

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	Mat. Mary
Sbdn. Joseph	Irene	Laurie	Barbara	Tanya
Nicole & Noelle	Eli	Joshua	Mark	Nick
Nina	Charles	Gregory	Ricardo	Nancy
Deanna	Karen	Peter	Bill	Kay
Lydia	Mary	Mikey	Patrick	Maksim
Richard	Kathy	Dolores	John	Jerry
Charlotte	Alexandra	Zina	Grant	Faith
Madison	Heather	Vasiliki		

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

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

Gervasios Viktor

May Birthdays:

Joseph Michael (5/2) Radica Koutselas (5/14) Jason Gentile (5/18)
Fr. Stephen Plumlee (5/25) Ian Stefanescu (5/31)

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.thatismybrick.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: www.bradentonorthodox.org

www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch

Parish E-mail: stmarkocarector@gmail.com

Fr. Jonathan's Cell: 941-807-5393

Usual Weekly Office Hours:

Wed. & Fri. 9:00 AM (1st and 3rd Hour Prayers) to Noon

This week at St. Mark

21	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Faith & Life Class
22	Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
24	Saturday	3:30 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
		5:00 PM	Great Vespers
25	Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy

Sunday, May 18, 2025 Tone 4

5th Sunday of Pascha

Sunday of the Samaritan Woman

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King, sing praises! (Ps. 46:6)

V. Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)

Acts 11:19-26, 29-30 (Epistle)

Now those who were scattered after the persecution that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus, and Antioch, preaching the word to no one but the Jews only. But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus. And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number believed and turned to the Lord. Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Then the disciples, each according to his ability, determined to send relief to the brethren dwelling in Judea. This they also did, and sent it to the elders by the hands of Barnabas and Saul.

John 4:5-42 (Gospel)

So He came to a city of Samaria which is called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give Me a drink." For His disciples had gone away into the city to buy food. Then the woman of Samaria said to Him, "How is it that You, being a Jew, ask a drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans. Jesus answered and said to her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." The woman said to Him, "Sir, You have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep. Where then do You get that living water? Are You greater than our father Jacob, who gave us the well, and drank from it himself, as well as his sons and his livestock?" Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into

everlasting life." The woman said to Him, "Sir, give me this water, that I may not thirst, nor come here to draw." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered and said, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You have well said, 'I have no husband,' for you have had five husbands, and the one whom you now have is not your husband; in that you spoke truly." The woman said to Him, "Sir, I perceive that You are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and you Jews say that in Jerusalem is the place where one ought to worship." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship, for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to Him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When He comes, He will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am He." And at this point His disciples came, and they marveled that He talked with a woman; yet no one said, "What do You seek?" or, "Why are You talking with her?" The woman then left her waterpot, went her way into the city, and said to the men, Come, see a Man who told me all things that I ever did. Could this be the Christ? Then they went out of the city and came to Him. In the meantime His disciples urged Him, saying, "Rabbi, eat." But He said to them, "I have food to eat of which you do not know." Therefore the disciples said to one another, "Has anyone brought Him anything to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work. Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors." And many of the Samaritans of that city believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, "He told me all that I ever did." So when the Samaritans had come to Him, they urged Him to stay with them; and He stayed there two days. And many more believed because of His own word. Then they said to the woman, "Now we believe, not because of what you said, for we ourselves have heard Him and we know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world."

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion Tone 4 (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles:
“Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen,//
granting the world great mercy!”

Troparion Tone 8 (Midfeast)

In the middle of the feast, O Savior,
fill my thirsting soul with the waters of piety, as Thou didst cry to all:
“If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink!”//
O Christ God, Fountain of our life, glory to Thee!

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

Kontakion Tone 8 (Pentecostarion*)

The Samaritan Woman came to the well in faith;
she saw Thee, the Water of wisdom and drank abundantly.//
She inherited the Kingdom on high, and is ever glorified!




Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Kontakion Tone 4 (Midfeast)

Christ God, the Creator and Master of all,
cried to all in the midst of the feast of the Law:
“Come and draw the water of immortality!”
We fall before Thee and faithfully cry://
“Grant us Thy mercies, for Thou art the Fountain of our life!”

* We know the Samaritan woman as Photini (“enlightened”; Feb. 26). After the martyrdom of the Apostles Peter and Paul in Rome, Photini went to Carthage to preach the Gospel with her son Josés. Another son Victor proclaimed the Faith in Galilee for which he and Josés were arrested and tortured in prison. Photini was summoned to this tribunal and imprisoned and tortured with her sons for three years resulting in the conversion of many pagans. Photini was eventually tied to trees bent together by force, which being released, tore her apart. Thus Photini is a holy martyr for the Lord who filled her thirsting soul.

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.** 
- **Quarterly Charity (April-June): 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.
- **Debt Reduction Project Thermometer** – on the back wall of the Narthex you will see a thermometer tracking our progress in our Debt Reduction Project to eliminate our mortgage debt. Consider prayerfully how you can contribute to this effort freeing us to pursue other efforts to prosper our Church, e.g., building a fellowship hall. 
- Saint Mark Church has established a **Brokerage Account at Fidelity Brokerage Services**. Parishioners wishing to donate Securities to the Church can now make direct contributions in accordance with Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules. Contact Michael Kulisz (parish Treasurer) or Bob Matzkevich (parish Council Warden/President) for additional information regarding a donation of securities to Saint Mark Church. 
- **Help Wanted:** an assistant to our own Fr. Stephen Plumlee who is adjusting to new living conditions at Aravilla on Proctor Road in south Sarasota; the assistant needs to be available Thursday through Monday, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM with flexibility. Duties include: transportation to Church services (when he feels up to it), and to a meeting every Tuesday at Noon; going on activities, outings, and cultural events; engaging Fr. Stephen with stimulating conversation. Pay will be \$20-25/hour, based on experience. **The need is immediate.** Call Jill Grinnell at 941-716-6893 if interested.