

**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	Tatiana	Eugenia
Irene	Laurie	Barbara	Tanya	Nick
Kevin	Nicole & Noelle	Eli	Joshua	Nina
Mark	Constance	Charles	Gregory	Ronald
Richard	Bradley	Nancy	Patrick	Medhat
Deanna	Bill	Kay	Lydia	Nicholas
Mary	Heike	Mikey		

**Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:**

Archpr. Sergius (ND)	Juliette (ND)	Rose (ND)	Archpr. Moses (ND)
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**January Birthdays:**

Heike Cordero (1/8)	Philip Grayton (1/9)	Abegail Insley (1/16)
Emilia Stankevskaya (1/16)	Robert Serko (1/25 )	Galina Tschursin (1/28)
Angela Orras (1/29)	Chris Traycoff (1/31)	

**TO SPONSOR COFFEE HOUR, please sign up on the calendar book on the glass case. 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.thatmybrick.com/stmarkorthodox](http://www.thatmybrick.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 57<sup>th</sup> 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](http://Bradentonorthodox.org)

[www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch](http://www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch)

Parish E-mail: [stmarkocarector@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkocarector@gmail.com)

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

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

**This week at St. Mark**

24 Wednesday 6:00 PM	Vespers/Faith & Life
25 Thursday 9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
27 Saturday 3:30 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
27 Saturday 5:00 PM	Vespers
28 Sunday 9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
28 Sunday 11:15 AM	Sunday School

**Sunday, January 21 2024 Tone 8**

**33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost)**

**Ven. Maximus the Confessor**

**Martyr Neophytus of Nicaea**

## Prokeimenon

## Tone 8 (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! (Ps. 75:10a)

V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)


## Colossians 1:12-18 (Epistle)

giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

## 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 is [www.bradentonorthodox.org](http://www.bradentonorthodox.org). Please check it out and give any feedback you might have to Fr. Jonathan or a Council member. You can also find Saint Mark online at [www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch](http://www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch).
- Parish Council is no longer utilizing PayPal as the service charge is lessening the donation.
- **Quarterly Charity (Jan.-March): Orthodox Prison Ministry**
- **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!
- **A COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR SHEET** is located on the glass bookstore case in the Narthex. As we draw near to the end of this calendar year, please consider sponsoring Coffee Hour in 2024. Speak with Marsha Blazso for more information.
- **One Thursday evening a month at 6:00 PM** we gather for a *Prayer Service for Peace and Protection* in these times of unrest and war. May God grant to us and our leaders the faith and wisdom to conduct ourselves in the peace of Christ. These will coincide with the Thursday that Parish Council meets.
- **Immediately following each Divine Liturgy as we venerate the Cross, we pray the Post-Communion Prayers. Please maintain quiet until the prayers are completed.** 
- **2023 Contribution Statements** will be available *upon request* from our Treasurer Willard Brown. If you would like a Contribution Statement for 2023, please speak with Willard who will generate one for you.
- **General Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 11 immediately following Liturgy. All are welcome to attend, and parishioners in good standing are eligible to vote.**
- Anyone interested in helping count the Sunday collections, please see a Parish Council member.
- Our newly formed **Burial Society** has need of donations. You can help by purchasing items at our Amazon Gift List. The web address for the list is printed on the "Sharing Table" in the Narthex.

*Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:*

**Troparion**      **Tone 8**      *(Resurrection)*

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!  
Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!//  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

**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 8**      *(Ven. Maximus)*

O Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship,  
the enlightener of the universe and the adornment of hierarchs;  
all wise Father Maximus, thy teachings have gleamed with light upon all things.//  
Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

**Troparion**      **Tone 4**      *(St. Neophytus)*

Thy holy martyr Neophytus, O Lord,  
through his sufferings has received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God.  
For having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries,  
and shattered the powerless boldness of demons.//  
Through his intercession, save our souls!

**Kontakion**      **Tone 8**      *(Resurrection)*

By rising from the tomb, Thou didst raise the dead and resurrect Adam.  
Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,//  
and the world celebrates Thy rising from the dead, O greatly Merciful One!

**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

**Kontakion**      **Tone 8**      *(Ven. Maximus)*

Let us the faithful fittingly praise the lover of the Trinity,  
the great Maximus who taught the God-inspired faith,  
that Christ is to be glorified in His two natures, wills, and energies://  
and let us cry to him: “Rejoice, herald of the faith!”

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

**Kontakion**      **Tone 4**      *(St. Neophytus)*

Thou didst shine forth from the mount like lightning,  
glorifying Christ through thy struggles and death as a martyr.//  
Therefore, thou hast received an unfading crown, O Great-martyr Neophytus.

**Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen**

**Theotokion**      **Tone 6**

Steadfast Protectress of Christians  
Constant Advocate before the Creator  
Do not despise the cries of us sinners  
But in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith  
Hasten to hear our petitions and to intercede for us, O Theotokos://  
For you always protect those who honor you!