

**Concerning Holy Communion:**

- 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.
- 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	Temple & newborn son		Expecting mothers and unborn children:	
Wanda, Natalie, Moriah, and Cassia				

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

Archpr. John (Maxwell; ND)	Ronald (ND)
----------------------------	-------------

**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](http://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 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**

23	Sunday	11:30 AM	Parish Picnic
26	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Faith & Life Class (Heb. 12)
27	Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
		6:00 PM	Parish Council Meeting
1	Saturday	11:00 AM	Cooking Demonstration
		3:30 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
		5:00 PM	Great Vespers
2	Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
		11:15 AM	Sunday School
		5:00 PM	Forgiveness Vespers

**Sunday, February 23, 2025 Tone 2  
Sunday of the Last Judgement  
Meatfare Sunday**

**Prokeimenon**            **Tone 3**            *(From the Lenten Triodion)*  
*Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, / His understanding is beyond measure. (Ps. 146:5)*  
*V. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God! (Ps. 146:1)*  
*1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 (Epistle)*

**But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.**

*Matthew 25:31-46 (Gospel)*

**When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when**

**did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'**

*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**            *(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 1**            *(Lenten Triodion\*)*  
When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory,  
all things shall tremble,  
and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat;  
the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed;  
then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,//  
and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge!

---

\* This third Sunday of Pre-Lent commemorates the Last Judgment and is called *meatfare*, that is, the day after which we bid *farewell to meat* (the eating of meat and animal flesh) until Pascha.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Parish website is [www.bradentonorthodox.org](http://www.bradentonorthodox.org). See also [www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch](http://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 2025. 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.
- **CHURCH PICNIC TODAY FOLLOWING LITURGY** – all are welcome to stay for good food and fellowship. The Picnic area is toward the back of the parking lot by the sheds and lake.
- **COOKING DEMONSTRATION by Warren Catterson – next Saturday, March 1, beginning at 11:00 AM here at Church.** Our own Chef Warren, an award-winning cookbook author, will show you how to create delicious plant-based ground and pulled meats in your own kitchen. If you plan to join the demonstration next Saturday, *please notify Marsha Blaszo or Warren TODAY* as he needs to purchase supplies for all participants. A freewill donation will be collected to help defray his costs for the event. 
- **A calendar for ORTHODOX LENT 2025 is included in the bulletin. The daily Scripture readings for the season are printed on the back of the calendar.**
- Copies of various reports and materials from last Sunday's Annual Meeting are available upon request from Fr. Jonathan. With God's blessing going forward as a Parish, we will concentrate on two related emphases: reducing the current debt on the Church (mortgage) and securing resources to build a new fellowship Hall. May God grant us continued growth in the Gospel of Christ!