

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. Dimitri	Archpr. Stephen	Archpr. Elias	Mat. Marion	Dcn, John
Sbdn. Joseph	Sbdn. James	Irene	Laurie	Barbara
Tanya	Nicole & Noelle	Eli	Joshua	Mark
Nick	Nina	Charles	Gregory	Ronald
Ricardo	Nancy	Deanna	Bill	Kay
Lydia	Mary	Mikey	Patrick	Maksim
Richard	Kathy	Dolores	Charlotte	Alexandra
John	Jerry			

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

December Birthdays:

Dan Telychka (12/2)	Barb McKenzie (12/3)	Nancy Serko (12/5)
Barb McCollum (12/10)	Tim Lurowist (12/12)	Ivan Ciampa (12/15)
Bob Matzkevih (12/17)	Kim Moroz (12/17)	Karen Moroz (12/17)
Bryan I. Ewers (12/22)	Daniel Cholcher (12/24)	Michael Pisansky (12/24)

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.thatismybrick.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

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

10 Tuesday	6:30 PM	Men's Group (at Church)
11 Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Faith & Life (<i>Heb. 6</i>)

[Note: Divine Liturgy will not be served Thursday morning as usual.]

13 Friday	8:15 AM	Matins (<i>Rest of St. Herman</i>)
	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
14 Saturday	3:30 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
15 Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy (2 nd Sun. before Christmas: <i>Holy Forefathers of Christ</i>)
	11:30 AM	Sunday School

Sunday, December 8, 2024 Tone 7

24th Sunday After Pentecost

12th Sunday of Luke

Ven. Patapius of Thebes

Prokeimenon Tone 7 (Resurrection)

The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Ps. 28:11)

V. Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord! (Ps. 28:1a)

Ephesians 2:14-22 (Epistle)

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Luke 17:12-19 (Gospel)

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” So when He saw them, He said to them, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, “Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Parish website is www.bradentonorthodox.org. See also www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch.
- **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.
- Architectural drawings and an artist’s rendition of a **proposed fellowship hall** for St. Mark Church are on display in the Narthex. The first phase of the building is fully funded and proceeding: elimination of our current septic system and tying into the city sewer via a lift station. Please join us in prayer seeking God’s will for the realization of this project.
- **SAINT MARK’S MEN’S GROUP** will meet **this coming Tuesday, December 10**, at the Church, beginning at 6:30 PM. All men of the parish are welcome for dinner, fellowship, and discussion.
- This Advent we are sponsoring the **BOOTH FAMILY**, a family in great need living in Palmetto. Items to donate can be located on the Angel Bulletin Board in the Narthex of the Church. Please return all donated items to Church by next Sunday, December 15. Our **Myrrhbearers** are coordinating this effort; see Marsha Blazso for more details. May God bless the Booths through our humble efforts. 
- The Children’s Christmas Program scheduled for December 22 has been postponed until next Advent due to challenges of attendance at practices and for the performance. Next year we plan to present the Christmas Program on the Sunday after Saint Nicholas Day.
- **Today following Liturgy**, Siobhan Awad will share the story of St. Nicholas with our children and parish, and afterwards we are expecting a **“visit” from St. Nicholas to the children**. Children can leave their shoes out on the porch for a special treat. *We will also be putting up the Church Christmas tree with decorations.*

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion Tone 7 (Resurrection)

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.

To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.

For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,

and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,

to proclaim that Thou art risen,//

granting the world great mercy.

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. Patapius)

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Father,

for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ.

By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passes away;

but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal.//

Therefore thy spirit, venerable Patapius, rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion Tone 7 (Resurrection)

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,

for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.

Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:

“The Savior has come to those in faith;//

enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

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 3 (Ven. Patapius*)

Thy temple is found to be a source of healing,

and the people flock to it eagerly, O saint.

They seek the healing of their diseases

and the forgiveness of their sins,//

for thou art a protector for all those in need, ven’rable Patapius.

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!

* The venerable Patapius of Thebes (in upper Egypt) left his pious parents, inheritance, and earthly ties to become a desert-dweller conversing ceaselessly with God. After spending many years in solitude, his reputation for holiness grew, and he left the desert for Constantinople to escape crowds of visitors. He then settled near the Blachernae Church becoming a stranger among the population of the city. Joining contemplation to the practice of the virtues, he worked many miracles of healing and exorcism once again becoming famous as a light of the grace of Christ. Patapius fell asleep in peace sometime in the mid-6th century surrounded by monks and ascetics, his body being buried in the nearby monastery of the Egyptians. St. Andrew of Crete, in his eulogies for the saint, mentions several miracles worked by the relics of the venerable Patapius.