

# **St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Church**

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

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Website: [www.st-mark-church.org](http://www.st-mark-church.org)

Archpriest Michael Laffoon, Priest Patrick Irish

Protodeacon George Moubayed, Sub Deacon Athanasius Fakhouri

Choir Director Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Jacob Bahbah, Mark Ellis,

Karim Youssef

Teen Advisor: Fatin Fakhouri



**DECEMBER 26, 2021**

**THE DAY AFTER THE NATIVITY**

**KNOWN AS THE SYNAXIS OF OUR MOST HOLY LADY THE THEOTOKOS AND  
EVER-VIRGIN MARY**

**AND THE LORD'S DAY AFTER THE NATIVITY**

**ON WHICH DAY WE COMMEMORATE RIGHTEOUS JOSEPH THE BETROTHED,  
DAVID THE KING AND JAMES THE BROTHER-OF-GOD**

## HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

**Troparion for the Resurrection, in the Second Tone:** When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hell with Thy Godly power. And when Thou didst raise the dead from beneath the earth, all the powers of Heaven did cry aloud unto Thee: O Christ, Thou giver of life, glory to Thee.

**Troparion for Sunday after the Nativity in the Second Tone:** Proclaim, O Joseph to David, the grandparent of God, the amazing wonder; for thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; for with the shepherds thou didst give glory, with the Magi thou didst worship, and by the angel it was revealed to thee. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

All: **Troparion of the Nativity in the Fourth Tone:** Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shone to the world the light of wisdom. For by it those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to adore thee, the Sun of Righteousness, and to know thee, the Orient from on high. O Lord, glory to thee!

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 in the Third Tone:** Today the Virgin giveth birth to the Transcendent in essence; the earth offereth the cave to the unapproachable One. Angels with shepherds glorify, Magi journey with a star, for a new Child hath been born for our sakes, the pre-eternal God.

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Today we sing “As many as have been baptized into Christ...” instead of “Holy God...”

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**Prokeimenon** (Psalm 67:35,26) God is wonderful among his saints.  
Bless God in the congregations.

## **The reading from Saint Paul's Epistle to the Galatians (1:11-19)**

Brethren, I would have you know that the gospel, which was preached by me, is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James the Lord's brother.

**Alleluia Verses** (Psalm 131:1,11) O Lord, remember David and all his meekness. The Lord swore in truth to David, and he will not annul it.

## **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (2:13-23)**

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there till I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." And he rose and took the child and his mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men.

Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more."

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." And he rose and took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

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Instead of "It is truly meet..." a special hymn will be sung in both Arabic and English.

Communion Verse: *"The Lord hath sent deliverance unto His People: Alleluia."*

Instead of "We have seen the true Light..." we sing the Troparion of the Nativity.

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**Holy Oblations are given today by** Hiam Sayegh for the soul of her husband Jamal, departed this life 40 days; by Karim Yuseff for the souls of his father Yuseff (18 yrs) and his mother Mary (5 yrs) and by Fr Michael and Donna Laffoon for their son Joseph, on his Name Day.

**Coffee Hour today is sponsored by the Sayegh family.**

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*Please remember in your prayers: Yuri Sidorenko, Therese Joubran, May Dabbah, Sylvia Saba, Tarek Fakhouri, Adib and Nabila Zabaneh, Fouad and Mary Farraj (kidney transplant), Laura Anter (brain surgery) and the suffering people of Haiti, 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.*

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).

**Today**

**Please make sure to pick up your 2022 calendar from the table by the bookstore.**

**Holy Land religious gifts are offered for sale by Roni Hannouneh. Proceeds benefit our church.**

**This Week**

**Wednesday December 29, Little Compline**

**Next week**

**Wednesday January 5, Orthros (5:30 p.m.), Divine Liturgy and Great Blessing of Waters (6:30 p.m.) for the Feast of Theophany**

**Upcoming Services & Events**

**Sunday January 9, SOYO sponsored trip to LA Clippers game. See Fatin Fakhouri to reserve tickets.**

**Tuesday January 11, 6:45 a.m., We will resume our Adult Education**

**Quote from the Saints**

The Lord, before His Incarnation, let mankind experience all the bitterness of sin, all their powerlessness to eradicate it; and when all longed for a Deliverer, then He appeared, the most wise, all-powerful Physician and Helper. When men hungered and thirsted after righteousness, as it grew weaker, then the everlasting righteousness came. *St. John of Kronstadt*

**Today's Commemoration**

**Sunday after the Nativity of Jesus Christ**

On the Sunday that falls on or immediately after the twenty-sixth of this month, we make commemoration of Saints Joseph, the Betrothed of the Virgin; David, the Prophet and King; and James, the Brother of God.

When there is no Sunday within this period, we celebrate this commemoration on the 26th.

Saint Joseph (whose name means "one who increases") was the son of Jacob, and the son-in-law - and hence, as it were, the son - of Eli (who was also called Eliakim or Joachim), who was the father of Mary the Virgin (Matt. 1:16; Luke 3:23). He was of the tribe of Judah, of the family of David, an inhabitant of Nazareth, a carpenter by Trade, and advanced in age when, by God's good will, he was betrothed to the Virgin, that he might minister to the great mystery of God's dispensation in the flesh by protecting her, providing for her, and being known as her husband so that she, being a virgin, would not suffer reproach when she was found to be with child. Joseph had been married before his betrothal to our Lady; they who are called Jesus' "brethren and sisters" (Matt. 13:55-56) are the children of Joseph by his first marriage. From Scripture, we know that Saint Joseph lived at least until the Twelfth year after the birth of Christ (Luke 2:41-52); according to the tradition of the Fathers, he reposed before the beginning of the public ministry of Christ.

### **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***

**The Orthodox Greeting of the Feast**

**Christ is Born!**

**Glorify Him!**

**Al-Masseeh Welida!**

**Fa maj-iduh! (Arabic)**

**Christos Gennate!**

**Dhoxasate! (Greek)**

**Hristos se Nashte!**

**Maritzi-L! (Romanian)**

**Christos Rozhda yet'sya!**

**Sla' vite Yego! (Slavonic)**