

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 your place by the outside aisle past the table with the *antidoron* (bread and wine).**

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered for the Health of:

Archpr. Theodore	Archpr. Stephen	Archpr. Elias	Mat. Marion	Irene
Laurie	Barbara	Tanya	Eugenia	Eli
Joshua	Mark	Nick	Nina	Charles
Gregory	Ronald	Tatiana	Nancy	Deanna
Bill	Kay	Lydia	Nicholas	Mary
Heike	Mikey	Patrick	Medhat	Richard
Kathy	Dolores	John	Nicole & Noelle	Taisa

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

Anna (ND) Constantine (ND)

April Birthdays:

Mat. Marion Mitchell (4/1)	Victor Kosar, Jr. (4/2)	Nate Kulikowski (4/10)
Christina Stefanescu (4/12)	Clyde McKenzie (4/15)	Fr. Nicholas Roth (4/19)
George Graban (4/21)	Mark Giverc (4/24)	Sarah Taylor (4/24)
Diane Cholcher (4/26)		

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.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

www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch

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

9 Tuesday	6:30 PM	Men's Group
10 Wednesday	6:00 PM	Presanctified Liturgy
12 Friday	9:30 AM	Presanctified Liturgy
13 Saturday	9:30 AM	Memorial Liturgy
13 Saturday	3:30 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
13 Saturday	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
14 Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy (<i>St. John of the Ladder</i>)

Sunday, April 7, 2024 Tone 3

Veneration of the Precious Cross

Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow, Enlightener of North America

Prokeimenon **Tone 6** *(Cross)*
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 1** *(St. Tikhon)*
My mouth shall speak wisdom; / the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps. 48:3)

Hebrews 4:14-5:6 (Epistle)

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, today I have begotten You.” As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek”;

Hebrews 7:26-8:2 (Epistle, Saint Tikhon)

For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins and then for the people’s, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

Mark 8:34-9:1 (Gospel)

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, “Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his

own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”

John 10:9-16 (Gospel, Saint Tikhon)

I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.


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Please include the following in your personal prayers as we seek God’s will and blessing on this effort in our Parish.

Prayer for Building a Fellowship Hall:

O Lord Jesus Christ our God, Cornerstone of Your holy Church, Giver of every good gift, the One who first loved us, look down upon us Your people who desire to build a hall unto Your glory and grant us the wisdom, strength, and resources to accomplish this task in accordance with Your will. Remember the friends and benefactors of this parish who support the construction of this hall and bless them with Your good things. And as You did proclaim that even if Your disciples were silent, the very stones would cry out, so also grant that this hall may proclaim You and draw all who dwell in this city and county to worship You in spirit and in truth. In flame our hearts with love for You that we may offer to You ourselves and all You have given us to the glory of Your holy Name. For You are the true Philanthropist—the Lover of Mankind—and to You we send up glory, together with Your eternal Father, and Your most holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, always, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Parish website is 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.
- **Quarterly Charity (April-June): Care Net** (see bulletin board in Narthex for more information)
- **A COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR SHEET** is located on the glass bookstore case in the Narthex. Please consider sponsoring Coffee Hour in 2024. Speak with Marsha Blazso for more information.
- **Immediately following each Divine Liturgy as we venerate the Cross, we pray the Post-Communion Prayers. Please maintain quiet until the prayers are completed.** 
- Anyone interested in helping count the Sunday collections, please see a Parish Council member.
- **Lenten Project** is the lift station needed to tie into the Manatee County sewer system, as required by the County with any new construction. This will need to be completed before a new hall can be built.
- Architectural drawings and an artist's rendition of a **proposed Fellowship Hall** for St. Mark Church are on display in the Narthex. Please join us in prayer seeking God's will for the realization of this project.
- There will be a **Baby Shower for Savanah Shanks** on Saturday, May 18, from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Location will be forthcoming. Savanah is registered at www.myregistry.com. Please RSVP to Marsha Blazso at 941-704-1430.
- **The Men's Group** will meet this Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM at the home of Bob Matzkevich (1314 Oakleaf Ct., Bradenton); all men in the parish are invited!

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion Tone 3 (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice!

Let the earth be glad!

For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.

He has trampled down death by death.

He has become the first born of the dead.

He has delivered us from the depths of hell,

and has granted to the world//

great mercy.

Troparion Tone 1 (Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people,
and bless Thine inheritance!

Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians
over their adversaries;

and by virtue of Thy Cross,//

preserve Thy habitation!

Troparion Tone 1 (St. Tikhon)

Let us praise Tikhon, the Patriarch of All Russia,
and Enlightener of North America,

an ardent follower of the apostolic traditions,

and good pastor of the Church of Christ,

who was elected by Divine Providence,

and laid down his life for his sheep!

Let us sing to him with faith and hope,

and ask for his hierarchical intercessions:

keep the Church in Russia in tranquility,

and the Church in North America in peace;

gather her scattered children into one flock,

bring to repentance those who have renounced the True Faith,

preserve our lands from civil strife,//

and entreat God's peace for all people!

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

Kontakion Tone 2 (St. Tikhon)

A gentle manner adorned thee:

thou didst show kindness and compassion to those who repented;

thou wast firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith,

and zealous in loving the Lord.

O holy Hierarch of Christ and Confessor Tikhon,

pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God,//

which is of Christ Jesus, our Lord!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Kontakion Tone 7 (Cross)

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden;

it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross.

The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished;

for Thou, O my Savior, hast come and cried to those in hell://

“Enter again into Paradise!”

Instead of the Trisagion (Holy God, Holy Mighty...), we sing:

**Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master,
and Thy holy Resurrection we glorify.**

(This is also sung 3 times with prostrations at the end of the services.)