

**Concerning Holy Communion:**

- 1. If you are a communicant member of an Orthodox parish,** you are welcome to receive Holy Communion at Saint Mark’s. If possible, and this is preferred, announce your intention to receive Communion to Fr. Jonathan prior to the Liturgy, or at the Chalice.
- 2. If you are not a member of the Orthodox Church,** please refrain from approaching the Chalice for Communion. Instead, you are welcome to receive some of the blessed bread (*antidoron*) from a small side table, and introduce yourself to Fr. Jonathan following the Liturgy.

**Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered for the Health of:**

Archpr. Dimitri	Archpr. Stephen	Archpr. Elias	Mat. Marion	Pr. Jorge
Dn. John	Sbdn. Joseph	Irene	Laurie	Barbara
Tanya	Nicole & Noelle	Eli	Joshua	Mark
Nick	Nina	Charles	Gregory	Ronald
Ricardo	Nancy	Deanna	Emily	Peter
Bill	Kay	Lydia	Mary	Mikey
Patrick	Maksim	Richard	Kathy	Dolores
John	Jerry	Charlotte	Alexandra	Zina
Katherine & newborn son		Expecting mothers and their unborn children: Wanda, Natalie, and Moriah		
	Thomas			

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

Mat. Jeanne (Ciarcigliano; ND)	John (Veselanek; ND)
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**January Birthdays:**

Heike Cordero (1/8)	Philip Grayton (1/9)	Tharika Brooks (1/15)
Abigail Insley (1/16)	Emilia Stankevskaya (1/16)	Sarah Hogan (1/21)
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](http://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 57<sup>th</sup> 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](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**

22	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Faith & Life Class (Heb. 9)
23	Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
25	Saturday	3:30 AM	Intro to Orthodoxy
		5:00 PM	Great Vespers
26	Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
		11:15 AM	Sunday School & Coffee Hour
		12:00 PM	Orthodox Ethos 3

**Sunday, January 19, 2025 Tone 5**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Ven. Macarius the Great of Egypt**

**Prokeimenon      Tone 5      (Resurrection)**

*Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us / and preserve us from this generation forever. (Ps. 11:7)*

*V. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps. 11:1a)*


**Colossians 3:12-16 (Epistle)**

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

**Luke 18:35-43 (Gospel)**

Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Our Parish website is [www.bradentonorthodox.org](http://www.bradentonorthodox.org). See also [www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch](https://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 Cathy Johns 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.** 
- **Quarterly Charity (Jan.-Mar.): Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF)**, an organization of Orthodox student groups on college and university campuses throughout the country. You can give by designated check or marked envelope.
- *Any male eight years and older, interested in serving, please see Fr. Jonathan or Subdeacon James, likewise anyone interested in serving as a reader during the various services.*
- **HOUSE BLESSINGS have begun for the season.** See the sign-up lists on the table in the Narthex for areas (e.g., Bradenton, Sarasota, etc.) and dates of Blessing. If a Blessing needs to be scheduled other than the days and times listed, see Fr. Jonathan to make arrangements.
- **2025 PLEDGE CARDS AND LETTERS** are available in envelopes in the Narthex. If you are a member of the Parish and have an income, fixed or otherwise, please take an envelope and return a Pledge Card to Church by Sunday, February 2.
- **SAINT MARK'S ANNUAL MEETING** is scheduled to take place Sunday, February 16, following Liturgy. We will consider the past year in review, discuss future plans for the parish (especially Debt Reduction), adopt a budget, and elect members of the Parish Council. All are encouraged to attend.
- **ORTHODOX ETHOS SERIES** (*Sundays at Noon, following Sunday School and Coffee Hour*); all are welcome and invited to participate (ask for handouts if you missed a session):
  1. Behaviors and Customs of the Church (Jan. 12);
  2. Fasts and Feasts of the Year (Jan. 19);
  3. Duties of Church Membership (Jan. 26);
  4. Miscellaneous Q & A (Feb. 2).

*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            (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            (Ven. Macarius)**

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,  
thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father Macarius.  
Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer,  
healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith.  
Glory to Him Who gave thee strength!  
Glory to Him Who granted thee a ^crown!//  
Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

**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**

*(over)*

**Kontakion    Tone 4            (Ven. Macarius\*)**

The Lord truly placed thee in the house of abstinence,  
as a star enlightening the ends of the earth, //  
Venerable Macarius, Father of Fathers.

**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!

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\* Macarius was an Egyptian and one of the younger contemporaries of Anthony the Great. His father was a priest. Out of obedience to his parents, Macarius married, but his wife died shortly thereafter and he withdrew to the wilderness where he spent sixty years in labor and struggle for the Kingdom of God. When others asked him why he was so thin, both when he ate and did not eat, he replied, “From the fear of God.” God bestowed upon Macarius the abundant gift of wonder-working, so that he even raised the dead from their graves. A demon once said to Macarius, “There is only one thing in which I am not able to surpass you, not in fasting or vigils.” “What is it?” asked Macarius. The demon answered, “Your humility.” Nine days before his death at age 97, Ss. Anthony the Great and Pachomius appeared to him from heaven informing him he would die in nine days, and it came to pass. Before departing this life Macarius had a vision in which one of the cherubim (angels) revealed to him the heavenly Kingdom having been sent to take his soul there. St. Macarius reposed in the year 390.