

St. Mark Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

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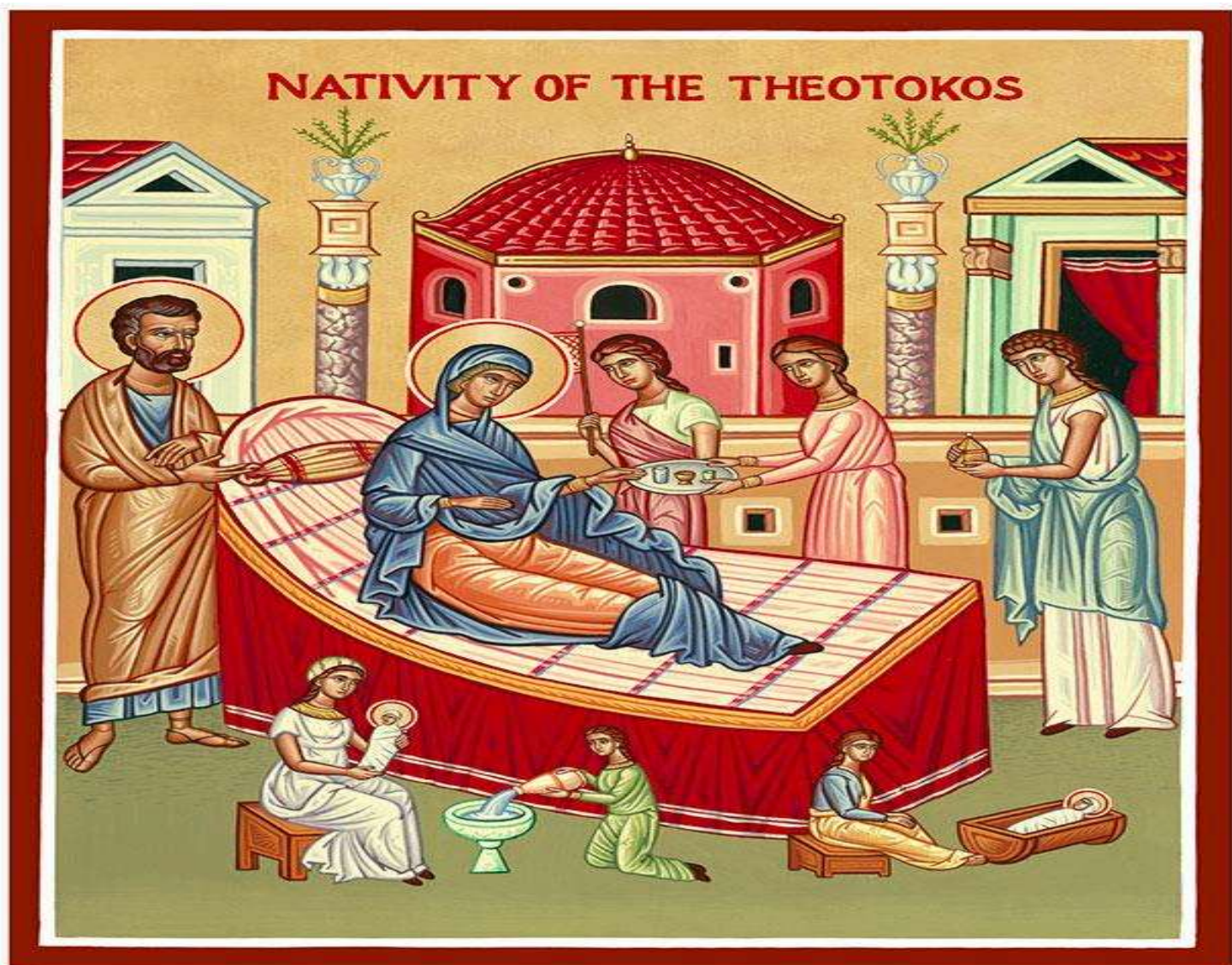
V. Rev. Michael Laffoon, Pastor Emeritus

Subdeacon Athanasius Fakhouri, Subdeacon Elias Khamis

Choir Director: Barbara Scholl

Chanters: Jacob Bahbah, Mark Ellis, Karim Youssef

Teen Advisor: Fatin Fakhouri



September 7, 2025

**Sunday before the Elevation of the Holy Cross:
Transfer of the Nativity of the Theotokos**

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Wednesday 9/10	Daily Vespers 6:30pm
Saturday 9/13	Great Vespers 4:00pm
Sunday 9/14	Orthros 8:45am Divine Liturgy 10:00am

ENTRANCE HYMN:

Apolytikion of the Nativity of the Theotokos in Tone 4: Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of justice, Christ our God, annulling the curse, and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting.

HYMNS AFTER THE LITTLE ENTRANCE:

Resurrectional Apolytikion in Tone 4: Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the angel the women disciples of the Lord cast from them their parental condemnation. And proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying: Death hath been spoiled; Christ God is risen, granting the world Great Mercy.

Apolytikion of the Nativity of the Theotokos in Tone 4: Arabic.

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 Epistle of St. Paul 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."

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.



HOLY OBLATION/MEMORIAL/COFFEEHOUR: is offered in memory of Badia Khamis Baddour (1 year) by the Khamis, Baddour and Manneh families. May her memory be eternal.

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: Today after Divine Liturgy!

TEEN SOYO MEETING & ELECTIONS: After Divine Liturgy on Sunday September 14th in the conference room. All teens plan on attending.

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

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





Diocese of Los Angeles & the West

Fall Gathering

in the Redwoods.

Hosted by
Ss. Peter & Paul, Ben Lomond, CA

October
10-12, 2025

Presiding:
His Grace Bishop
ANTHONY

Registration &
Hotel Information:



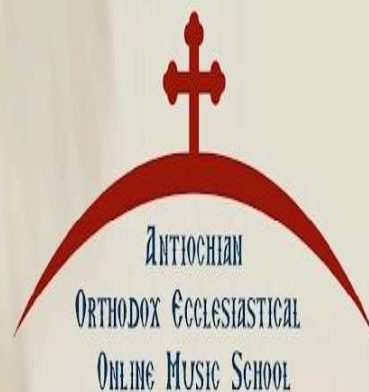
www.SsPeterandPaulOrthodox.com



Friday, October 10:
5:00 PM - Registration
5:30 PM - Vespers
6:30 PM - Dinner

Saturday, October 11:
8 AM - Registration & Continental Breakfast
9 AM - Morning Prayers & Opening Address
9:30 AM to 1 PM - Organizational Meetings
1:00 PM - Lunch
2:00 PM Music Workshop, Hiking,
- Games, Service Project
5:00 PM - or varied activities
5:30 PM - Great Vespers at Ss. Peter & Paul
6:30 PM - 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



