

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	Ricardo
Nancy	Deanna	Emily	Peter	Bill
Kay	Lydia	Mary	Mike	Patrick
Maksim	Richard	Kathy	Dolores	John
Jerry	Charlotte	Alexandra	Zina	Grant
Thomas	Karen	Lyubov		

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

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

Archpr. John (Maxwell; ND)	Ronald (ND)
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February Birthdays:

Michael Kinsella (2/10)	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.thatmybrick.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

16 Sunday	11:15 AM	Annual Parish Meeting
(No usual weekday services will be served as Fr. Jonathan will be out-of-town from Tues. to Thurs. at the Diocesan Clergy Conference.)		
22 Saturday	9:30 AM	Memorial Liturgy (All Faithful Departed)
	3:30 PM	Intro To Orthodoxy
	5:00 PM	Great Vespers

**Sunday, February 16, 2025 Tone 1
Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

Prokeimenon Tone 1 (Resurrection)

*Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee!
(Ps. 32:22)*

*V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps.
32:1)*

1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (Epistle)


All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Luke 15:11-32 (Gospel)

Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread

enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.” And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’”

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.**
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- 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.
 - **Myrrhbearer News:** 1) if you can help the Fussells at the time of Wanda's childbirth, see the list on the corner table in the Narthex; 2) Arlie Button will be hosting a fellowship brunch for all ladies on Sat., Feb. 22, from 10 AM to Noon; please let her know if you plan to attend.
 - **Cooking Demonstration – Saturday, March 1, beginning at 11:00 AM at Church.** Our own Warren Caterson will be leading the demonstration as he does professionally. All are welcome to attend, and a freewill donation will be collected to cover his expenses as he is not charging for the event.
 - **CHURCH PICNIC next Sunday, Feb. 23 (meatfare) following Divine Liturgy:** hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided for everyone, but please sign up at the corner table in the Narthex if you'd like to bring a side dish or dessert to share. All are invited and welcome to stay for the Picnic.
 - **Today following Liturgy and a brief break for a snack, we will proceed with our Annual Meeting in the Nave of the Church (please do not bring any food or drink into the meeting). All are welcome to attend the meeting to participate in a review of the past year and plans for the months and years ahead. May God grant us His blessings on our work in His vineyard!**

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion Tone 1 (Resurrection)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior,
granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy Kingdom!//
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!”

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.

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

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.

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Kontakion Tone 3 (From the Lenten Triodion)

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father;
and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou hadst given me.
Therefore I cry to Thee like the Prodigal:
“I have sinned before Thee, O compassionate Father; //
receive me a penitent, and make me as one of Thy hired servants!”