

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



FEBRUARY 17TH, 2019
Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the Fifth Tone: Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

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 Publican and Pharisee in the Fourth Tone: Let us flee from the boasting of the Pharisee and learn the heights of humility from the publican's words. Let us cry out in repentance: O Savior of the world, be gracious to thy servants.

Prokeimenon (Psalm 75.11, 1) Tone 8: Make your vows to the Lord our God and perform them. God is known in Judah; his name is great in Israel.

The reading from Saint Paul's Second Letter to Timothy (3:10-15)

My child Timothy, you have followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, long-suffering, love, patience, persecutions, sufferings, what things befell me at Antioch, at Iconium, and at Lystra. What persecutions I endured! And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Indeed all who would live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. But people who are wicked and deceivers will proceed from worse to worse, deceiving and being deceived. But as for you, continue in the things you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and how from infancy you have known the sacred temple writings which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 94.1, 2) Tone 8: Come let us rejoice the Lord; Let us shout with jubilation to God our savior.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke (18:10-14)

The Lord spoke this parable: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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Holy Oblations are offered today by Michael & Charlotte Khoury for the health and salvation of their children and in memory of Charlotte's father Salim Daher who passed away 24 years ago. May his memory be Eternal.

Coffee Hour is given today by the Coffee Hour 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: 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 Youssef, George Aldada, Efsathios Geronikilaou, John Hanounch.

Quote from the Saints

"Don't sit, glued to the television....Guard yourselves from the means of mass blinding."

Elder Epiphanius

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/christened 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

Antiochian Women's Meeting after Liturgy.

Men's Club Meeting after Liturgy.

The 5th & 6th Grades will participate in the Sacrament of Confession after the end of Divine Liturgy.

The rest of the Church School will do the same, according to the following schedule:

February 24, 3rd & 4th Grades

March 3, 1st & 2nd Grades

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 February 18, 6:30p.m. Parish Council meeting

Tuesday February 19, 6:45 p.m. Adult Education

Wednesday February 20, 7:00 p.m. Vespers

Friday February 22, 6:45 p.m. An Evening with St. Raphael

Next week

Tuesday February 26, 6:45 p.m. Adult Education

Wednesday February 27, 7:00 p.m. Vespers

Upcoming Services & Events

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.**

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.



An Evening with St. Raphael of Brooklyn

Please join us for an evening of learning as we read and discuss the writings of
Saint Raphael Bishop of Brooklyn

The readings and discussion will be conducted by
Protodeacon George Moubayed & Karim Youssef
in the Arabic Language as originally written.

When: Friday 6:45 pm February 22

Where: St. Mark Church 17840 Sky Park Circle, Irvine

Pot Luck Lenten Dinner

For more information, please contact Austin Turk at 949-922-2350

يرجى الانضمام الينا لامسيه من التعلم ونحن نقرا ومناقشه كتابات القديس رافائيل اسقف بروكلين
سيتم سماع قراءات من الشماس جورج مبييض في اللغة العربية كما كتب في الأصل.

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FEB 17 2019

RESTAURANTS

CARL'S JR	(10'S)	\$30
CHEESECAKE FACTORY		\$100
CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL	(10'S)	\$40
DEL TACO		\$30
EL POLLO LOCO (\$10)		\$30
EL TORITO/ACAPULCO		\$50
MAGGIANO'S /CHILI'S / MACARONI GRILL (25'S)		\$175
MIMIS CAFE		\$100
OUTBACK STEAK HOUSE		\$200
PF CHANGS		\$100
OLIVE GARDEN		\$50
SMASHBURGER (\$10'S)		\$30
SUBWAY (10'S)		\$50
TACO BELL (\$10'S)		\$50

GAS STATIONS

ARCO		\$500
EXXON/MOBIL		\$600
SHELL		\$650
76 UNOCAL (\$100's)		\$100

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT STORES

BLOOMINGDALE'S	100's	\$100
EXPRESS CLOTHING STORES		\$100
Gap/Banana Republic/Old Navy \$25	NEW	\$50
MACY'S (\$25/\$100's)		\$100
MARSHALL/ TJ MAX		\$100
NORDSTROM	\$100'S	\$200
ROSS (\$25'S)		\$100
SAKS 5TH AVENUE	(\$50'S)	\$100
STEIN MART (\$25)		\$50
SEPHORA COSMETICS (\$25'S)	***NEW***	\$50
AMAZON.COM GIFT CARDS (\$25'S /100's)		\$250 <u>SHOP SMILE AMAZON</u>
Visa® Five Back (\$50/\$100)		\$200

FOOD MARKETS

ALBERTSON'S		\$300
SPROUTS FARMERS MARKET (\$50)	** NEW**	\$100
STATER BROTHERS		\$200
SMART N FINAL (\$50'S ONLY)		\$100
SUPER KING MARKET	***NEW	\$0

SPECIALTY RETAIL STORES

BATH & BODY		\$50
BED BATH & BEYOND		\$50
DISNEY STORES		\$250
HOME DEPOT		\$75
HONEYBAKED HAM		\$50
I-TUNES (\$15 & 25'S)		\$55
SEE'S CANDIES \$20.50/LB		1 POUND
STARBUCKS (\$10 and \$25)		\$245
TARGET \$25		\$350
WALMART \$25' AND 100'S		\$300

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FOR YOUR CHARITY ORGANIZATION