

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:

Archprst. Dimitri	Archprst. Stephen	Archprst. Elias	Mat. Marion	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
John	Jerry	Sbdcn. Joseph	Dcn, John	Charlotte
Alexandra				

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

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.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

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

1	Wednesday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy (Circumcision of Christ/St. Basil the Great)
3	Friday	9:30 AM	Royal Hours of Theophany
4	Saturday	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
5	Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
		5:00 PM	Vigil of Theophany

Sunday, December 29, 2024 Tone 2

27th Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday after the Nativity

**Holy Righteous Ones: Joseph the Betrothed, David the King,
and James the Brother of the Lord**

Prokeimenon Tone 2 (Resurrection)

The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation. (Ps. 117:14)

V. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death. (Ps. 117:18)

Prokeimenon Tone 4 (Righteous Ones)

God is wonderful in His saints, / the God of Israel. (Ps. 67:35a)

Galatians 1:11-19 (Epistle, Sunday After)


But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Matthew 2:13-23 (Gospel, Sunday After)

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those

who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

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 project, tying into the city sewer via a lift station, is fully funded and proceeding as planned. Please join us in prayer seeking God's will for the realization of this project.
- **Fr. Jonathan and Diane wish to say "thank you"** for all of your cards and gifts this Christmas. We are very blessed by God to be part of this wonderful and generous parish family. Christ is born! Glorify Him!
- **January 1 Divine Liturgy of St. Basil begins at 9:30 AM** this coming Wednesday morning. Being 8 days after Christmas, we gather for the Circumcision of Christ and St. Basil Day, and as the New Year, will include prayers for God's blessing this coming calendar year.
- **Feast of Theophany (Jan. 6):** the Feast of Theophany, the Baptism of Christ, completes our Christmas celebration with the Incarnate Son of God being revealed as One of the Holy Trinity at His Baptism in the Jordan River. Special services for the Feast: Friday, Jan. 3, Royal Hours at 9:30 AM; Sunday, Jan. 5, Vigil at 5:00 PM; Monday, Jan. 6, Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Water in Church at 9:30 AM, & Braden River Blessing at 4:00 PM (with Picnic) at Jiggs Landing (63rd St. E).
- **Orthodox Ethos four-part series**, at Noon in Church beginning Sunday, January 12; come learn what is "decent and in good order" as we conduct ourselves as Orthodox Christians both in the Church and in the world.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion Tone 2 (*Resurrection*)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

Troparion Tone 4 (*Feast*)

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God,
has shone to the world the light of wisdom!
For by it, those who worshipped the stars,
were taught by a star to adore Thee,
the Sun of Righteousness,
and to know Thee, the Orient from on high.//
O Lord, glory to Thee!

Troparion Tone 2 (*Righteous Ones*)

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph,
to David, the ancestor of God;
thou hast seen a Virgin great with child;
and thou didst give glory with the shepherds;
thou didst worship with the Magi,
and didst receive the news from the Angel.//
Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

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

Kontakion Tone 3 (*Righteous Ones*)

Today godly David is filled with joy;
Joseph and James offer praise.
The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy.
They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth,/
and they cry out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor Thee!”

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Kontakion Tone 3 (*Feast*)

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One,
and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One!
Angels with shepherds glorify Him!
The Wise Men journey with the star,/
since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!