

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, Deacon Nicholas Mamey

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



AUGUST 12, 2018

ELEVENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

AFTER-FEAST OF 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 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 Transfiguration (see above)

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.

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Prokeimenon (Psalm 117:14, 18) The Lord is my strength and my song. The Lord has chastened me sorely.

Section from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (9:2-12)

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own

expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?

Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 19:1, 9) May the Lord hear you in the day of your trouble. O Lord, save the king, and hear us when we call upon you.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable: "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.

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Holy Oblations are offered today for all those affected by the ongoing terrible wildfires in California.

Coffee Hour is given today by the Coffee hour committee.

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Please remember in your prayers: Theo Whitehead, Michael Debbas, Eleanor Wackeen, Tarek Fakhouri, Seham Aldada, George Aldada (the elder), Adele Bahbah, 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: Paul Rodriquez, Paul Habeeb, Nicholas Habeeb, Jeries Hanna, Anthony Saadeh, Dave Tax Jr.
Altar boys serving next week: Paul Youssef, Chadi Tarazi, Salim Elsaygeh, Joseph Haffty, Alex Haffty, Seth Skaff, John Jirjis.

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

Parish Council Meeting

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!

Please check Lost N Found box at the church hall.

This Week

Dormition Fast began on Wednesday August 1. During this Fast 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 14, Evening Liturgy for the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos at 6:30 p.m. (Orthros 5:30 pm)

Wednesday August 15, 7:00 p.m. Reception of Myrrh-streaming Icon at St. George Orthodox Church, Upland. Please see flyer for more information.

Next week

Wednesday August 22, 7:00 p.m. Vespers

Our new **Grief Support Group** will meet for the first time on Sunday August 19 during coffee hour for adults dealing with loss. See Tammy Qutami or Tania Maalouli for more details.

Upcoming Services & Events

Tuesday August 28, Evening Liturgy for the Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist at 6:30 (Orthros 5:30pm)

DUELING PIANOS DINNER & SHOW, Saturday, September 22 from 6-10 pm. Join us for our annual fundraising dinner at San Juan Hills Golf Club as we host a Dinner and Sing-Along Show! First enjoy a delicious dinner and then you'll enjoy a high energy, all request, sing along clap along, Rock N Roll comedy piano show where the audience is just as much part of the show as the entertainers. Don't forget to bring your song requests!! There will be a Silent Auction during dinner and all proceeds benefit St. Mark Orthodox Church. The first 100 tickets sold receive a box of Girl Scout Cookies! Tickets are \$60 per ticket if paid before 9/9 and \$70 per ticket if paid after 9/9. For sponsorship packages, see Nelson Mamey. Contact anyone from the event committee for more information: Barbara Khamis, Jerri Mamey, Kyra Pelachik, Paula Rodriguez, Barbara Scholl or Rima Tarzi. Don't miss out on this one of a kind, fun sing along night

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.

Saint of the Day

St. 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.