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. Dimitrie	Archpr. Elias	Mat. Marion	Sbdcn. Joseph	Sbdcn. James
Laurie	Barbara	Tanya	Eli	Frances
Nicole & Noelle	Joshua	Nick	Carolyn	Charles
Gregory	Ricardo	Nancy	Karen	Peter
Kay	Lydia	Mary	Mike	Patrick
Maksim	Richard	Kathy	Dolores	John
Zina	Elena	Heather	George	David
Trudy	Susan	Vera	Alma	Diane
Laura and Wanda, and n.b. sons		Kristen and unborn child		

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:

Nina (Balikowsky) Matthew (McCollum)

October Birthdays:

Gary Babina (10//01)	Morgan Doyle (10/02)	Faith Abraham (10/05)
Tetyana Mirnyi (10/06)	Ruth Traycof (10/07)	Rose (Montes) (10/07)
Archpr. Elias Mitchell (10//09)	Andrea Hernandez (10/10)	Caitlin Crowe (10/10)
George Baise (10/17)	George Nartsissov (10/22)	John Johns (10/23)
Vera Lantz (10/24)	Katrina Stransky (10/25)	Elizabeth Reed (10/26)
Christian Cholcher (10/31)	Frances Pouget (10/31)	Ksenia Mirnyi (10/31)

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.

Securities may be donated to our Fidelity Brokerage Account; see Evan Miller, Treasurer, for details.

Track our Mortgage Elimination on the Debtometer in the Narthex.

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

18 Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
	11:15 AM	Sunday School
21 Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Scripture Readings
22 Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
23 Friday	9:30 AM	Liturgy of St. James
24 Saturday	8:30 AM	Church grounds clean-up
	3:00 AM	Intro to Orthodoxy
	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
25 Sunday	9:00 AM	Pre-baptism prayers; Chrismation of Violas
	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy & Baptism of Grayson Anthony Viola
	12:00 PM	Church Picnic

Sunday, October 18, 2026 Tone 3
20th Sunday after Pentecost (4th Sunday of Luke)
Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke

St. Mark is a Parish of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA), Diocese of the South, under the leadership of Metropolitan Tikhon and Bishop Gerasim (*Locum tenens*, Interim Bishop). 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 3 *(Resurrection)*
Let the heavens rejoice!
Let the earth be glad!
For the Lord has shown strength with His arm.
He has trampled down death by death.
He has become the first born of the dead.
He has delivered us from the depths of hell,
and has granted to the world//
great mercy.

Troparion Tone 5 *(St. Luke)*
Let us praise with sacred songs the holy Apostle Luke,
the recorder of the joyous Gospel of Christ
and the scribe of the Acts of the Apostles;
for his writings are a testimony of the Church of Christ.
He is the physician of human weaknesses and infirmities.
He heals the wounds of our souls,//
and constantly intercedes for our salvation.

Kontakion Tone 3 *(Resurrection)*
On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One,
leading us from the gates of death.
On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices;
with the Prophets and Patriarchs//
they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

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

Kontakion Tone 2 *(St. Luke*)
Let us praise the godly Luke;
he is the true preacher of piety,
the orator of ineffable mysteries
and the star of the Church,
for the Word, Who alone knows the hearts of men,//
chose him, with the wise Paul, to be a teacher of the Gentiles!

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!

Prokeimenon Tone 3 *(Resurrection)*
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)

Galatians 1:11-19 (Epistle)

But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

Luke 8:5-15 (Gospel)

"A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell by the wayside; and it was trampled down, and the birds of the air devoured it. Some fell on rock; and as soon as it sprang up, it withered away because it lacked moisture. And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up with it and choked it. But others fell on good ground, sprang up, and yielded a crop a hundredfold." When He had said these things He cried, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Then His disciples asked Him, saying, "What does this parable mean?" And He said, "To you it has been given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God, but to the rest it is given in parables, that 'Seeing they may not see, And hearing they may not understand.' Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. But the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, who believe for a while and in time of temptation fall away. Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity. But the ones that fell on the good ground are those who, having heard the word with a noble and good heart, keep it and bear fruit with patience.

Please maintain quiet following the Divine Liturgy as we venerate the Cross and pray the Post-Communion Prayers, after which Coffee Hour will commence.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **A COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEER CLEAN-UP LIST** is located on the serving table in the Narthex. Speak with Cathy Johns, Marsha Blazso, or Kim Hinkle to provide food, or to help in any way.
- **Quarterly Charity (Oct.-Dec.): Thomas Gaddis, working for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)**, providing spiritual guidance for young athletes in the Sarasota area. Mr. Gaddis is a member of Holy Spirit Orthodox Church in Venice, FL. Please give generously by designated check or envelope.
- **Craft and Bake Festival Need:** if you have a tent or canopy which can be used at our upcoming Festival on November 7, please speak with Natalie Aluzzo or Fr. Jonathan. We may need 6 canopies for various vendors. Thank you!



- **CHURCH PICNIC – next Sunday, October 25, following Liturgy;** hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert to share (and the neighbors' donkeys love apples and carrots). All are welcome to stay and enjoy the picnic!
- **Church Grounds Clean-up Day:** *next Saturday, October 24, beginning at 8:30 AM* – please bring trimmers/edgers if you have them, but we also have many yard tools here at Church. All, especially the men of the parish, are welcome to participate.



- **Reception of the Viola Family next Sunday (Oct. 25) –** catechumens Anthony and Sara Viola and their son Grayson (b. July 14) recently moved to our area from Pennsylvania and will be received into the Orthodox Church, the parents via Chrismation, and Grayson via Holy Baptism during the Liturgy. The Pre-baptism prayers and Chrismations will begin next Sunday at 9:00 AM prior to Liturgy.
- **Children's Christmas/St. Nicholas Play:** parents, we are planning an event involving your children to take place on St. Nicholas Day (Sunday, Dec. 6). Please express your interest by speaking with Siobhan Awad or Fr. Jonathan.
- **BOOK CLUB** meets this Tuesday evening, Oct. 20, at 6:30 PM at the Barnes & Noble Café at UTC in Sarasota. All are welcome to join the discussion.
- **Divine Liturgy of St. James** will be served this coming Friday, Oct. 23, at 9:30 AM. This Liturgy is appointed for two days of the year commemorating St. James, the Brother of the Lord and first Bishop of Jerusalem: St. James Day (Oct. 23), and the Sunday after Christmas.

