

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 Secretary: Lydia Wakileh

Teen Advisors: Paula Rodriguez and Dana Chade



AUGUST 26, 2018

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW

STS. ADRIAN AND NATALIE

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

All: **Troparion of the Resurrection in the Fourth Tone:** Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

Troparion of Sts. Adrian and Natalie St. Mark in the Third Tone: Thou didst deem that Faith which hath salvation to be riches never lost or plundered. Thou forsookest thy fathers' impiety, and thou didst follow thy Master, becoming rich in His divine gifts, O glorious Adrian. With the godly-minded Natalie, who emboldened thee, entreat Christ God, O Martyr, that our souls be saved.

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 Nativity of the Theotokos in the Fourth Tone: By thy holy nativity, O immaculate one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of death; thy people celebrate it, having been saved from the penalty of their transgressions, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of life.

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Prokeimenon (Psalm 103.24, 1) Tone 4: O Lord, how marvelous are Thy works. In wisdom hast Thou made them all. Bless the Lord, O my soul!

Reading from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (16:13-24)

Brethren, be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love.

Now, brethren, you know that the household of Stephanas were the first converts in Achaia, and they have devoted themselves to the service of the saints; I urge you to be subject to such men and to every fellow worker and laborer. I rejoice at the coming of Stephanas and Fortunatus and Achaicus, because they have made up for your absence; for they refreshed my spirit as well as yours. Give recognition to such men.

The churches of Asia send greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord. All the brethren send greetings. Greet one another with a holy kiss.

I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. If any one has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed. Our Lord, come! The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 44.4, 7) Tone 4: Draw your bow and prosper and reign, for the cause of truth and meekness and justice. You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness.

The Reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (21:33-42)

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and let it out to tenants, and went into another country. When the season of fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants, to get his fruit; and the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first; and they did the same to them. Afterward he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' And they took him and cast him out of the vineyard, and killed him. When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: 'The very stone which the builders rejected has become the head of the corner; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?'"

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Holy Oblations are offered by Hanna, Maher, Saleh, Yacoub Kureh & their families for the soul of the wife, mother and grandmother Maha Kureh departed this life one year [Memory eternal], by Spir, Marwan & Rula Dabit and family for the soul of wife and mother Laurette Dabit, departed this life 3 years [Memory Eternal], and by the Whitacre and Laffoon families for James Whitacre on the occasion of his birthday (August 28).

Light luncheon is given today by the Kureh family in memory of Maha Kureh.

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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: Nelson Mamey & Jimmy Goson

Ushers next week: Paul Habeeb & Jamal Sayegh

Altar boys serving this week: Andrew Khamis, Michael Yaghnam, Sebastian Skaff, Matthew Kalache, Adam Erdkamp, Dominic Benjamin

Altar boys serving next week: Jay Skaff, Nour Youseff, George Aldada, Efstahios Geronikilaou, John Hanouneh.

Quote from the Saints

“This is the mark of Christianity—however much a man toils, and however many acts of righteousness he performs, to feel that he has done nothing, and in fasting to say, ‘This is not fasting,’ and in praying, ‘This is not prayer,’ and in perseverance at prayer, ‘I have shown no perseverance; I am only just beginning to practice and to take pains’; and even if he is righteous before God, he should say, ‘I am not righteous, not I; I do not take pains, but only make a beginning every day.’”

Saint Makarios of Egypt

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

Young Adult Lunch with Dn. Nicholas, at the IHOP on Mac Arthur Blvd. across from John Wayne Airport. The group will meet at the restaurant at 12 noon.

St. Mark Church School Announcements

Church School term begins on Sunday, September 23, 2018 with registration on September 16th. We're very excited about the upcoming new Church School Year.

In Christ,

Kristin Chala, Co-Director

Tammy Qutami, Co-Director

Please check Lost N Found box at the church hall.

This Week

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

Wednesday August 29, 7:00 p.m. Vespers

Next week

Saturday September 8, Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos. Othros 9:00 a.m., Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

Upcoming Services & Events

Saturday September 22, DUELING PIANOS DINNER & SHOW, 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. VIP sponsorship packages available, 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!

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS WANTED! We're looking for auctions items to use in the Silent Auction for the Dueling Pianos Dinner & Show in September. Some items were looking for are sports tickets, bottles of wine, restaurant gift certificates, jewelry, movie tickets, overnight hotel stays, etc. We'll even take your small items and help create a bigger basket with other items, so no item is too small. See Rima Tarazi or Kyra Pelachik for more information.

October 14, Parish Annual Meeting, All communing adult Orthodox Christians, pledged to St. Mark for the current year are eligible to vote. We need your participation in this meeting! Plan to be there. We will vote on a 2019 Budget, hear organization reports and elect three new Council Members. If you would like to run for a Council seat, or suggest another member for nomination, please see Fr. Michael or one of the out-going Council members: Barbara Scholl, Kyra Pelachick, or Dimitri Kort. The list of nominees will be printed in the October 7

bulletin. In accordance with our Parish Constitution, no nominations are allowed from the floor.

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

Holy Martyrs Adrian and Natalia of Nicomedia

The holy Martyrs Adrian and Natalie confessed the Christian Faith during the reign of Maximian, in Nicomedia, in the year 298. Adrian was a pagan; witnessing the valor of the Martyrs, and the fervent faith with which they suffered their torments, he also declared himself a Christian and was imprisoned. When this was told to his wife Natalie, who was secretly a believer, she visited him in prison and encouraged him in his sufferings. Saint Adrian's hands and feet were placed on an anvil and broken off with a hammer; he died in his torments. His blessed wife recovered part of his holy relics and took it to Argyropolis near Byzantium, and reposed in peace soon after.