

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



November 12, 2017

ST. JOHN THE ALMSGIVER, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

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.

Troparion of Saint John the Almsgiver in the Eighth Tone: In thy patience thou hast won thy reward, O righteous Father. Thou didst persevere unceasingly in prayer; thou didst love the poor, and didst provide for them in all things. Wherefore, intercede with Christ our God, O blessed John the Almsgiver, that our souls be saved.

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 Entrance of the Theotokos, in the Fourth Tone: The most pure temple of the Savior, the very precious chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God, is presented today in the house of the Lord. She bringeth with her the grace of the Spirit, which the angels of God do praise. She is the heavenly tabernacle.

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Prokeimenon (Psalm 48:3,1) Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. What shall I render to the Lord for all that he has given me?

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians (9:6-11)

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor, his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 96.1;11.9): Light has dawned for the righteous and joy for the upright in heart. He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor.

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (10:25-37)

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead.

Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

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Holy Oblations are offered today by Marie Mardini for the souls of Hebbo, Yacoub, Malak, Michele, Abdallah, George, & Youssef, and by Austin & Saeda Turk for the soul of Saeda's mother Gladys Khoury departed this life last Thursday, may her memory be eternal! We are also singing the 40 day Trisagion for Bishop Antoun today.

St. Mark Antiochian Women are serving their Annual Pre Thanksgiving Luncheon today, please stay and enjoy.

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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 Tsuchlis, Shamesi Joanne Townsend, 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.

<p>Ushers serving this week: Dimitri Kort & Randy Dabbah. Ushers serving next week: Don Skaff & Melad Hanna Altar boys serving this week: Samir Khamis, Joseph Attalla, Andrew Bahbah.</p>

Altar boys serving next week: Andrew Khamis, Alex Turk, Jay Skaff, Paul Rodriguez.

Quote from the Saints

"If one becomes used to fleeing or escaping sorrows, or goes from place to place, or chooses only a particular time to begin to labor and to struggle, such a one – all the days of his life – will not find a place and a time for receiving benefit."

— *St. Paisios Velichkovsky*

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

Antiochian Women of St. Mark Annual Pre Thanksgiving Luncheon. \$10 adults and \$6 children under 10 years old.

Parish Council meeting after church.

Church Photo Directory

Thank you to everyone who had their picture taken with Lifetouch last week. If you couldn't get in, you can submit a digital picture. The cost is \$10. Please write the check to St. Mark Church and give to Lydia.

There are two ways to submit your picture:

- 1- Email it to Judy at her email, joconnor@lifetouch.com**
- 2- You can use your picture from 2013. Just email your name to joconnor@lifetouch.com no later than Monday November 20th.**

Flowers... add color and beauty to the church. When our iconostasis was designed we included 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!

This Week

Tuesday November 14, 6:30 p.m. New Adult Education series: Journey to Fullness. Our program is as follows: Pot Luck dinner, Video presentation, and discussion.

Wednesday November 15, Start of Advent! No Vespers: Fr Michael will be attending Feast Day services at St. Matthew Orthodox Church, Torrance CA.

Next week

Monday November 20, 6:30 p.m. Evening Divine Liturgy for Feast of Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple (Orthros 5:30 p.m.)

Tuesday November 21, Journey to Fullness 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday November 22, Thanksgiving Eve Liturgy at St. Paul Greek Church at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday November 23 and Friday November 24, Church Office is closed for the Thanksgiving holiday

Friday November 24, Advent Paraklesis at 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming Services & Events

St. Mark Church Blood Drive, January 21, 2018. Please save the date, invite family and friends. Thanks for saving lives. Please see flyers included for more information.

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)

Arabic Lessons at our Church

Lilian Zeidan is offering Arabic Lessons. 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 Face book group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/OrangeCountyForum> for a list of scheduled events and more information. Our next meeting is Tuesday December 5 at St. Mark Church.

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. John the Alms-giver (November 12)

Saint John was born in 555 on the island of Cyprus in the city of Amathus; his father, Epiphanius, was a ruler of Cyprus. The Saint was consecrated Archbishop of Alexandria in 608. A man of exemplary uprightness, in his zeal for Orthodoxy he strove mightily to fight the many heresies among the Christians in Egypt; but above all, he was famous for his singular generosity, humility, and sympathy towards all, especially the poor. His mercy was so great that the report of it reached the Persian invaders of Jerusalem, who desired to see him because of it. Saint John reposed in 619, at the age of sixty-four.