

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

Parish Council Chairman: Austin Turk

Choir Director Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Jacob Bahbah, Mark Ellis,

Karim Youssef

Church Secretary: Lydia Wakileh

Teen Advisor: Fatin Fakhouri

Church School after Holy Communion



JANUARY 13, 2019

SUNDAY AFTER HOLY THEOPHANY

Note: at the Second Antiphon, we sing "Save us, O Son of God, who was baptized by John in the Jordan..." **but** in the Entrance Hymn we sing "Save us, O Son of God, who art risen from the dead..."

DURING THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of Epiphany in the First Tone: When Thou O Lord was baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest! For the voice of the Father bare witness to Thee, and called Thee his beloved Son. And the Spirit, in the form of a dove, confirmed the truthfulness of his word. O Christ, our God, who hast revealed Thyself and hast enlightened the world, Glory to Thee.

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Eighth Tone: From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the threeday burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of Epiphany in the First Tone (Repeat in Arabic)

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.

Priest: Kontakion of Theophany in the Fourth Tone: Today thou hast appeared to the universe, O Lord, and thy light hath been shed upon us, who praise thee with knowledge, saying, Thou hast come and appeared, O unapproachable Light.

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Prokeimenon: (Psalm 32:22, 1) Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous.

Reading from St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians (4:7-13)

Brethren, grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." (In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is he who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) And his gifts were that some should be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the

Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Alleluia Verses: (Psalm 88:1, 2) I will sing of your mercies, O Lord, forever. For you have said: "Mercy shall be built up forever."

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (4:12-17)

At that time, when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he went and dwelt in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, toward the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles --the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

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Holy Oblations are offered today by Fr. Michael and family for the soul of Kh. Elizabeth Limbeson, departed this life 6 years. Kh. Betty, with her husband, Fr. John were great friends of our parish.

Today's Coffee Hour is given by Coffee Committee.

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Please remember in your prayers: Michael Debbas, Edward Deeb, Eleanor Wackeen, Michael Joubran, Tarek Fakhouri, 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: Sleiman Aldada & Sam Kishek

Ushers next week: Dimitri Kort & Randy Dabbah

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

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

Quote from the Saints

"Repentance is the renewal of baptism. Repentance is a contract with God for a second life. A penitent is a buyer of humility." -- **St. John of the Ladder**

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.

A NOTE TO OUR VISTORS

Welcome to St. Mark's! We are pleased to have you here with us today. Please be informed that only those Orthodox Christians who are prepared through prayer, fasting, and the sacrament of confession should approach the Chalice for the Eucharist. The Orthodox Church does not practice "open communion" or intercommunion with other churches (non-Orthodox). If you have any questions concerning this, please talk to Father Michael before taking communion. Visitors are welcome to venerate the cross at the end of the service and to receive some of the blessed bread, if they so desire.

For Orthodox Christians to receive Holy Communion:

- You must be spiritually prepared and uphold the beliefs and moral teachings of the Church.
- You must keep the fast (Wednesday & Friday, and other fasting seasons)
- If married, your marriage must have been consecrated in the Orthodox Church.
- If (unfortunately) divorced, you must be formally restored to communion by the Church by confession and Episcopal decision.

If an Orthodox Christian has left the church, or has been absent from services for a long period, and is returning, he or she must see the priest prior to receiving the sacraments of the Church.

Today

Please note that we have new chairs for our Choir and for the seating area on the North side of the Church nave. Special thanks to Austin and Alexander Turk, who assembled the chair backs!

The 2019 Church Calendars are available at the information table in the hall. Please, only one per family!

Sunday Church Ushers are needed at St. Mark. Both men and women are invited to serve as ushers on Sunday, please contact Isa Khamis ijk53@yahoo.com or (714) 904-2270.

This Week

Monday January 14, Parish Council 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday January 15, Adult Education 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday January 16, 6:30 p.m. Evening Divine Liturgy for Feast of St. Anthony (Orthros at 5:30 p.m.)

Next week

Tuesday January 22, Adult Education 6:45 p.m.

Wednesday January 23, 7:00 p.m. Vespers

Upcoming Services & Events

Tuesday January 29, 6:30 p.m. Evening Divine Liturgy for Feast of St. Anthony (Orthros at 5:30 p.m.)

Our monthly Newsletter (and other important information) can be found at the parish website www.st-mark-church.org

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. **And.... Do you use Amazon.com? You can have a percentage of your purchase go to St. Mark Church. All you need to do is go to smile.amazon.com and sign in with**

your existing account. On the home screen, click on “Supporting” and when asked to choose a charity type”St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Church” and select that as your designated charity. When you shop on Amazon, be sure you are on the smile.amazon.com web page to start. One half of one percent of what you spend will be given to our parish.

Saint of the Day: St. John the Hut-dweller (January 15) Saint John, who was from Constantinople, was the son of illustrious parents -- Eutropius the Senator and Theodora. At twelve years of age he departed secretly from his home and went to the Monastery of the Unsleeping (see Dec. 29). Aflame with longing for his parents, he returned after six years to his father's home in the guise of a pauper and beggar. Living in a small hut at the gates of his parents' house (wherefrom he is called "hut-dweller"), he remained unknown therein for many years, and suffered mockery at the hands of those who had been his own servants. Foreknowing his death, he revealed himself to his parents, and within a few moments reposed, about the year 450.

***St. Mark Annual
Valentine Dinner Dance***

Saturday February 9th

7:00 PM-Midnight

Join us for a beautiful
Romantic Evening
Dance to the rhythms of
DJ Frankie Flow

Hot and Cold Maza
Full Arabic Dinner
Complimentary Bottle of
El Massaya Arak on each table

Valentine Candy Bar and Dessert Buffet
\$70.00 / Person

Rsvp: Denise Nassif (949) 500-8318
Afifa Artoul(949) 600-3876



More information to come later

