

### 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	Nick	Carol
Charles	Gregory	Ricardo	Nancy	Karen
Peter	Kay	Lydia	Mary	Mikey
Patrick	Maksim	Richard	Kathy	Dolores
John	Jerry	Charlotte	Alexandra	Zina
Heather	Nicholas	George	Cheryl	Sherie
David	Carol	Lisa	Frances	

Maria and her n.b. daughter

Expecting mothers and unborn children: Arlie, Alexys, Tharika, Emma, Belle, Elizabeth, Moriah, and Kayleigh

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

#### December Birthdays:

Sam Montes (12/01)	Dan Telychks (12/02)	Barb McKenzie (12/03)
Barb McCollum (12/10)	William Chapman (12/11)	Ivan Ciampa, Michael DeNardo,
Michael Kulisz (12/15)	Melanie Mirnyi (12/16)	Bob Matzkevich, Kim/Karen
Moroz (12/17)	Iuliana Vikulin (12/20)	Bryan Ewers, Jr. (12/22)
Daniel Cholcher, Michael Pisansky (12/24)		Ambrose Stransky, Nicholas
Hinkle (12/27)	Susan Baise (12/29)	Joshua Aluzzo (12/31)

**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.

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

### This week at St. Mark

10	Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Scripture Readings
11	Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
13	Saturday	3:00 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
		5:00 PM	Great Vespers
14	Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
		11:15 AM	Sunday School

**Sunday, December 7, 2025 Tone 1**  
**26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Luke**  
**St. Ambrose Bishop of Milan**

**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 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)*

### *Ephesians 5:9-19 (Epistle)*



(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light.” See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

### *Luke 17:12-19 (Gospel)*

Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” So when He saw them, He said to them, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, “Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.”

Immediately following each Divine Liturgy as we venerate the Cross, we pray the Post-Communion Prayers. Please maintain quiet until the prayers are completed.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Parish website is [www.bradentonorthodox.org](http://www.bradentonorthodox.org). See also [www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch](https://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.
- **Quarterly Charity (October-December): Solve Maternity Home (in Bradenton)**, providing care for at-risk mothers before, during, and after giving birth. 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. 
- A **Baby Shower** for **Tharika Brooks** will take place at Church next Saturday, December 13, beginning at 1:00 PM. All ladies are invited and welcome to attend. Tharika is registered at: [www.amazon.com/baby-reg/your-registry/SS1J6YQI2VLE?ref\\_=br\\_mw\\_ql\\_yr](http://www.amazon.com/baby-reg/your-registry/SS1J6YQI2VLE?ref_=br_mw_ql_yr).
- **Church Cleaning Day** – next Saturday, December 13, beginning at 10:00 AM. All volunteers are needed to thoroughly clean the Church inside and out prior to the Christmas season. Thank you for your time and effort!
- **Lift Station Update** – a contract for the Lift Station (tying into the city sewer) has been signed, and the work will begin as soon as the contractor has the materials.

### FOOD DRIVE FOR THE FOOD BANK OF MANATEE

(now until Sunday, December 14)

canned vegetables	boxed rice	oatmeal	canned fruits
boxed pasta	powdered milk	canned meats	applesauce
canned soup	mac n' cheese	baby cereal	baby formula
peanut butter	100% fruit juices	jelly	dried beans
healthy cereals	breakfast bars	tea	coffee
paper products	personal hygiene products		diapers

- Gift cards to Grocery Stores
- Cash, or Checks made to: The Food Bank of Manatee

**Containers are in the Narthex of the Church.**

For questions, ask George or Deb Graban, or Marsha Blazso.

*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.

**Troparion      Tone 4      (St. Ambrose)**

In truth thou wast revealed to thy flock as a rule of faith,  
an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;  
thy humility exalted thee;  
and thy poverty enriched thee.  
O Hierarch Father Ambrose,  
entreat Christ our God//  
that our souls may be saved!

**Kontakion      Tone 1      (Resurrection)**

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory,  
raising the world with Thyself.  
Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished.  
Adam exults, O Master!  
Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee://  
“Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

**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.

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

**Kontakion      Tone 3      (St. Ambrose)**

Thou didst shine forth with divine doctrine, eclipsing the deception of Arius,  
O shepherd and initiate of the mysteries, Ambrose.  
Thou didst work miracles through the power of the Spirit,  
healing various passions;//  
righteous Father, entreat Christ our God to grant us His great mercy.

**Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen**

**Theotokion      Tone 6**

Steadfast Protectress of Christians  
Constant Advocate before the Creator  
Despise not 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!

**Decency and Order at Saint Mark's (1 Cor. 14:40)**

Thank God we have a space problem at Saint Mark Church! God has blessed us with more people and many children at worship, so we need to conduct ourselves in accordance with the situation for maximum attention and peace:

- 1) **Move into the Nave (main part) of the Church** during Divine Liturgy, especially if you have trouble hearing as the Narthex (entryway/vestibule) is basically an echo chamber.
- 2) **Shift over in the chairs** to allow couples or families to situate, if possible, together in a row.
- 3) **Parents with children, gather toward the back middle aisle or side area rug** which are both carpeted; the Divine Liturgy and Narthex are not play areas.
- 4) **Children will be children, but they can learn to read and amuse themselves quietly during the service. Importantly like all of us, they can learn to listen and speak when it's time to speak together in the prayers.**
- 5) We will set up for Coffee Hour **after the Veneration of the Cross and post-Communion Prayers are completed.**