

St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, Diocese of the West

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Website: www.st-mark-church.org

Archpriest Michael Laffoon, Priest Patrick Irish

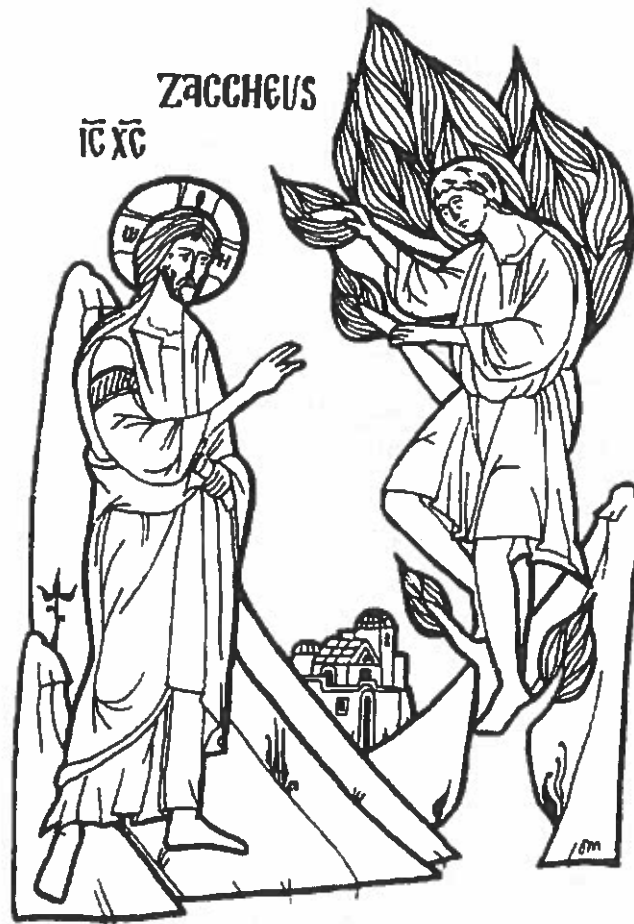
Protodeacon George Moubayed, Dn. Nicholas Mamey, Sub Deacon Athanasius Fakhouri

Choir Director Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Mark Ellis, Jacob Bahbah, Theresa Joubran,

Karim Youssef, Pericles Ioannides

Teen Advisor: Fatin Fakhouri



JANUARY 31, 2021

ZACCHAEUS SUNDAY

**HOLY AND WONDERWORKING UNMERCENARIES CYRUS AND JOHN
MARTYRS ATHANASIA AND HER DAUGHTERS THEODOTA, THEOKTISTE AND
EUDOXIA OF EGYPT; NEW-MARTYR ELIAS IN THE PELOPONNESUS; NIKITA OF THE
KIEV CAVES, BISHOP OF NOVGOROD**

Alleluia verse (Psalm 91.1, 2) it is good to give thanks to the Lord. To proclaim your mercy in the morning, and your truth by night.

The Reading from the Gospel according to St. Luke (19:1-10)

At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully. And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

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Until further notice, there is no Coffee Hour.

Please remember in your prayers: Eleanor Wackeen, Yuri Sidorenko, Jamal El-Sayegh, Tarek Fakhouri, Adib and Nabila Zabaneh, and the suffering people of Syria, Iraq, Lebanon, Egypt, Libya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Palestine, Venezuela, Ukraine, and all people afflicted by violence and disease, especially those affected by the Coronavirus.

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.

Today

2021 Wall Calendars are here. Please pick one up from the information table in the Hall.

Please remember that even in the midst of this difficult period, the expenses of the parish continue. It is important that we send in our donations and pledges via U.S. mail, or if you prefer to pay by credit card, go to our new parish web page www.st-

mark-church.org and click on "Donate" We are working to keep our expenditures as low as possible until things return to a more normal state.

This Week

Monday February 1, **Evening Divine Liturgy for Feast of Presentation of our Lord in the Temple:** Orthros 5:30 p.m., Divine Liturgy 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday February 3, 6:00 p.m. Daily Vespers

House blessings this year: Our Metropolitan has written to the clergy re House Blessings this year. We have been told that we may visit homes for this blessing but with common sense restrictions, to quote his letter, "limit your time to the blessing itself - not staying for dinner or coffee." If you wish to postpone your House Blessing, we will be glad to schedule them later this year.

Please contact me if you would like your home or business blessed (frmlaffoon@gmail.com or call 949-8518933)

Next Week

Monday February 8, Parish Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Services and Events

Tuesday February 23, Evening Liturgy, **1st & 2nd Discovery of the Head of St. John the Baptist 6:30 p.m.** (Orthros 5:30 p.m.)

Quote from the Saints

The spiritual land of a man pure in soul is within him. The sun which shines in it is the light of the Holy Trinity.

St. Isaac the Syrian

Cyrus and John the Unmercenaries (January 31)

These Saints lived during the years of Diocletian. Saint Cyrus was from Alexandria, and Saint John was from Edessa of Mesopotamia. Because of the persecution of that time, Cyrus fled to the Gulf of Arabia, where there was a small community of monks.

John, who was a soldier, heard of Cyrus' fame and came to join him. Henceforth, they passed their life working every virtue, and healing every illness and disease freely by the grace of Christ; hence their title of "Unmercenaries." They heard that a certain woman, named Athanasia, had been apprehended together with her three daughters, Theodora, Theoctiste, and Eudoxia, and taken to the tribunal for their confession of the Faith. Fearing lest the tender young maidens be terrified by the torments and renounce Christ, they went to strengthen them in their contest in martyrdom; therefore they too were seized. After Cyrus and John and those sacred women had been greatly tormented, all were beheaded in the year 292. Their tomb became a renowned shrine in Egypt, and a place of universal pilgrimage. It was found in the area of the modern-day resort near Alexandria named Abu Kyr.

Regarding Church Attendance

We have been enabling parish members to sign up for purposes of attending Sunday Divine Liturgy. There is a limited total number of attendees (80, including clergy and singers). To sign up, please go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044CABAB29A4FF2-sunday>. Holy Services will continue being live-streamed at <https://livestream.com/accounts/13863088/events/9076624?t=1586211820473>

For those attending services, please work diligently to be at church on time. It is a gift to be able to come together again so let's start with "Blessed is the Kingdom" at 10 AM. You are also welcome to join us for Matins at 8:45 AM. All attendees must practice self-distancing, excepting those who live in the same household (no less than 6 ft. separation). Several rows of seats will be "blocked off" to facilitate distancing. Ushers may ask you to move if necessary to maintain prudent distancing. The wearing of protective masks is highly recommended (except young children). Choir members will not be wearing masks, but will practice distancing. *If you have symptoms of illness, please stay home. These symptoms include: Fever or chills, Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Headache, New loss of taste or smell, Sore throat, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea.* People with serious underlying conditions and the elderly should stay home. These people can schedule Confession and/or reception of Holy Communion by appointment. If you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, you should not participate in holy services for 14 days.

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ORGANIZATION

01/24/2021

RESTAURANTS

| | |
|---|-------|
| CHEESECAKE FACTORY | \$100 |
| MIMIS CAFÉ | \$100 |
| MAGGIANO'S/MACARONI GRILL/ CHILI'S / (25'S) | \$175 |
| OLIVE GARDEN | \$50 |
| SMASHBURGER (\$10'S) | \$30 |
| TACO BELL (\$10'S) | \$0 |

GAS STATIONS

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|---------------------|-------|
| ARCO | \$0 |
| CHEVRON | \$600 |
| EXXON/MOBIL | \$0 |
| SHELL | \$800 |
| 76 UNOCAL (\$100's) | \$200 |

CLOTHING DEPARTMENT STORES

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|--------------------------|-------|
| BLOOMINGDALE'S 100's | \$100 |
| MACY'S (\$100's) | \$300 |
| MARSHALL/ TJ MAX | \$100 |
| OLD NAY/GAP | \$50 |
| SAKS 5TH AVENUE (\$50'S) | \$100 |

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|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| AMAZON.COM GIFT CARDS (\$25'S /100's) | \$0 <u>SHOP SMILE.AMAZON</u> |
| Visa® Five Back (\$50'& \$100) | \$0 |

FOOD MARKETS

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|-------------------------------|-------|
| SPROUTS FARMERS MARKET (\$50) | \$0 |
| STATER BROTHERS | \$275 |
| SMART N FINAL (\$50'S ONLY) | \$100 |

SPECIALTY RETAIL STORES

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|---------------------------|-------|
| BED BATH & BEYOND | \$50 |
| DISNEY STORES | \$150 |
| HOME DEPOT | \$75 |
| HONEYBAKED HAM | \$50 |
| STARBUCKS (\$10 and \$25) | \$0 |
| TARGET | \$375 |
| WALMART \$25' AND 100'S | \$100 |

800-443-4438 RALPHS SIGN UP

February 2021

January '21

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|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | Th | F | Sa |
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| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

March '21

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|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | Th | F | Sa |
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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|--|----------|---|-------------------------|
| 31 | 1 Evening Liturgy 6:30 p.m. | 2 Groundhog Day Feast of the Meeting of the Lord | 3 Vespers 6:00 p.m. | 4 | 5 | 6 Vespers 4:00 p.m. |
| 7 | 8 Parish Council Mtg 7:00 p.m. | 9 | 10 Fast Day | 11 | 12 Lincoln's B-Day Chinese New Year Fast Day | 13 Vespers 4:00 p.m. |
| 14 Valentine's Day | 15 Presidents' Day | 16 Mardi Gras | 17 Ash Wednesday Vespers 6:00 p.m. | 18 | 19 Fast Day | 20 Vespers 4:00 p.m. |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 Vespers 6:00 p.m. | 25 | 26 Fast free Week | 27 Vespers 4:00 p.m. |
| 28 Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee | 1 | 2 | 3 Fast free Week Vespers 6:00 p.m. | 4 | 5 | 6 Vespers 4:00 p.m. |
| Sunday of the Prodigal Son | | | | | | |
| 7 | 8 | Notes Great Lent begins on March 15 | | | | |