

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	Sbdn. Joseph
Irene	Laurie	Barbara	Tanya	Nina
Nicole & Noelle	Eli	Joshua	Mark	Nick
Carolyn	Charles	Gregory	Ricardo	Nancy
Deanna	Karen	Peter	Bill	Kay
Lydia	Mary	Mike	Patrick	Maksim
Richard	Kathy	Dolores	John	Jerry
Charlotte	Alexandra	Zina	Faith	Madison
Heather	Nicholas	George	Natalie and newborn daughter	

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

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

Infant Grant

July Birthdays:

Fr. Jonathan (7/5)	Maximus Montes (7/5)	Nick Orras (7/6)
Abigail Michael (7/7)	Xenia Shanks (7/10)	Ed Evancho (7/17)
Alexander Jebelev (7/19)	Elena Grayton (7/22)	

TO SPONSOR COFFEE HOUR, please sign up on the calendar book on the glass case. **COFFEE HOUR.**

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.

Financial Donations can now be made via **PayPal** by clicking the link on our parish webpage, or by scanning this QR code. ➡

You may also mail donations to: P.O. Box 1315, Bradenton, FL 34206.



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
Usual Weekly Office Hours:
Wed. 11 AM-1 PM & Fri. 9:00 AM to Noon

This week at St. Mark

20 Tuesday	6:30 PM	Men's Group
23 Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Scripture Reading
24 Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
	6:00 PM	Parish Council
26 Saturday	3:00 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
27 Sunday	9:00 AM	Pre-baptism Prayers
	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy & Baptism of Selah Rose Elizabeth Aluzzo

Sunday, July 20, 2025 Tone 5
6th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy & Glorious Prophet Elijah

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.

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)

Prokeimenon Tone 4 (Prophet Elijah)

Thou art a priest forever / after the order of Melchizedek. (Ps. 109:4c)

Romans 12:6-14 (Epistle)

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

James 5:10-20 (Epistle, Prophet)

My brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an example of suffering and patience. Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord – that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful. But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your “Yes” be “Yes,” and your “No,” “No,” lest you fall into judgment. Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it

would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit. Brethren, if anyone among you wanders from the truth, and someone turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save a soul from death and cover a multitude of sins.

Matthew 9:1-8 (Gospel)

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, “Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you.” And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, “This Man blasphemes!” But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Arise and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins” – then He said to the paralytic, “Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

Luke 4:22-30 (Gospel, Prophet)

So all bore witness to Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth. And they said, “Is this not Joseph’s son?” He said to them, “You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.’” Then He said, “Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country. But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian.” So all those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath and rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which their city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff. Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way.

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 (Prophet Elijah)

An angel in the flesh and the cornerstone of the Prophets,
the second forerunner of the coming of Christ,
glorious Elijah sent grace from on high to Elisha,
to dispel diseases and to cleanse lepers//
Therefore he pours forth healings on those who honor him.

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!”

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

Kontakion Tone 2 (Prophet Elijah)




O Prophet Elijah of great renown,
seer of the mighty works of God,
by thy command thou didst hold back the rain.//
Pray for us to the only Lover of man!

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!

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 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.** 
- **Quarterly Charity (July-September): Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry (OCPM)**, provides spiritual care, enabling people in prison to find hope and purpose in their lives. You can give by designated check or marked envelope.
- **Debt Reduction Thermometer** – on the back wall of the Narthex, tracking our progress in eliminating our building mortgage debt. Consider how God is leading you to contribute to reducing our debt! 
- **Brokerage Account at Fidelity** – Saint Mark Church has established a brokerage account at Fidelity services. Contact Michael Kulisz (Church Treasurer) or Bob Matzkevich (Parish Council Warden/President) for additional information, or with questions regarding the donation of securities. 
- **Wednesday Vespers is followed by the Reading of Scripture**, currently the Wisdom of Sirach, 1 Corinthians, and the Gospel of Matthew. Come and hear the Word of the Lord! Wednesday Vespers begins at 6:00 PM.
- **SAINT MARK'S MEN'S GROUP** meets this Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM at the home of Arsenios Lazarou (12710 Sorrento Way, Unit 101 [Esplanade], Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202). If you plan to bring food and/or drink, please speak with Arsenios (Cell: 615-509-8012). All men are invited and welcome to participate.
- **Parish Council** meets this Thursday at 6:00 PM at the Church.
- *Following Divine Liturgy today, we will bless vehicles in the parking lot in conjunction with the commemoration of the Prophet Elijah who was taken up into heaven in a fiery chariot. After the veneration of the Cross, go outside and open the doors of your vehicle for the Blessing; Coffee Hour will follow the Blessing.*
- Next Sunday, July 27, Selah Aluzzo will be baptized during the Divine Liturgy. The pre-baptismal prayers will begin at 9:00 AM. Selah is the daughter of Joshua and Natalie Aluzzo; her Godparents are Braden and Savanah Shanks. God grant Selah, her parents, Godparents, and family many years!