

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. John	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
Ricardo	Nancy	Deanna	Emily	Peter
Bill	Kay	Lydia	Mary	Mikey
Patrick	Maksim	Richard	Kathy	Dolores
John	Jerry	Charlotte	Alexandra	Zina
Thomas	Gerasimos	Lyubov	Katherine & newborn son	

Expecting mothers and unborn children: Wanda, Natalie, Moriah, and Cassia

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

Mat. Jeanne (ND) John (ND) Ronald (ND)

February Birthdays:

Lois Evancho (2/12) Daniel Button (2/17) Joe Ciampa (2/20)
Logan Kulikowski (2/25)

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

5	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Faith & Life Class (Heb. 9)
6	Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
		6:00 AM	Reader’s Class
8	Saturday	3:30 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
		4:15 PM	Panikhida: John Veselaneck (40 th day) & Kevin Mitchell (1 year)
		5:00 PM	Great Vespers
9	Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
		11:15 AM	Sunday School & Coffee Hour

Sunday, February 2, 2025 Tone 7
32nd Sunday After Pentecost
Meeting of Our Lord in the Temple
Sunday of Zacchaes

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)

Prokeimenon Tone 3 (Song of the Theotokos)

My soul doth magnify the Lord, / and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. (Lk. 1:46-47)

1 Timothy 4:9-15 (Epistle)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

Hebrews 7:7-17 (Epistle, Meeting)

Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better. Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives. Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him. Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron. For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law. For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. For He testifies: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

Luke 19:1-10 (Gospel)


Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner." Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Luke 2:22-40 (Gospel, Meeting)

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the LORD"), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons." And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting for the Consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit into the temple. And when the parents brought in the Child Jesus, to do for Him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said: "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who

did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

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 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.** 
- Architectural drawings and an artist's rendition of a **proposed fellowship hall** for St. Mark Church are on display in the Narthex. Join us in seeking God's will for the realization of this project.
- **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.
- **Annual Parish Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 16 following Divine Liturgy;**
- **Reader's Class will meet this Thursday, Feb. 6, at 6:00 PM.**
- **ORTHODOX ETHOS SERIES** concludes today with a Miscellaneous Q & A following Sunday School and Coffee Hour (about Noon). Handouts from the first three sessions are available upon request from Fr. Jonathan: 1) Behaviors and Customs of the Church; 2) Fasts and Feasts of the Year; and 3) Duties of Church Membership.
- **PLEDGE CARDS AND LETTERS** are still available for any members of the Parish who have not picked one up yet. Please return a Pledge Card to Church by next Sunday, Feb. 9!

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 1 (Feast*)

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!
From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,
enlightening those who sat in darkness.
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder,
thou didst accept in thine arms the ^Redeemer of our souls,//
Who grants us the Resurrection!

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

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!"

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Kontakion Tone 1 (Feast)

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb
and didst bless Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God.
Now Thou hast come and saved us through love.
Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,//
O only Lover of Man!

* The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple occurs 40 days after Christmas, when Mary and Joseph brought the Infant Jesus to the Temple in accordance with the Law. There they met the Priest Simeon and the prophetess Anna who both eagerly awaited the arrival of the Savior (Messiah). Simeon declared: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace...for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation...a light to enlighten the Gentiles." Thus we also bless candles on this Day as we too meet Christ who is the Light of the world.