

# **St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Church**

**Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, Diocese of the West**

17840 Sky Park Circle, Irvine CA 92614 (949) 851-8933

Church Office Hours: M-F, 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Website: [www.st-mark-church.org](http://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: Jacob Bahbah, Mark Ellis, Theresa Joubran,

Karim Youssef

Teen Advisor: Fatin Fakhouri



**SEPTEMBER 12, 2021**

**SUNDAY BEFORE THE ELEVATION OF THE CROSS**

**LEAVE-TAKING OF FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS**

## **During the Little Entrance**

**Troparion of the Nativity of the Theotokos in the Fourth Tone:** Thy Nativity, O Virgin, has proclaimed joy to the whole universe! The Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, has shone from you, O Theotokos! By annulling the curse, He bestowed a blessing. By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

### **HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE**

**Troparion for the Resurrection, in the Third Tone:** Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with His own arm. He hath trampled down death by death, and become the first-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of Hades, granting the world the Great Mercy.

**Troparion of the Nativity of the Theotokos in the Fourth Tone**  
(repeated in Arabic)

**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 for the Nativity of the Theotokos, in the Fourth Tone**

By thy birth-giving, O pure one, Joachim and Anne were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death. Thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto Thee, “The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life”.

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**Prokeimenon (Luke 1:47, 48):** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. For he has regarded the humility of his servant.

**Reading from St. Paul’s Letter to the Galatians (6:11-18)**

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be

persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God.

Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

**The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (3:13-17)**

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

**Megalynarion of the Feast in Tone 8** (instead of "It is truly meet...)

Virginity is alien to mothers, and childbirth is foreign to virgins; in thee, O Theotokos, both were granted. Wherefore, all we the tribes of the earth bless thee unceasingly.

**Communion Hymn of the Feast in Tone 8:** I will take the cup of salvation, and I will call upon the Name of the Lord.

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**Holy Oblations are offered by** Arij Alchammas for the soul of her uncle Bassam Toufik Alloush, departed this life 40 days; by Bunia Fasheh for the soul of her newly-departed sister-in-law, Safa Khoury and by Charlotte Khoury for the soul of her newly-departed brother Alfred Daher. Memory Eternal!

**In lieu of Coffee Hour** the Alchammas and Khoury families are offering a luncheon.

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

**Today**

Note: According to the recent CDC guidelines, if you are fully vaccinated, you need not wear a mask in church or in the hall. If you are not, you should wear a mask. A social distancing area has been set aside in the church on the left side (as one faces the altar).

**This Week**

**Monday September 13, Parish Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday September 14, 6:30 pm., Evening Liturgy for the Feast of the Elevation of the Precious and Life-giving Cross (Orthros 5:30 p.m.)** Those preparing to receive Holy Communion should fast from mid-day.

**Wednesday September 15, 6:00 p.m. Vespers**

**Next week**

**Wednesday September 22, 6:00 p.m. Vespers**

**Upcoming Services & Events**

**Sunday September 26, Fall Fundraiser. See flyer for details.**

**Sunday October 3, First Day of Church School.**

**Thursday October 8, Antiochian Women's election meeting.**

**Parish Annual Meeting October 10**

On Sunday, October 10, we will hold our 2021 Annual Parish Meeting. All Members of St. Mark Church should plan to participate. Only adult

Orthodox Christians who have made a 2021 Regular Pledge to the parish of St. Mark may vote. We need your participation in this meeting! Plan to be there. We will vote on a 2022 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: Michael Khoury, Lew Malouf, or Jerri Mamey. The list of nominees will be printed in the October 3 bulletin. In accordance with our Parish By-laws, no nominations are allowed from the floor.

### **Quote from the Saints**

"What is more necessary for man than God and His divine love? He is our refuge, He is our treasure, He is our food and drink, He is our raiment and shelter, He is our health and strength, He is our happiness and joy, He is our hope and our trust. Strive then, my son, to gain Him. If you succeed in gaining the One God, it will be sufficient for you; you will rejoice more in Him than if you had gained the entire world."

-- *St. Theodora*

### **The Consecration of the Church of the Holy Resurrection (Holy Sepulchre) September 13**

The church that is honoured far above all others is that of the Holy Resurrection, which Saint Constantine the Great constructed at the place of Golgotha, where our Saviour was crucified and buried. For a long time this place had been purposely buried beneath the earth by the Jews and heathen; furthermore, during the reign of Hadrian (117-138), a temple dedicated to Aphrodite was built over the site so that this sacred place might be even further desecrated and fall into utter oblivion. It was here that the Cross was hidden. However, at the command of the pious Emperor Constantine, excavations were made and the tokens of the saving Passion were found. It was here, then, that the very great and magnificent temple named in honour of Christ God's Resurrection-the Anastasis-was built under the supervision of the blessed Helen, while Dracilian was Eparch of Palestine and Macarius was Archbishop of Jerusalem. It was the latter,

also, who exalted the venerable Cross and performed the consecration of this temple in the year 336.

### **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 on Sundays or use the new mobile app, RaiseRight by ShopWithScrip, is simply the right way to fundraise. Just make sure to choose "E-Gift Card" and you will have it in your email in less than a minute.*

*Let's start shopping and earning money for your favorite church, St Mark Irvine!*

*Get the app: <https://www.raiseright.com/> **USE THE ENROLLMENT CODE LFA187LD11116***