

St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese, Diocese of the West

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

Website: 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



JUNE 26, 2022

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

**VENERABLE DAVID OF THESSALONICA; AND JOHN, BISHOP OF THE
GOTHS IN CRIMEA**

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE

Troparion of the Resurrection in the First Tone: While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure Body, thou didst arise on the third day, O savior, granting life to the world; for which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O Giver of Life; Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy Kingdom; Glory to Thy Providence, O Thou who alone art the Lover of mankind.

Troparion for all Saints of America in Eighth Tone: As the bountiful harvest of Thy sowing of salvation, the lands of North America offer to Thou, O Lord, all the saints who have shone in them. By their prayers keep the Church and our land in abiding peace. Through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One.

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.

Priest: Kontakion of the Theotokos in the Second Tone: O undisputed intercessor of Christians, the mediatrix unrejected by the Creator, turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners. Come to us in time, who cry to thee in faith, with assistance; for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who dost ever intercede for those who honor thee.

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

Reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans (2:10-16)

Brethren, glory and honor and peace for everyone who does good, the Jew first and also the Greek. For God shows no partiality.

All who have sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all who have sinned under the law will be judged by the law. For it is not the hearers of the law who are righteous before God, but the doers

of the law who will be justified. When Gentiles who have not the law do by nature what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that what the law requires is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness and their conflicting thoughts accuse or perhaps excuse them on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus.

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 17:48, 50) It is God who avenges me. God magnifies the salvation of his king, and deals mercifully with his anointed.

Reading from the gospel according to St Matthew (4:18-23)

At that time, as Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

And he went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people.

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Holy Oblations are offered today by the Laffoon and Whitacre families for Fr. Michael, for his birthday (June 23).

Coffee Hour today is sponsored by the Coffee Hour Committee.

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Please remember in your prayers: Yuri Sidorenko, May Dabbah, Sylvia Saba, Tarek Fakhouri, Adib and Nabila Zabaneh, 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.

Today

Our very special concelebrant at today's Liturgy is Fr. George Katrib, who will be our new Pastor as of August 14. He is in our area looking for housing in preparation for his family's move from Houston, Texas.

This Week

We are in the last few days of the Apostles Fast: The Fast of the Holy Apostles is not as strict as the Fasts of Pascha and the Nativity of Christ; rather it is more lenient in its duration and rules. The current rules of fasting, during the Apostles' Fast, were established first for the monks of the Monastery of the Kiev Caves by Metropolitan George of Kiev (1069-1072). These rules are still practiced today amongst most Orthodox Christians with minor variations, depending on the jurisdiction.

The rules are:

1- Red meat, poultry, and dairy products are not allowed during the entire fasting period in all weekdays.

2- Fish, wine, and oil are allowed on all days except on Wednesdays and Fridays

The 2022 Western Diocese Parish Life Conference will be held in Santa Clara, CA at the Santa Clara Marriott, and hosted by the Orthodox Church of the Redeemer of Los Altos. The dates of the PLC are **June 29 to July 3**. To make hotel reservations and sign up for the PLC, please go to <https://www.laplc.org/la>

Fr Michael and Kh. Donna will be attending the PLC, therefore there are no evening events or services this week. Saturday and Sunday services are NOT affected.

Next Week

Due to the Parish Life Conference, there is no Adult Education on Tuesday January 28 and no Little Compline on June 29

Upcoming Events

Fr. Michael's Retirement Luncheon

After 36 years of service at St. Mark Church, Father Michael Laffoon is retiring! Attached is the invitation for the Retirement Luncheon which will be held on Sunday, July 31 at 2:30 PM at St. Paul's Orthodox Church Hall in Irvine. There is only seating for 300 people in the hall therefore, you are encouraged to purchase your tickets early. The \$55 luncheon ticket is not a fundraiser, this is the cost of the luncheon. We cannot guarantee seating assignments. If you are interested in being seated with family and friends, please consider purchasing a table of 10. Children are welcome but you would need to buy a ticket for each seat and there is no children's pricing.

Additionally, we are collecting donations to gift a check to Fr. Michael on the occasion of his retirement. The list of donors will be in the event program. Our goal is to raise \$36,000 to honor the 36 years that Fr. Michael has served our community.

Reservations will be accepted in two ways:

1. By Check made out to St. Mark Church

2. Online at the following secure

link: https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#/tithe.ly/give-one-time/5512011

***Very important:** In the notes/memo, please indicate how many tickets you are purchasing, as well as the actual amount of your donation to go towards a retirement gift for Fr. Michael.

We look forward to honoring our beloved priest with you at this special occasion!

In His name,

Your Retirement Committee

Nelson and Jerri Mamey, Rima Tarazi, Paula Rodriguez, Kristin Chala and Barbara Scholl

Quote from the Saints

Would you not say, Is not that which is best, above all, and surpassing all, and that which by preference is most worthy of love, the Very Lord, our Jesus Christ, who created us, adorned us with such ideals, gave life to all, sustains everything, nurtures and loves all, who is Himself Love and most beautiful of all men?

Should we not then love God above every thing, desire Him more than anything, and search Him out?'

St. Herman of Alaska

Sunday of All Saints of America

On the Sunday after Pentecost, each local Orthodox Church commemorates all the saints, known and unknown, who have shone forth in its territory. Accordingly, the Orthodox Church in America remembers the saints of North America on this day.

Saints of all times, and in every country are seen as the fulfillment of God's promise to redeem fallen humanity. Their example encourages us to "lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily besets us" and to "run with patience the race that is set before us" (Hebrews 12:1). The saints of North America also teach us how we should live, and what we must expect to endure as Christians. Here is a partial list of our American saints. I encourage to you find their stories online.

St. Innocent of America (Missionary Priest and Bishop)

St. Tikhon of America (Missionary Bishop, later Patriarch of Moscow)

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre (Missionary Priest)

St. Peter the Aleut (Martyr)

St. Joseph of Juvenaly (Priest-martyr)

St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Missionary Priest & Bishop)

St. Sebastian (Missionary Priest)

St. Mardarije (Missionary Bishop)

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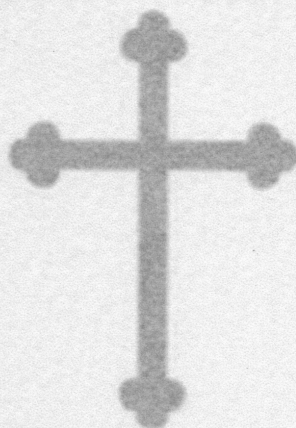
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Please join His Eminence Metropolitan
JOSEPH and the Parish of St. Mark Orthodox
Church as we honor and celebrate the
retirement of our beloved Priest

V. Rev. Fr. Michael Laffoon

Sunday, July 31. 2022

Divine Liturgy at St. Mark Church
10 AM

Lunch Reception 2:30 PM
St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Church
4949 Alton Pkwy., Irvine, 92604

\$55 pp/ Tables of 10 \$550
Donations for Fr. Michael's gift welcomed