

St. Mark Orthodox Church

**Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese,
His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of all North America**

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

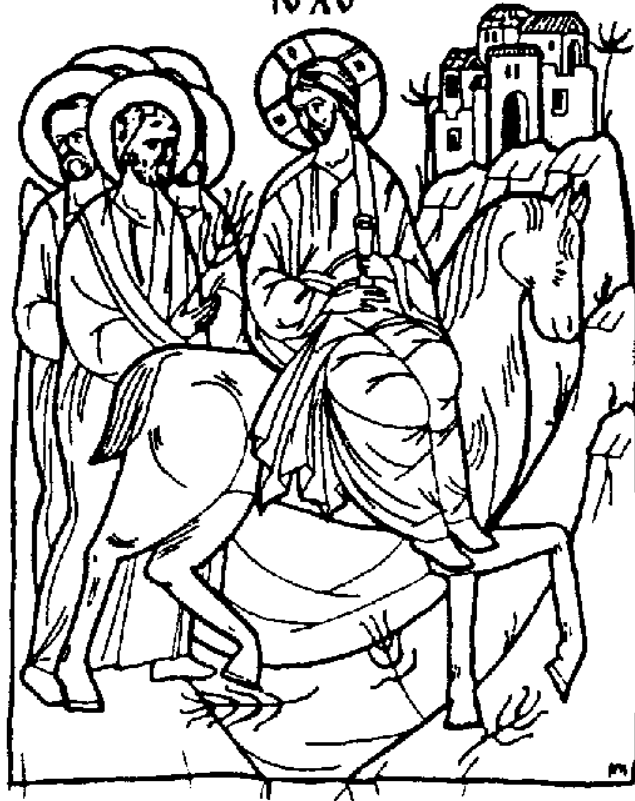
Sunday Schedule: Orthros (Matins) & Confessions 8:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Church School after Holy Communion

:ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM:

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April 1, 2018

**GLORIOUS AND BRILLIANT FEAST OF THE ENTERANCE OF OUR
LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM (PALM SUNDAY)**

LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHYRSOSTOM

CHANGES FOR THE PALM SUNDAY DIVINE LITURGY

Refrain of Second Antiphon: O Son of God, who rode upon the foal of an ass, save us who sing to Thee, Alleluia.

Entrance Hymn: **Priest**: Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God and hast appeared unto us. **People**: Save us O Son of God, who rode upon the foal of an ass, who sing unto Thee, Alleluia.

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion for Palm Sunday in the First Tone: O Christ God, when thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead before thy passion, thou didst reveal the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we like the children carry palms of victory and triumph and cry to thee, O Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord!

Troparion for Palm Sunday in the Fourth Tone: When we were buried with thee in baptism, O Christ God, we became deserving of the resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore, we praise thee, crying unto thee: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord!

Kontakion for Palm Sunday Tone 6: Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before thee, Blessed is he that cometh to restore Adam.

Prokeimenon (Ps. 117:26, 1) Blessed is he who comes in the Name of the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His mercy endures forever.

Reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Philippians (4:4-9)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 97:1, 3): O sing to the Lord a new song. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of the Lord.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (12:1-18)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was here, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!"

His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

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Megalyrnarion of Palm Sunday (Instead of "It is truly meet...")

God the Lord hath appeared unto us; let us celebrate the Feast, and let us rejoice and magnify Christ; and with palms and branches let us raise our voices unto him with praise, saying, Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord our Savior. (Tone 4)

Communion Hymn (Instead of "Praise ye the Lord..."): Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Instead of "We have seen the true light..." we sing, " O Christ God, when thou didst raise Lazarus..." (as above in Tone 1).

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Holy Oblations are offered today by St. Mark Ladies for our dear Theresa Joubran on the occasion of her birthday, and by the Goson and the Gorup families for the soul of James N. Goson departed this life 8 years and for the health and salvation of their families.

Today our Antiochian Women are holding their Annual Palm Sunday Bake Sale after the service.

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Please remember in your prayers: Michael Debbas, Reham Turk, Nuha Qushair, Eleanor Wackeen, Georgette Salameh, June Anter, Seham Aldada, Kh. Katherine Tsichlis, Khouria 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.

Ushers this week: Special team for **Palm Sunday**

Ushers next week: Special team for **Pascha**

Altar boys serving this week: Special team for **Palm Sunday**

Altar boys serving next week: Special team for **Pascha**

Quote from the Saints

Let those of us who have wisely finished the course of fasting and who celebrate with love the beginning of the suffering of the Passion of the Lord, Let us all, my brothers, zealously imitate the purity of self-controlled Joseph; Let us fear the sterility of the fig tree; Let us dry up through almsgiving the sweetness of passion. In order that we may joyously anticipate the Resurrection, Let us procure like myrrh pardon from on high because the eye that never sleeps observes all things.

St Romanos the Melodist

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

On Palm Sunday, the fast of the Church is relaxed to allow fish, wine and olive oil. For Holy Week we keep a strict Lenten fast: We are to abstain from all meat and animal products (including eggs, milk, animal fats, etc.), wine and olive oil, through Holy Wednesday. Oil and wine are allowed on Holy Thursday. On Holy

Friday we should eat as little as we possibly can. On Holy Saturday we are also fast strictly (though wine is allowed).

Candles are offered for sale today for \$8.00 each.

The red dye for Easter Eggs is for sale in our bookstore for \$1.50 each envelope.

Our Pascha Breakfast signup sheet is posted in the church hall, please make sure you sign up for your donation. For more information, please see Denise Nassif.

Our new 2018 Church Photo Directory is here. Please see Lydia at the coffee hour to pick up your directory today.

2018 St. Mark Stewardship Pledge Update!

Thank you to all who have pledged so far! To date, we've had 122 families turn in their 2018 pledge cards and have raised \$187,087 which is 91% of our goal of reaching \$205,000. We're less than \$18,000 away from our goal!! If you haven't yet, please take the time to fill out your pledge cards today! We appreciate your prayers and support.

Additional pledge cards are available in the back of the church and can be dropped off in the white box in the church hall. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask a parish council member.

In Christ,

St. Mark Stewardship Committee

Please remember to take your Sunday Bulletin 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

Holy Week Schedule

Sunday April 1, Bridegroom Orthros, 7:00 p.m.

Monday April 2, Bridegroom Orthros, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday April 3, Bridegroom Orthros, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday April 4, Service of Holy Unction, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday April 5,

Divine Liturgy (Institution of Holy Communion) 10:00 a.m. (Orthros at 9:00 a.m.)

Service of 12 Passion Gospels, 7:00 p.m.

Friday April 6

Royal Hours 9:30 a.m.

Vespers of Taking the Lord's Body down from the Cross, 3:30 p.m.

Lamentations Service 7:00 p.m.

Teen SOYO Vigil at the Tomb of Christ

Saturday April 7

Holy Saturday Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Vigil of Great and Holy Pascha 11:00 p.m.

Followed by Pascha Breakfast

Next Week

Sunday April 8, Great and Holy PASCHA, Agape Vespers, 1:00 p.m. with the reading of the Gospel in many languages.

Wednesday April 11, Bright Week Divine Liturgy 6:30 p.m., Orthros 5:30 p.m.

Upcoming Services & Events

Diocese Of Los Angeles & The West 66th Annual Parish Life Conference

Hosted by: St. George Church; Portland, OR Red Lion on the River, Jantzen Beach – July 4 – 8, 2018. Please see Registration Form and Souvenir Journal Order Form on the information table at the hall.

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.

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.

The Entrance of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

On Sunday, five days before the Passover of the Law, the Lord came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Sending two of His disciples to bring Him a foal of an ass, He sat thereon and entered into the city. When the multitude there heard that Jesus was coming, they straightway took up the branches of palm trees in their hands, and went forth to meet Him. Others spread their garments on the ground, and yet others cut branches from the trees and strewed them in the way that Jesus was to pass; and all of them together, especially the children, went before and after Him, crying out: "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This is the radiant and glorious festival of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate today.

SOYO Holy Thursday and Good Friday Events!

PLEASE READ & RSVP (yes or no) to the following 2 events!!

Holy Thursday is a religious holiday so if teens and their parents desire to attend this event or church service prior to the event you should be excused from school for religious purposes.

Look at the flyer included in this bulletin regarding the first very special and fun event for Holy Thursday, April 5th at St. Luke's:

Please attend this second event on on April 6th, at St. Mark's!

‡ Good Friday service starts at 7:00pm followed by the "All Night Vigil". After the service ends around 9:00pm, Lenten snacks will be provided & the kids can eat & change into their pajamas and lay out their sleeping bags in the sanctuary. We sign up in shifts of two readers at a time (starting at 11:00pm) for half hour increments taking turns at reading the Bible and watching over Jesus tomb till 8:30am.

Parents pick up kids at 9:00am at St. Mark's.

Please do not forget to rsvp to Aunty Paula either YES or NO by Tuesday night, April 3rd!!!

Just text me back on the group text.

This year, Charlotte Khoury, Fatin Fakhouri, & Rhanda Salameh volunteered to chaperone in place of Aunty Dana & myself because we are both out of town.

Please remember to bring;

Sleeping bag; Pillow; Extra blanket; Pajamas or sweats; Toiletries i.e., toothbrush, toothpaste

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE RSVP