

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. Dimitrie	Archpr. Elias	Mat. Marion	Sbdn. Joseph	Sbdn. James
Irene	Laurie	Barbara	Tanya	Nina
Eli	Nicole & Noelle	Joshua	Nick	Carolyn
Charles	Gregory	Ricardo	Nancy	Karen
Peter	Kay	Lydia	Mary	Mike
Patrick	Maksim	Richard	Kathy	Dolores
John	Zina	Anna	Melissa	Stephanie
Faith	Heather	George	David	Elena
Susan	Trudy			


Expecting mothers and unborn children: Elizabeth, Emma, Belle, Emma, Moriah, Kayleigh, Savannah, Laura, Augusta, and Wanda

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

April Birthdays:

Kh. Marion Mitchell (04/01)	Dmitry Vikulin (04/01)	Elizabeth Stone (04/02)
Victor Kozar (04/02)	Savanah Shanks (04/02)	Inanna Starsky (04/03)
Ana Skubey (04/05)	Elena Vikulin (04/07)	Nate Kulikowski (04/10)
Kim Hinkle (04/10)	Cristina Stefanescu (4/12)	Sbdn. Joseph McKenzie (4/15)
Yelena Skubey (4/16)	Gregg Crowe (04/18)	George Graban (04/21)
Sarah Taylor (04/24)	Diane Cholcher (04/26)	Bartholomew McDougal (04/28)
Hadley Doyle (04/29)		

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

Sub-Deacon James Abraham
Sub-Deacon Joseph 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

19 Sunday	9:30 PM	Divine Liturgy (Antipascha/ Thomas Sunday)
21 Tuesday	6:30 PM	Book Club (at B&N [UTC])
25 Saturday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy (St. Mark Day)
	3:00 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
26 Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy

Sunday, April 19, 2026 Tone 1
2nd Sunday of Pascha
Antipascha
St. Thomas Sunday

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 7 (Pentecostarion)

From the sealed tomb, Thou didst shine forth, O Life!
Through closed doors Thou didst come to Thy Disciples, O Christ God.
Renew in us through them an upright spirit,//
by the greatness of Thy mercy, O Resurrection of all!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen

Kontakion Tone 8 (Pentecostarion)

Thomas touched Thy life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God,
when Thou camest to Thine Apostles through closed doors.//
He cried out with all: “Thou art my Lord and my God!”

Instead of “It is truly meet.....”, we sing:

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace:
“Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice,
thy Son is risen from His three days in the tomb!
With Himself He has raised all the dead.”
Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!
The glory of the Lord has shone on thee.
Exult now, and be glad, O Zion!
Be radiant, O pure Theotokos,
in the Resurrection of thy Son!

Prokeimenon Tone 3 (Pentecostarion*)

*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)*

Acts 5:12-20 (Epistle)

And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon’s Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by

might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed. Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, “Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.”



John 20:19-31 (Gospel)

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.” And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

* The term *Pentecostarion* refers to the collection of hymns and prayers said during the 7 week-long, 50-day season (Gk., *pentecosti*) from Pascha to the Feast of Pentecost. The Feast of Pentecost this year will be on May 31.

Following the Dismissal of Liturgy we pray together as the Reader reads the Post-Communion Prayers. Please maintain a respectful quiet during the Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Parish website is www.bradentonorthodox.org. See also www.facebook.com/St.MarkOrthodoxChurch.
- **COFFEE HOUR is provided each Sunday following Liturgy.** Please consider donating to Coffee Hour in the box so designated in the Narthex. Speak with Cathy Johns, Marsha Blazso, or Kim Hinkle for more information.
- **Quarterly Charity (April-June): Panagia Vlahernon Orthodox Monastery (near Ocala),** providing spiritual care and direction for Florida and the world. You can give by designated check or marked envelope.
- **Debt Reduction Program** – our goal is to eliminate our current mortgage debt in 4 years; see the “thermometer in the Narthex tracking our progress. Consider how God is leading you to contribute to reducing our debt! 
- **Brokerage Account at Fidelity** –Contact Michael Kulisz, Bob Matzkevich, or Evan Miller (Parish Treasurer) for additional information, or with questions regarding the donation of securities. 
- **BOOK CLUB** meets this Tuesday, April 21, at the Barnes & Noble at UTC (Sarasota), beginning at 6:30 PM. The Club is beginning their next book, *The Crucifixion of the King of Glory*, by Eugenia Constantinou. All are welcome to join the discussion!
- **SAINT MARK DAY LITURGY** – next Saturday, April 25, beginning at 9:30 AM. Most years, St. Mark Day falls during Lent or Holy Week when the usual Divine Liturgy is not served on weekdays. This year after Pascha, we celebrate our patron Saint with Divine Liturgy.
- **INTRO TO ORTHODOXY CLASS** resumes next Saturday, April 25, at 3:00 PM (before Vespers) after a 3 week break for Holy Week and Pascha. If you are new to the Class, speak with Fr. Jonathan to obtain a copy of the catechism, *The Faith*, by Clark Carlton. All are welcome to attend.
- **GRAVE BLESSINGS** this year will take place on Sunday, May 3, starting at 2:00 PM at Mansion Memorial Park in Ellenton/Palmetto. Blessings will then follow in order at Manasota Cemetery (~2:45 PM; Bradenton) and The Palms (~3:30 PM; Sarasota), concluding about 4:00 PM at Sarasota National Cemetery. If you would like graves blessed at other locations, please speak with Fr. Jonathan to make arrangements.

The Orthodox Post-Paschal Pentecost Season

PASCHA (The Resurrection of Christ, this year April 12)

- **Bright Week** (the week following Pascha; fast-free)

ANTIPASCHA/ST. THOMAS SUNDAY (Sun. after Pascha)

- *Antipascha* (Gk.) means “instead of Pascha,” that is, every Sunday is a repeat of the meaning of Pascha

HOLY MYRRHBEARERS (2nd Sun. after Pascha)

PARALYTIC AT BETHESDA (3rd Sun. after Pascha)

- **Mid-Feast of Pentecost** (Wed. of the 4th week)

SAMARITAN WOMAN AT THE WELL (4th Sun. after Pascha)

MAN BORN BLIND (5th Sun. after Pascha)

- **Feast of Ascension** (Thurs., 40 days after Pascha)

HOLY FATHERS (6th Sun. after Pascha)

PENTECOST (7th Sun. after Pascha; Gift of the Holy Spirit/Holy Trinity, this year May 31)

- Vespers of Pentecost w/kneeling prayers follows Divine Liturgy
- Monday of Pentecost Week is Holy Spirit Day (fast-free week)

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY (Sun. after Pentecost)

- The Apostles Fast begins the day after All Saints Sunday, continuing until the Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul (June 29), this year 3 weeks long.

Special Features of the Post-Paschal Season:

1. Grave Blessings for the faithful departed of the Parish take place in the Paschal season, usually the Sunday after Pascha unless scheduling conflicts result in a different Sunday.
2. In the Slavic Orthodox tradition, only Bright Week is fast-free (resuming the Wednesday and Friday fast days after Bright Week), although in other ethnic Orthodox practices, the entire 40 days from Pascha to Ascension is fast-free.
3. The greeting: Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen! is said up to the day before Ascension, called the Leavetaking of Pascha.
4. Kneeling is prohibited from Pascha to Pentecost because the Greek word for Resurrection is *Anastasis*, lit., “to stand up”.