

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

Website: www.st-mark-church.org

Archpriest Michael Laffoon, Priest Patrick Irish

Protodeacon George Moubayed, Sub Deacon Athanasius Fakhouri

Choir Director Barbara Scholl; Chanters: Dionysius Ingraham, Mark Ellis

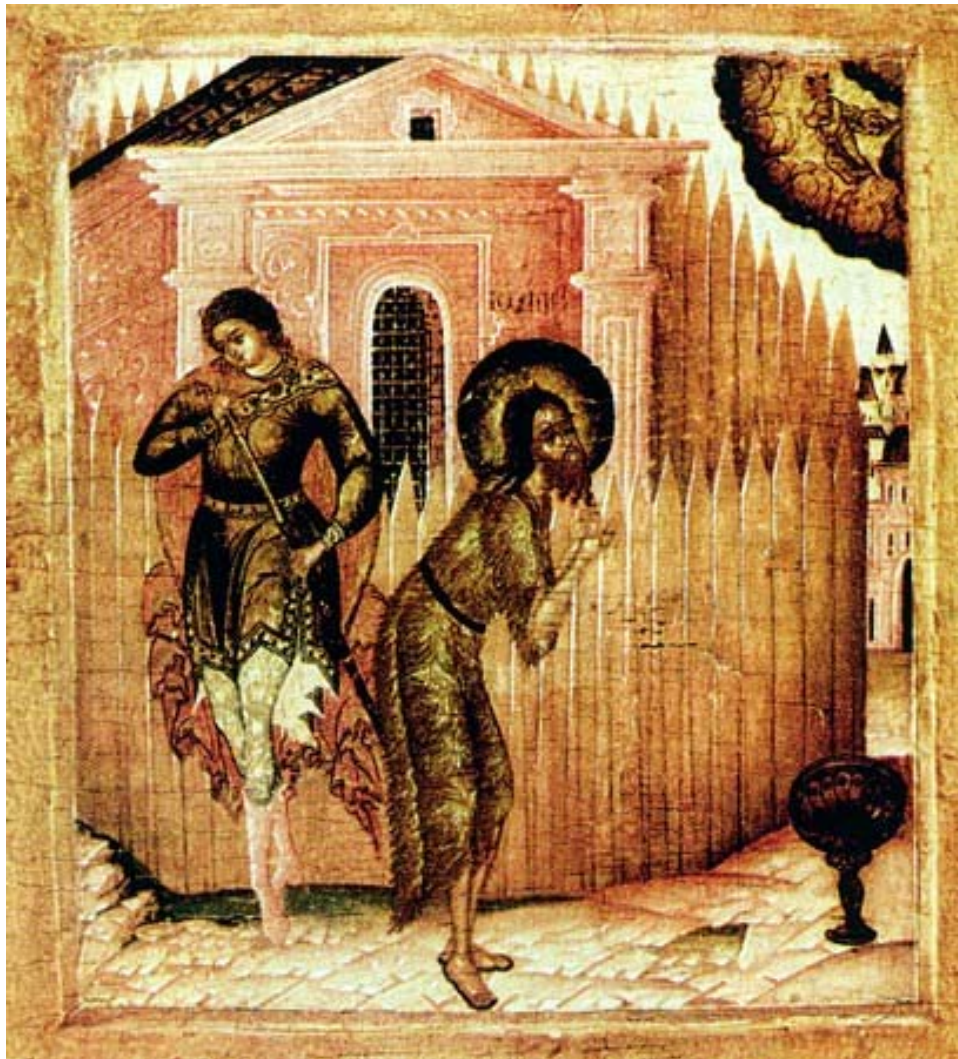
Theresa Joubran, Jacob Bahbah & Elia Qushair

Church Office Administrator: Lydia Wakileh; Youth Director: Juliana Turk

Saturday evening Great Vespers 4:00 p.m. (Confessions after)

Sunday Schedule: Orthros (Matins) & Confessions 8:45 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.



AUGUST 29TH, 2010

**THE BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTER ENTRANCE

Troparion of 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 the Beheading of the Baptist in the Second Tone: The memory of the righteous is celebrated with songs of praise, but Lord's testimony is sufficient for thee, O Forerunner. Thou wast shown indeed to be the most honorable of the Prophets, for in the waters thou didst baptize him who had been proclaimed. After suffering with joy in behalf of the truth, thou didst proclaim to those in hades the God who appeared in the flesh, who taketh away the sin of the world and granteth us Great Mercy.

All: **Troparion to St. Mark in the Third Tone:** O holy Apostle Mark, intercede with the merciful God to grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

Kontakion for the Nativity of the Theotokos the Fourth Tone: By thy holy nativity, O immaculate one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness, and Adam and Eve from the corruption of

death; thy people celebrate it, having been saved from the penalty of their transgressions, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our life.

Prokeimenon (Psalm 63.11, 1.) Tone 7: The righteous shall rejoice in the Lord. Hear my prayer, O God.

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (13:25-33)

In those days, as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.' Brethren, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you that fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled these by condemning him. Though they could charge him with nothing deserving death, yet they asked Pilate to have him killed. And when they had fulfilled all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree, and laid him in a tomb. But God raised him from the dead; and for many days he appeared to those who came up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the

fathers, this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus; as also it is written in the second psalm, 'Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee.'

Alleluia Verses (Psalm 91.12, 13.)

Tone 4: The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree and shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Those who are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark (6:14-30)

At that time, Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; that is why these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod had sent and seized John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; because he had married her. For John said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and kept him safe. When he heard him, he was much perplexed; and yet he heard him gladly. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and the leading

men of Galilee. For when Herodias' daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will grant it." And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." And she went out, and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the baptizer." And she came in immediately with haste to the king, and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." And the king was exceedingly sorry; but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. And immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard and gave orders to bring his head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, and brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb. The apostles returned to Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.

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More Holy Bread is needed for the church, so please see the sign up sheet for baking holy bread next to the bulletin board in the church hall. Thank you!

Holy Oblations are given today by
Elias and Jean Nasrawi on the occasion of their 39th wedding

anniversary and for the health of Sami, Lucy Svetlana & Isabella, by Khalil & Majida Debbas for the health of Michael, Salim & Zahia and for the soul of Salim, Huda, & Nicola, by Samir & Afifa Artoul for the health of their families the Artoul's and the Munnayer's and for the health salvation and success in school and work of their children: Nahed , Joel, Zehr, Hadeal, Richard and Nassrn and by Melad & Wafa Hanna for the health, salvation and success in School of their children Michael, Amanda & Sameer.

Coffee Hour is given today by Khalil & Majida Debbas and family.

Please see the Coffee hour calendar that has been enlarged and posted in the Church Hall for your convenience! Thanks!

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Please remember in your prayers: Irene Zogob, Mitchell Zogob, Fr. Alexander Atty, Genevieve Saba, Fr. Michael Lewis, Marion Deeb, & Nabila Zabaneh.

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Ushers serving this week: Ghassan Awayjan & Sam Nino.

Ushers serving next week: Sleiman Aldada & Mufid Samara.

Altar boys serving this week: James Bahbah, Alex Turk, Samir Khamis, Andrew Khamis.

Altar boys serving next week: Nicholas Mamey, Trevor Fortuna, James Dabbah, Jordan Qutami, Matthew Dabbah.

Quote from the Saints

"The fabric of justice is thinner than silk, but it is more durable and less easily torn, and encompasses both worlds, while the fabric of injustice and violence is thick and breaks easily." -- St. Nikolai of Zica

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

The commemoration of St. John's beheading is a strict fasting day, on whatever day it falls.

A very big thank you to Isa Khamis and all the Golf Committee for another great and successful Annual Golf Tournament.

This week

Wednesday September 1st, No Vespers.

Next Week

Monday September 6, Labor Day Holiday, Church office is closed.

Tuesday September 7, 7:00 p.m.
Evening Liturgy for the Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos, at St. Barnabas Church, at **St. Barnabas Church in Costa Mesa (3505 Cadillac Ave., Bldg G-3)**

Wednesday September 8th, 6:30 PM Vespers.

Upcoming Services & Events

September 12 - Church School Registration

September 13, 6:30 p.m., Evening Liturgy, Feast of the Elevation of the Precious Cross. (Orthros, 5:30 p.m.)

September 16, 7:00 p.m. Men's Club Meeting.

September 19 - 1st day of Church School Classes

Please Note

Sep 18th – Fifteen volunteers/2d Harvest Food Bank Work Session, 1-4 pm

Sep 23d – Bag of non-perishable food items for FOCUS OC due

Sept 26th – Blood Drive at St Mark Church, Irvine, 9am to 3pm, www.redcrossblood.org, Sponsor code Orthodox

Oct 16th – Fifteen volunteers/2d Harvest Food Bank Work Session, 1-4 pm

Nov 20th – Fifteen volunteers/2d Harvest Food Bank Work Session, 1-4 pm

Saturday October 2nd, St. Mark Second Annual Wine & Food Tasting!

A musical theatre production of *Peter Pan* will be coming to the Orange County Performing Arts

Center this Fall as a theatre-in-the-round experience. We have a 10% discount on a block of reserved seats for the **Sunday matinee at 1 PM on 10/1/2010**. The cost is **\$45.38** per ticket for rows B-K in the E section. We have a limited block of 75 seats which have been reserved for our St. Mark and St. Luke's communities. If interested, make out a check to "OCPAC" and send to Barbara Scholl, 30 Cambridge, Coto de Caza, CA 92679. Payment must accompany reservation. Deadline for tickets is September 1st.

Mark your calendar to schedule your appointment to take your family photo for the church new Photo Directory in the week of November 9 -13. More information to be announced later!!

Canned Food Drive

As we all know, our country is in the midst of a deep recession. All relief agencies are seeing more needs and at the same time donations are down. In light of this, the on going canned food collection of our parish is a small but important way to help. Please try to bring something to go in the collection barrel every week.

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

What to Wear and Not Wear to Church

Shoes: Tennis Shoes, Athletic Shoes, Flip-Flop Type Shoes and Open Sandals should not be worn to church

Shirts: T-shirts, tank tops and shirts without collars should not be worn to church. Shirts should be tucked into pants (this is not the playground at school).

Blouses, Sweaters and other Tops: Same as applies to Shirts, plus girls and ladies should not wear low-cut or revealing tops of any sort to church.

Shorts: Shorts should not be worn to church by anyone over the age of 5 years and the shorts worn by the younger children should not be gym, spandex, cutoffs, jeans or athletic shorts.

Pants: Jeans, baggy pants, hip-hugger pants, low-rider pants, athletic pants and para-military type pants should not be worn to church.

Dresses: Dresses should be modest. Dresses should have backs and should not be cut low in the front. Tank tops (or dresses with only straps at the

shoulders), short skirts (mini-skirts), and skintight dresses should not be worn to church. If women wear pants to church, they should be full-length dress pants. Mid-riffs and mid-calf pants should not be worn.

Shaving: Men and older boys should be clean shaven or with well groomed beards and/or mustaches. If you want to be “lazy” do it on Saturday, not Sunday for church.

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 & Barbara Khamis at the coffee hour.

Saint of the Day

St. Moses the Ethiopian (August 28)

Saint Moses, who is also called Moses the Black, was a slave, but because of his evil life, his master cast him out, and he became a ruthless thief, dissolute in all his ways. Later, however, coming to repentance, he converted, and took up the monastic life under Saint Isidore of Scete. He gave himself over to prayer and the mortification of the carnal mind with such diligence that he later became a

priest of exemplary virtue. He was revered by all for his lofty ascetical life and for his great humility. Once the Fathers in Scete asked Moses to come to an assembly to judge the fault of a certain brother, but he refused. When they insisted, he took a basket which had a hole in it, filled it with sand, and carried it on his shoulders. When the Fathers saw him coming they asked him what the basket might mean. He answered, "My sins run out behind me, and I do not see them, and I am come this day to judge failings which are not mine." When a barbarian tribe was coming to Scete, Moses, conscious that he himself had slain other men when he was a thief, awaited them and was willingly slain by them with six other monks, at the end of the fourth century. He was a contemporary of Saint Arsenius the Great (see May 8).