

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
Sbdcn. James	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	George	Elena	Jerry
David	Carol	Maria and n.b. daughter	Tharika and n.b. daughter	

Expecting mothers and unborn children: Arlie, Alexys, Emma, Elizabeth, Moriah, Kayleigh, Savannah, and Augusta

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

January Birthdays:

Victoria Vikulin (01/06)	Heike Cordero (01/08)	Janet Hayden (01/09)
James Bovienzo (01/12)	Tharika Brooks (01/15)	Abigail Insley (01/16)
Emilia Stankevskaya (01/16)	Fr. Ignatius Harrington (01/16)	Sarah Hogan (01/21)
Bruna Jebelev (01/22)	Bill Kosar (01/23)	Alexander Stansky (01/24)
Joseph Barbee (01/28)	Angela Orras (01/29)	Chris Traycoff (01/31)

Memorial Bricks for the St. Mark Memorial Garden can be ordered at www.thatsmybrick.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
Sub-Deacon Joseph (Clyde) McKenzie

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

14 Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Scripture Reading
15 Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
17 Saturday	3:00 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
18 Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 11, 2026 Tone 6

31st Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday After Theophany

Ven. Theodosius the Great, the Cenobiarch

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.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion **Tone 6** *(Resurrection)*

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb;
the guards became as dead men.

Mary stood by Thy grave,
seeking Thy most pure body.
Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it.

Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life.
O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead,/
glory to Thee.

Troparion **Tone 1** *(Feast)*

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan,
the worship of the Trinity was made manifest.

For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee,
and called Thee His beloved Son;
and the Spirit in the form of a dove
confirmed the truthfulness of His word.

O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself//
and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Troparion **Tone 8** *(Ven. Theodosius)*

By a flood of tears thou didst make the desert fertile,
and thy longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.

By the radiance of miracles thou didst illumine the whole universe.//
Our Father Theodosius, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion **Tone 6** *(Resurrection)*

When Christ God, the Giver of Life,
raised all of the dead from the valleys of misery with His mighty hand,
He bestowed resurrection on the human race.//
He is the Savior of all, the Resurrection, the Life, and the God of all.

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

Kontakion **Tone 3** *(Ven. Theodosius)*

Planted in the courts of thy Lord, thou didst blossom beautifully with virtue,
and didst increase thy children in the desert, showering them with streams of thy tears,
O chief shepherd of the divine flock of God.

Therefore, we cry to thee: Rejoice, O Father Theodosius!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Kontakion **Tone 4** *(Feast)*

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord,
and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us.

Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises:

"Thou hast come and revealed Thyself,/
O unapproachable Light."

Prokeimenon

Tone 1 (Sunday After Theophany)

*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 4:7-13 (Epistle, Sunday After)

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended" – what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

Matthew 4:12-17 (Gospel, Sunday After)

Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

2026 House Blessing Schedule

[See the sign-up sheets in the Narthex of the Church.]

Sarasota (South): January 12-15 (Mon. – Thurs.)

West Bradenton: January 16-17, 19-20 (Fri./Sat.; Mon./Tues.)

Palmetto/Ellenton/Parish: January 21-23 (Wed. – Fri.)

Checklist for House Blessings:

1. On a table or counter-top in the center of the home, prepare an Icon, a lit candle (or oil lamp), and bowl for Holy Water.
2. Write a list of names of family members, living and departed, to be included in the prayers.
3. If darkness is imminent, turn lights on in rooms to be blessed.
4. Some people prepare food to share after the Blessing; this is certainly welcome but not absolutely necessary.

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 (October-December): Solve Maternity Home (in Bradenton)**, providing critical 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.
- **HOUSE BLESSINGS** – see the schedule in the bulletin, and on the sign-up sheets in the Narthex of the Church.
- **Lift Station Update** – our Lift Station Project is underway, tying into the city sewer system and eliminating our current septic system. White paint lines are on the ground where the sewer line will tunnel underneath connecting to the main line under the 57th Street E roadway. Soon supplies and equipment for the job will be situated on the open area behind the Church. This project is the first phase in our plans for the construction of a Fellowship Hall.
- **2026 Pledge Cards** – if you have not picked up and/or filled out and returned your 2026 Pledge Card, please do so as soon as possible. Pledge Letters and Cards are located in a designated box on the shelf in the Narthex.
- **2026 ANNUAL MEETING** – our Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Sunday, February 8**, following Divine Liturgy. During the Meeting we recall the activities of the past year and consider plans for the future. This year we will also be electing three new persons to the Parish Council. Your attendance and input in the Parish determine our common direction in a positive way!

