

St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Church

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.

Church School after Holy Communion



October 15, 2017

SUNDAY OF HOLY FATHERS OF SEVENTH ECUMENICAL COUNCIL

& FOURTH SUNDAY OF LUKE

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Second Tone: When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal one, then Thou didst destroy Hell with Thy Godly power, and when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of heaven did cry aloud unto Thee, O Christ Thou giver of Life glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Holy Fathers in the Eighth Tone: Most glorified art thou, O Christ our God, who hast established our holy Fathers as luminous stars upon the earth, and through them didst guide us all to the true Faith. O Most Merciful One, glory be to thee.

All: **Troparion of 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 protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant: O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned, but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

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Prokeimenon (Daniel 3:26, 27) Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our Fathers. For you are just in all you have done.

Section from the Epistle of St. Paul to Titus (3:8-15)

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned.

When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful.

All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the

faith. Grace be with you all.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 43:1, 7) O God, with our ears have we heard, for our fathers have told us the work which Thou hadst wrought in their days, in the days of old. For Thou hast saved us from them that afflict us, and them that hate us hast Thou put to shame.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke (8:5-15)

The Lord spoke this parable: "A sower went out to sow his seed; and as he sowed, some fell along the path, and was trodden under foot, and the birds of the air devoured it. And some fell on the rock; and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. And some fell among thorns; and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some fell into good soil and grew, and yielded a hundredfold."

And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God; but for others they are in parables, so that seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.

Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, that they may not believe and be saved. And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy; but these have no root, they believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. And as for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit with patience. As Jesus said this, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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Holy Oblations are offered today by Sal & Jamey Kureh and family for the soul of Sal's mother Maha departed this life 40 days. May her memory be eternal!

Meal of mercy is given today by the Kureh family for the 40th day memorial of their mom Maha Kureh.

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

This week's Teen ushers:**Greeters:** Nicole Fakhouri, Jessica Alchammas, Richie Tierney**Collection:** Paul Habeeb Jr., Nicholas Habeeb, Merolla Youssef, Nour Youssef.**Communion:** Efstathios Geronikolaou, Nadim Youssef, Katrina Fakhouri**Dismissal:** Yasmine Rizkallah, Christiana Habeeb**This week's Epistle reader:** Chadi Tarazi**Next week's ushers:****Greeters:** Jillian Goson, Amanda Khoury, Rachel Ranney**Collection:** Paul Habeeb Jr., Nicholas Habeeb**Communion:**Merolla Youssef, Nour Youssef**Dismissal:**Nadim Youssef, Youssef Youssef**Next week's Epistle reader:** Christina Habeeb**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**

"Pay attention carefully. After the sin comes the shame; courage follows repentance. Did you pay attention to what I said? Satan upsets the order; he gives the courage to sin and the shame to repentance." - *St. 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

Last Sunday we held our 2017 Annual Parish Meeting: The 2018 Budget was passed as presented. Marwan Dabit, Melad Hanna and Richard Jirjis were elected to three year terms. Jerri Lynn Mamey was appointed for a one year term. On Monday October 9, the Parish Council met and elected officers for the 2017-18 term. They are: Council Chair Barbara Scholl, Vice-Chair Kyra Pelachik, Secretary Jerri Lynn Mamey and Treasurer Marwan Dabit. Melad Hanna and Richard Jirjis were appointed as Assistant Treasurers. The rest of the Council includes Austin Turk, Dimitri Kort, Mark Ellis and Lori Nour. We will install the new Council today at the end of Liturgy.

Ladies meeting after church

Teen Officer's Election Meeting after church.

Flowers... add color and beauty to the church. When our iconostasis was designed we included a flower boxes in front of the icons. Thank you to Leo Chade, Gisele Awayjan, Michael & Theresa Joubran, and others for bringing plants and cut flowers to place there. Perhaps you would consider donating flowers as well. Two rules of thumb: We do not want flowers or plants on the floor of the solea (the raised area in front of the iconostasis) and please keep the size of the flowers/plants reasonable so as not to obscure the holy 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!

Life Touch Photo Directory

Need help connecting names and faces?

Good news, we are doing a new pictorial directory, our last one is 4 years old, a bit out of date. Photography will take place **November 5th (Sunday) & 6th (Monday)** and 7th (**Tuesday**) in our parish hall. You can **Sign up today** during the coffee hour with Lydia at the table set up at the hall, or you can go to our church website www.st-mark-church.org and schedule your appointment anytime.

This Week

Tuesday October 17, Becoming Truly Human 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday October 18, Vespers 6:30 p.m.

Saturday October 21, Breast Cancer Awareness Walk, see flyer for more details

Next week

Sunday October 22, BCA Luncheon, more information in the flyer included

Wednesday October 25, No Vespers

Upcoming Services & Events

Sunday October 29, join the TEENS for a delicious Mexican Halloween luncheon! No "tricks...Just treats"! Cost: \$5.00 per person (Children 5 & under are free)
After the luncheon is served we will have a Halloween piñata for the youngsters.

Saturday November 4, **Annual Food and Wine Tasting** at our church hall. Please reserve with Gisele Awayjan today and see flyer for more information.

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

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)

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.

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 Fathers of the 7th Ecumenical Council (October 15)

On the Sunday that falls on or immediately after the eleventh of this month, we chant the Service to the 350 holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council, which gathered in Nicaea in 787 under the holy Patriarch Tarasius and during the reign of the Empress Irene and her son, Constantine Porphyrogenitus, to refute the Iconoclast heresy, which had received imperial support beginning with the Edict issued in 726 by Emperor Leo the Isaurian. Many of the holy Fathers who condemned Iconoclasm at this holy Council later died as Confessors and Martyrs for the holy Icons during the second assault of Iconoclasm in the ninth century, especially during the reigns of Leo the Armenian and Theophilus.