fall Gathering at the right side of the page).

2018 Sweetheart Ball: Prospective Debutantes and Parents

The Ladies' Society of St. Nicholas Orthodox Christian Cathedral is now preparing to host the 56th Sweetheart Ball to be held on Saturday, April 14, 2018, at the Universal Hilton Hotel.

Your experience as a debutante will be most memorable, filled with a variety of activities! Nothing would give us greater pleasure than to share this amazing experience with you this coming year. Debutantes must be at least 15 years old by October 1, 2017.

If you are interested in becoming a debutante in the Sweetheart Ball please email or call me as soon as possible. The deadline to sign up is October 15th, 2017.

Much Love,

Caren Deeb Kouri auntylulu@aol.com

818-399-8899

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 Tuesdays 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.

Holy Maximus the Confessor (August 13)

The divine Maximus, who was from Constantinople, sprang from an illustrious family. He was a lover of wisdom and an eminent theologian. At first, he was the chief private secretary of the Emperor Heraclius and his grandson Constans. But when the Monothelite heresy became predominant in the royal court, out of hatred for this error the Saint departed for the Monastery at Chrysopolis (Scutari), of which he later became the abbot. When Constans tried to constrain him either to accept the Monothelite teaching, or to stop speaking and writing against it - neither of which the Saint accepted to do - his tongue was uprooted and his right hand was cut off, and he was sent into exile, where he reposed in 662. At the time only he and his few disciples were Orthodox in the East. See also January 21.