

To Our Guests and Visitors about Receiving Holy Communion:

1. In Orthodox churches, Holy Communion is given to and received only by members of the Orthodox Church (the baptized and chrismated who strive to live in repentance, faith, and godliness).
2. If you are non-Orthodox, please refrain from approaching the Chalice, but speak with Fr. Jonathan after the Liturgy. If you are Orthodox and unfamiliar to the Priest, please introduce yourself to Fr. Jonathan prior to the Liturgy, otherwise at the Chalice.
3. Please approach the Chalice in the following order: children first; then row-by-row from the front of Church, going to the Chalice on the side you are positioned (if there are two Chalices), returning to you place by the outside aisle past the table with the *antidoron* (bread and wine).

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered for the Health of:

Archprst. Stephen	Archprst. Elias	Mat. Marion	Archprst. John	
Archprst. Joseph	Irene	Laurie	Rose	Barbara
Tanya	Eugenia	Kevin	Nicole & Noelle	Frances
Vladimir	Paisley	Eli	Adam	Laura
Joshua	Mark	Gary	Constance	Nick
Nina	Tanya	Charles	Gregory	Ronald
Tatiana	Bradley	Nancy	Nathaniel	Deanna
Bill	Kay	Larry	Lydia	

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

September Birthdays:

Will Bortins (9/3)	Jessie Insley (9/7)	Kristy Kanellos (9/9)
Dylan Roth (9/9)	Laurie Kohanik (9/20)	Warren Catterson (9/23)
Larissa Ciampa (9/26)	George Cordero (9/27)	

TO SPONSOR COFFEE HOUR, please sign up on the calendar book on the glass case. Keep it simple – donuts, coffee cake, bagels, etc. IF NO ONE SIGNS UP, THERE WILL BE NO COFFEE HOUR.

St. Mark is a Parish of the OCA Diocese of the South under the leadership of Metropolitan Tikhon and Archbishop Alexander. Our mission is to be a spiritual home to all who enter; to be a Christ-like community of Orthodox Christians; to be active in worship, fellowship, and witness, through participation in the Sacraments to come into close union with God.

If you are unable to attend services, but wish to continue your Stewardship contributions, send them to PO Box 1315, Bradenton FL, 34206.

Memorial Bricks for the St. Mark Memorial Garden can be ordered at www.thatsmybrick.com/stmarkorthodox. You can order a 4"x 8" or 8"x8" brick with or without an Orthodox Cross, the number of characters vary accordingly. If you have any questions about the ordering process, see Fr. Jonathan.

St. Mark Orthodox Church

1517 57th Street E
Bradenton, FL 34208

"The Messenger"

V. Rev. Fr. Jonathan Cholcher
Rector

V. Rev. Fr. Stephen Plumlee
Attached

Rev. Fr. Nicholas Roth
Attached

Sub-Deacon James Abraham

Parish Phone: (941)-749-7662

Parish Website: Bradentonorthodox.org

Parish E-mail: stmarkocarector@gmail.com

Fr. Jonathan's Cell: (941)-807-5393

Office Hours: W, Th, F 10:00 AM – Noon

This week at St. Mark

13	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers with Litya
14	Thursday	8:15 AM	Matins
		9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy (Exaltation of the Cross)
16	Saturday	3:30 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
		5:00 PM	Great Vespers
17	Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy

Sunday, September 10, 2023 (Tone 5)

14th Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday Before the Exaltation of the Cross

Afterfeast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Martyrs Mendora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora at Nicomedia

Prokeimenon Tone 6 (Sunday Before)

*O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! (Ps. 27:9a)
V. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)*

Prokeimenon Tone 3 (Song of the Theotokos)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. (Lk. 1:46-47)

Galatians 6:11-18 (Epistle, Sunday before the Exaltation of the Cross)

See with what large letters I have written to you with my own hand! As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation. And as many as walk according to this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. From now on let no one trouble me, for I bear in my body the marks of the Lord Jesus. Brethren, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 (Epistle)

Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

John 3:13-17 (Gospel, Sunday before the Exaltation)

No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even 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 begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Matthew 22:1-14 (Gospel)

And Jesus answered and spoke to them again by parables and said: "The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding."' But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, 'Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, 'Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Parish website contains helpful information about our Church and the Orthodox Faith (www.bradentonorthodox.org). Please check it out and give any feedback you might have to Fr. Jonathan or a Council member.
- Parish Council is no longer utilizing PayPal as the service charge is lessening the donation.
- **September's charity is The Blue Butterfly Grief Center through Tidewell Hospice Grief Care.**
- A volunteer sign-up sheet for various weekly helping jobs is located on the table in the Narthex. If you are able, please give of your time to help keep our Church neat and clean. Routine jobs include: taking out trash, sweeping and vacuuming where needed, picking up table cloths, putting away Coffee Hour tableware, etc. Thank you for your help!
- **Sunday School classes begin today** for all our children and adults. The theme this year will be: Repentance, Confession, and Reconciliation. Thank you to our teachers: Cara Kulikowski (4-7 yr. olds); Siobhan Awad and Jessie Insley (8-12 yr. olds); James Abraham and Marsha Blazso (Teens).
- **Services for the Exaltation of the Cross:** Wednesday, Sept. 13 at 6:00 PM, Great Vespers with Litya; Thursday, Sept. 14 at 8:15 AM, Matins followed by Divine Liturgy at 9:30.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion Tone 5 (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Troparion Tone 4 (Feast)

Thy nativity, O Virgin,
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,
has shone from thee, O Theotokos.
By annulling the curse,
He bestowed a blessing//
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

Troparion Tone 4 (St. Mark)

From your childhood the light of truth enlightened you, O Mark
And you loved the labor of Christ the Savior
Therefore you followed Peter with zeal
And served Paul well as a fellow laborer//
And you enlighten the world with your Holy Gospel

Troparion Tone 1 (Martyrs)

Let all who rejoice at their triumph honor those three virgin martyrs,
who are united to God as sisters
and who pour forth fair streams of grace:
Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora,
who were in all things courageous//
they ever pray to the Trinity for us.

Kontakion Tone 5 (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior,
shattering its gates as Almighty,
resurrecting the dead as Creator,
and destroying the sting of death.
Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,//
and we cry to Thee: “O Lord, save us!”

Kontakion Tone 2 (St. Mark)

You did receive the grace of the Spirit from on high
Destroying the snares of the orators
You did hunt all the nations O Apostle
And led them to your Master//
O glorious Mark the preacher of the Gospel of God

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

Kontakion Tone 4 (Martyrs)

Invincible in your struggles for the Holy Trinity,
and through your love for each other as sisters,
you defeated the foe of the spiritual life,
and with the five virgins, entered victoriously into the heavenly mansions //
where you ever rejoice with the angels in the presence of the King of all!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Kontakion Tone 4 (Feast)

By thy nativity, O most pure Virgin,
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,
Adam and Eve — from the corruption of death.
And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to thee://
“The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our Life.”