

# **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.*



**July 23, 2017**

**THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**HIEROMARTYR PHOCAS, BISHOP OF SINOPE**

## HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

**Troparion of the Resurrection in the Sixth Tone:** When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory 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.

**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.

**Prokeimenon** (Psalm 27. 9, 1) Tone 6: O Lord, save your people and bless your inheritance. To you, O Lord, have I cried O my God.

### **Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans (15:1-7)**

Brethren, we who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves; let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to edify him. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached thee fell on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Alleluia Verses** (Psalm 90.1-2) He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will live in the protection of the God of heaven. He will say to the Lord: "You are my protector."

### **Reading from the gospel according to St Matthew (9:27-35)**

At that time, when Jesus was passing by, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him; and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus

sternly charged them, "See that no one knows it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a dumb demoniac was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the dumb man spoke; and the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the prince of demons."

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity of the people.

+++++

**Holy Oblations are offered today by** Mary Dibs for the soul of her husband George, departed this life 19 year; by Michael Khoury and family for the soul of Charlotte Khoury's mother Amineh, departed this life 10 years, and by Nuha Qushair and family for the soul of her sister Samira, who reposed in Egypt last week. Memory Eternal!

**Coffee Hour is given today by the coffee hour committee.**

+++++

*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, Nuha Qushair, 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:** Sleiman Aldada, Sam Kishek

**Ushers next week:** Dimitri Kort & Randy Dabbah

**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**

Do not become harsh and unmerciful. Think that behind him who seeks charity from you, is the Lord Himself...Give charity for your own benefit and for the benefit of those who are really poor. The Lord will reward you... *Saint John Chrysostom*

**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

**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

**53<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Archdiocese Convention.** Hosted by: **St. George Cathedral, Coral Gables, Florida – July 23-30 2017.** *Fr. Michael & Kh. Donna are attending the Convention this week.*

**Wednesday July 26,** No Vespers

### Next week

**August 1 – 14, the Dormition Fast**

**Wednesday August 2,** No Vespers

### 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 receives a gift per ticket. This venue has a limited seating of 250 and last year we sold out. \$50 per ticket if paid before 8/27. \$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](http://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: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-mark-orthodox-church-boots-bling-bbq-dinner-hoedown> You'll have a 'yee-haw' good time!

**Sunday September 24, 12:30 p.m. Antiochian Women of St. Mark Friendship tea. Place to be announced soon!**

St. Nicholas Summer Camp is in session! Only one week left.

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 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.

### **St. Mary Magdalene (July 22)**

Saint Mary was from Magdala in Galilee on the Sea of Tiberias, and for this was named Magdalene. When the Lord Jesus cast out seven demons from her, from which she had been suffering, she became His faithful and inseparable disciple, following Him and ministering unto Him even to the time of His crucifixion and burial. Then, returning to Jerusalem together with the rest of the Myrrh-bearers, she prepared the fragrant spices for anointing the body of the Lord. And on the Lord's day they came very early to the tomb, even before the Angels appeared declaring the Resurrection of the Lord. When Mary Magdalene saw the stone taken away from the tomb, she ran and proclaimed it to Peter and John. And returning immediately to the tomb and weeping outside, she was deemed worthy to be the first of the Myrrh-bearers to behold the Lord arisen from the dead, and when she fell at His feet, she heard Him say, "Touch Me not." After the Lord's Ascension, nothing certain is known concerning her. Some accounts say that she went to Rome and later returned to Jerusalem, and from there proceeded to Ephesus, where she ended her life, preaching Christ. Although it is sometimes said that Saint Mary Magdalene was the "sinful woman" of the Gospel, this is nowhere stated in the tradition of the Church, in the sacred hymnology, or in the Holy Gospels themselves, which say only that our Lord cast seven demons out of her, not that she was a fallen woman. "Madeleine" is a form of Magdalene.