

# SAINT MARK'S CHURCH

An Orthodox Parish in the Western Rite Vicariate, Diocese of Wichita, Antiochian Orthodox Christian  
Archdiocese of North America

Established 1875 ☩ 1405 South Vine Street ☩ Denver, Colorado 80210

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Archbishop of New York: Metropolitan Joseph, Diocese of Wichita: Bishop Basil, Antiochian Western Rite  
Vicariate: Vicar Bishop John, Monsignore Gianni, Father James, Archdeacon Vladimir, Deacon John Satorus

## IX TRINITY, August 16, 2020 In Octave of St. Laurence / Assumption

Metropolitan Joseph asks the faithful to contribute cash/checks so our Parish can forward a check to his Office to be forwarded to the much suffering Orthodox and others in Beirut, Lebanon. After many idiots have tried to blow the place up it appears a gigantic quantity of ammonium nitrate was stored for years in a warehouse at the Port. The blast destroyed the housing of over 300,000 people. Lord have mercy.

All parishes are encouraged to collect alms for our "Sister Diocese" of Bosra-Hauran. For resources for "St Timon Sunday" visit [www.antiochian.org/hauran](http://www.antiochian.org/hauran). Please commemorate the following clergy:

*His Eminence Metropolitan SABA*

*Priest George (who serves Dara'a)*

*Priest Peter (who serves Znebe)*

*Priest Philip (who serves Al-Osilha, A-Dara and Shahba)*

*Priest George (who serves Salkhad, Aramman, Malah, Anz, and Om Aromman)*

*Priest Simeon (who serves Al-Korayya, Tisiya, and Maarbeh)*

*Priest Elia (who serves Izraa and Mothbeen)*

*Priest Timon (who serves Kharabaa and Ira)*

*Priest Nicola (who serves Al-Sweda)*

*Priest Paul (retired)*

*Deacon Spyridon (who serves Al-Sweda)*

*Novice Ora (al-Frehat)*

*Novice Basem (al-Frena)*

*Dear Heavenly Father,* We praise You for who You are... our good and blessed Father. We affirm that You are Holy and Almighty, and that You reign, Lord over heaven and earth. Father, we come to You as Your children, concerned, distressed and even frightened, about the corona virus and its effects on all of us throughout the world. However, we also come to You in trust, for You have promised us "I will never leave you; or forsake you." We acknowledge our dependence on You. O Lord Jesus during your ministry on earth, You healed in spirit, soul and body, people of all ages and stations in life. Please be present now to all affected by COVID-19. Have mercy on us and all of the whole world. *Amen.*

From a letter of Fr. Henri Neuwen on the daily struggle with distraction, madness, and faint heartedness:

"The first and most important task we have is to keep our eyes on God and Him alone. We will never overcome the demons by analyzing them, but only by forgetting them in our all-consuming love for God. God is simple, demons are complex. Demons like to be analyzed, because that keeps our attention directed to them. God wants to be loved. I am more and more convinced that the first commandment indeed needs to be first: to love God with all our heart, all our soul, and our entire mind."

Your prayers for the V. Rev'd *Michael Keyser* who died yesterday, 15 August. He served in the Western Rite and was Director of Missions for the Archdiocese.

Welcome to St. Mark's Online Church. We may produce a Sunday Matins at 9:45 and Internet Mass at 10:00 AM today:

[www.WesternOrthodox.com](http://www.WesternOrthodox.com)

THIS WEEK, THE MASSES OFFERED ARE:

Saturday: Latin Mass, Octave Day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Confessions by appointment.

The Colorado policy about 'essential' services including churches as well as grocery stores and big box shops and the Orthodox hierarchy direct that we keep the 25% rule for attendance and all the spacing of the previous regulations. This Wuhan Virus is no joke and for those who are compromised can be deadly. One Lab in France have determined the damage is neurological and so more potentially harmful than thought. For safety's sake, please wear a mask.

We have extra face masks on the back table for all. Col. Diederich sent out an email notice of the latest solemn chats from the Governor. Very nicely political.

The "**Bread of Hospitality**" must be suspended during Plague.

Parishioners with August birthdays are: Eliana Proper, Lisa Taylor, Khouria Judith Tochihara, Adam Cate, Oliver Brainerd, Charlotte Stephenson and Mary Gay Coit. The practice of signing up for snacks and letting Matushka Deborah know is suspended.

*Thanks to our dear Church Family for their generous donations during this challenging time. The Vestry have placed a collection plate at the back of the church & a button on the westernorthodox.com site for the technically savvy.*

New ICON above the Altar is St. Thomas the Apostle and the other icons have moved around so they are all still there in new locations. -Fr. John

Please get your bulletin notices to Matushka Deborah by 12 noon on Thursday. Her email:

[matushka.deborah@gmail.com](mailto:matushka.deborah@gmail.com)

The appeal for our Sister Diocese has attracted over \$400.00 so far. Church members are welcome to add to that. Thanks to Kisa Taylor Ron and Natalie Lickteig, Guy and Dana Huft, Fr. James and Khouria Tochihara, Fr. John and Matushka Deborah Connely, Rdr. Stephen and Nancy Greenlee and to others who gave cash.

Matushka Elizabeth sends her love to all our Parish family. She is recovering from a fall at home.

Please remember to protect your loved ones from contracting the Covid-19 virus by proper hand-washing, body distancing, and WEARING FACE COVERINGS. These are the best ways to reduce the spread of the virus. So, let's do the right thing and keep Dad and Mom and others safe!

Holy Communion in both kinds (the sacred Host, the Body of Christ) and precious Blood from the chalice will be combined by the Deacon or Priest "dipping" the people's Host in the Chalice and placing the Sacrament on the tongue of the communicant. For the 'Gluten issue' folk we are preparing three separate chalices. Please space out at the Altar rail.

Many thanks to Mary Rench and our Altar Guild for work this past month to make the Church beautiful, clean, and safe for all our Church family.

The St. Mark's Vestry meets today, both in person and by Voodoo tech at 9:10AM. Nothing has happened regarding the resolutions of the July meeting.

Fr. James will not be serving for a few weeks because he has been exposed to a large number of Chinese Virus positives at work. He is applying a careful method for the health of the Faithful.

Today's Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of my mother, Susan Matsch and my sister, Leslie Matsch Matis by Sandy Miller.

The Altar Guild will accept Sunday flower donations today for flowers on future Sundays.

THE Blessed Virgin Mary Shrine Candle is given in loving memory of Nancy Barnson by Matushka Deborah. She is the mother of Nancy Stuart Steffen whose lovely soprano voice we enjoy every Sunday at the 10 AM Solemn Mass.