

St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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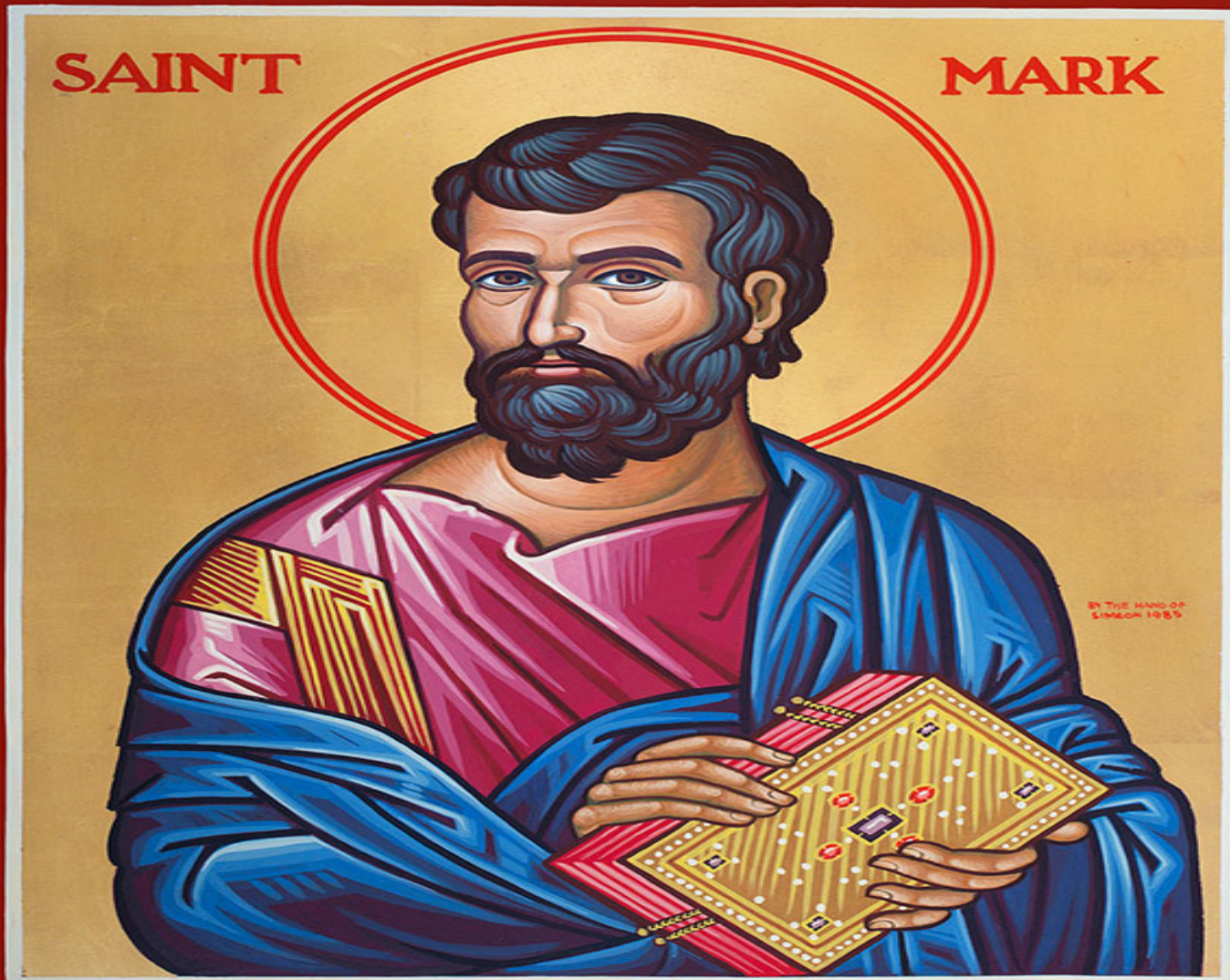
V. Rev. Michael Laffoon, Pastor Emeritus

Subdeacon Athanasius Fakhouri

Choir Director: Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Jacob Bahbah, Mark Ellis, Karim Youssef

Teen Advisor: Fatin Fakhouri



August 24, 2025

**Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
& Eleventh Sunday of Matthew**

Martyr Eutyches, disciple of John the Theologian.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Wednesday 8/27	Daily Vespers 6:30pm
Saturday 8/30	NO VESPERS due to a wedding
Sunday 8/31	Orthros 8:45am Divine Liturgy 10:00am

ENTRANCE HYMN:

Resurrectional Apolytikion in Tone 2: When Thou didst submit Thyself unto death, O Thou deathless and immortal One, then Thou didst destroy hades 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.

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE:

Resurrectional Apolytikion in Tone 2: Arabic.

Troparion of Saint Mark in Tone 4: 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 of the Nativity of the Theotokos in Tone 4: By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna 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 nourisheth our life.

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (9:2-12)

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the Law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the Gospel of Christ.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (18:23-35)

The Lord spoke this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. So also My heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

HOLY OBLATION & MEMORIAL: is offered in memory of Noura Dabit (10 years), by Spir, Marwan, and Rula Dabit, and for the health and salvation of the Dabit and Khoury families. May her memory be eternal.

HOLY OBLATION & MEMORIAL: is offered in memory of Ibtisam Saliba (the sister of Vera Pruznick), she passed 40 days ago in Lebanon, by Michael and Vera Pruznick, and the Saliba families. May her memory be eternal.

HOLY OBLATION: is offered in memory of Jamal Qutami (10 years) by Tammy and Jordan Qutami. May his memory be eternal.

REMOVAL OF CROWNS: of our newlyweds, Alex and Ann Turk! God grant them many years!

BUILDING CAMPAIGN: This is a very exciting moment for St. Mark! We have officially rolled out our building campaign to prepare Our Church for the beautiful growth we are witnessing! The generosity of a few families in our community has opened the door for an amazing opportunity. They have committed \$1,000,000, per year, for the next 3 years, but have asked it to be matching funds. When we raise \$1,000,000 in 2025, we unlock another \$1,000,000 from the matching money, and so forth.

Please take your time and prayerfully discern what that amount should be before filling out your commitment. We will need the help and participation from everyone. Let us give back to God what is already His for the Glory of His Holy Church.

Please make your Building Campaign commitment by scanning the QR Code below.



Upcoming Events:

CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION: Church School begins on Sunday September 21st. Every child needs to be registered beforehand. Scan the QR code to register your children.



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING: Sunday September 7th after Divine Liturgy. Bring your backpack to church for our back-to-school blessing!

LADIES MEETING: Antiochian Women kick off meeting! Wednesday September 17th at 6:30pm.

TINY SAINTS WHATSAPP GROUP: Signup to join this new ministry for young families and children (ages 2-8).



ONLINE ST. MARK DIRECTORY: We have begun our process of collecting data of all our parishioners for an online church directory! We need 100% participation! Scan the QR code below to be a part of the director





AS WE PREPARE FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR,
WE ASK GOD TO BLESS OUR STUDENTS AND
KEEP THEM SAFE
WITH OUR ANNUAL "BLESSING OF THE
BACKPACKS."

Are you ready?

BACKPACK BLESSING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

Please have your child bring their
backpack to church and they will be
invited up on the solea for the blessing.



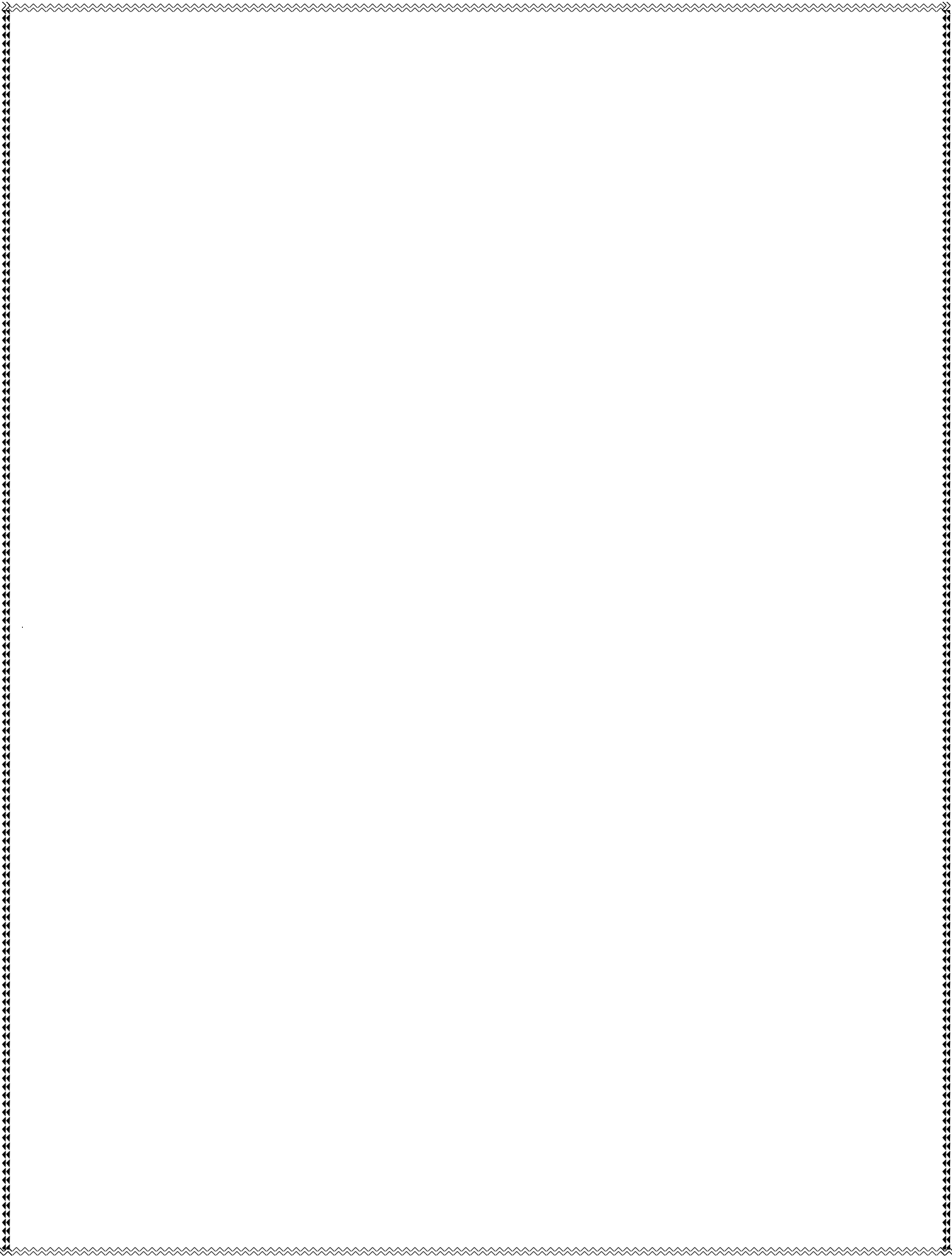
ANTIOCHIAN WOMEN

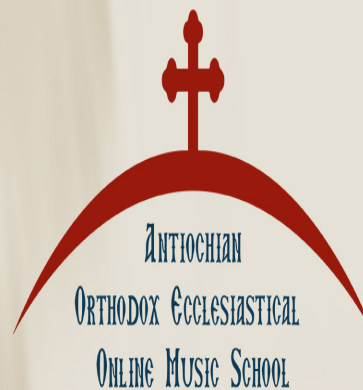
First meeting of the

Liturgical year

SEPTEMBER **17** FOLLOWING
VESPERS

Guest Speaker: Khouria Miray Katrib
Join for vespers and stay for the
first meeting of the year!
Lenten Potluck Dinner





Save the Date!

With the blessing of Metropolitan

SABA

Enrollment for the fall semester of the

Antiochian Orthodox
Ecclesiastical Online Music School

Opens Monday, August 18

Classes meet weekly for 14 weeks

Smaller, individual classes meet weekly for 10 weeks

Starting Monday, September 8, 2025

Byzantine and Choral Music Education for
new and experienced Orthodox Church musicians

