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	Sbdn. Joseph	Sbdn. James
Laurie	Barbara	Tanya	Eli	Frances
Nicole & Noelle	Joshua	Nick	Carolyn	Charles
Gregory	Ricardo	Nancy	Karen	Peter
Kay	Lydia	Mary	Patrick	Maksim
Richard	Kathy	Dolores	John	Zina
Melissa	Stephanie	Elena	Heather	Nicholas
George	David	Trudy	Susan	Vera
Kerri	Mason	Portland		
Wanda & n.b. son	Expecting mothers and unborn children: Kristen and Stephany			

Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered in Memory of:
Matthew (ND)

November Birthdays:

Sbdcn. James Abraham (11/6)	Christopher Fussell, Jr. (11/7)	Victor Starsky (11/7)
Raul Vasquez (11/7)	Denise Jacobs (11/8)	Sean Silagy (11/10)
Deomid Mirnyi (11//10)	Moriah Hastings (11/14)	Daniel Platt (11/14)
Ethan Torrey (11/15)	William Brown (11/16)	Arlie Button (11/19)
Camile Montes (11/19)	Hampton Jackson III (11/20)	Becket Button (11/21)
Helen Moroz (11/24)	Brandon Goodwin (11/24)	Connie Insley (11/25)
Deborah Graban (11/26)	Tyler Hirschberg (11/27)	Abram Button (11/28)

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 into 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 H. 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

15 Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
	11:15 AM	Sunday School
17 Tuesday	6:30 PM	Book Club (at B & N Café, UTC)
18 Wednesday	6:00 PM	Vespers/Scripture Readings
19 Thursday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
	6:00 PM	Parish Council
20 Friday	6:00 PM	Great Vespers & Litia
21 Saturday	8:15 AM	Matins
	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
	3:00 PM	Intro to Orthodoxy
	5:00 PM	Great Vespers
22 Sunday	9:30 AM	Divine Liturgy
	11:15 AM	Sunday School

Sunday, November 15, 2026 Tone 7
24th Sunday after Pentecost (8th Sunday of Luke)
Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas, and Abibus of Edessa

St. Mark is a Parish of the Orthodox Church in America (OCA), Diocese of the South, under the leadership of Metropolitan Tikhon and our Bishop Gerasim. 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 7 *(Resurrection)*
The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Ps. 28:11)
V. Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord! (Ps. 28:1a)

Ephesians 2:14-22 (Epistle)

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Luke 10:25-37 (Gospel)

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.'mmSo which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?"mAnd he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel:

Troparion Tone 7 *(Resurrection)*
By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that Thou art risen,//
granting the world great mercy.

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 5 *(Martyrs)*
O Christ our God, Thou hast granted us the miracles of Thy holy martyrs
Gúrias, Samónas, and Abíbus,
as a stronghold and protection.
Through their prayers, strengthen those in authority in ev'ry good deed,//
for Thou alone art merciful and lovest mankind!

Kontakion Tone 7 *(Resurrection)*
The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:
"The Savior has come to those in faith;//
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

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 2 *(Martyrs)*
You received grace from on high, O all-praised martyrs,
and you intercede for those in the midst of temptations.
Therefore, O saints, you freed a young woman from bitter death,//
and are indeed the glory of Edessa and the joy of the world.

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!

Please maintain quiet following Divine Liturgy as we venerate the Cross and pray the Post-Communion Prayers. Coffee Hour will commence once the prayers are completed.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **A COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEER LIST** is located on the side table in the Narthex. Speak with Cathy Johns, Marsha Blazso, or Kim Hinkle to volunteer to help clean up, provide food, or for more information.
- **Quarterly Charity (Oct.-Dec.):** Thomas Gaddis, working for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) providing spiritual guidance young athletes in the Sarasota area. Mr. Gaddis is a member of Holy Spirit Orthodox in Venice, FL.
- **BISHOP GERASIM**, former Auxiliary Bishop of Fort Worth, TX, and the Diocese of the South, was installed the Bishop of Dallas and the Diocese of the South as our permanent bishop yesterday, November 14, at St. Seraphim Cathedral in Dallas, TX. God grant him many years! As bishop, he is the Head Pastor of Saint Mark Church here in Bradenton, and of every local Orthodox church under his spiritual supervision in the Diocese of the South, some 80 parishes (area in darker gray on the US map).



- **Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple:** next Saturday, November 21, we celebrate the Feast of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Jerusalem, which took place when the Virgin Mary was 3 years old. Great Vespers w/Litia for the Feast will begin at 6:00 PM on Friday evening; Matins and Divine Liturgy will begin at 8:15 AM and 9:30 AM respectively Saturday morning. "Today is the preview of the good will of God, and the proclamation of the salvation of mankind. The Virgin appears clearly in the temple of God, and Christ is foretold to all. To her, therefore, let us cry with mighty voices: Rejoice, fulfillment of the Creator's Providence!" (Troparion of the Feast)
- **Today, 40 days prior to Christmas,** we begin the Nativity, or Advent, Fast. The standard (rule) of the Fast is to abstain from over-indulgence in food and drink while intentionally praying, meditating on God's Word, and engaging in works of charity and mercy. Instruction on the Fast is included as a handout in this bulletin. God grant us a profitable Advent Fast in preparation for the joy of the Feast of Christ's Birth.
- **Book Club** meets this Tuesday at 6:30 PM at the Barnes & Noble Café at UTC in Sarasota. **Parish Council** meets this Thursday at 6:00 PM here at Church.

New Members of the Orthodox Church

Yesterday, we received 22 persons into the Church as new members through Baptism and Chrismation. Completing the process, they will all be receiving Holy Communion today in the Divine Liturgy. We welcome the following persons:

Martin Esgar;
James, Laura, and Parker James Frey;
Julian Garcia;
Seve David Geyer;
Hampton Theodore III, Audrey Veronica, Lydia, and Sarah Jackson;
Jonathan Mestril;
Noah and Katherine Myers;
Julianne O'Sullivan;
Matthew Ritenour;
Daniel Rypel;
Alecxandre Tan;
Raul Nektarios, Andrea Juanita, Amia Marina, and Nash Nehemiah Vasquez;
Donavan Sean Michael Wallace

God grant to all the newly illumined servants of God, and their Sponsors, many years!

In the Orthodox Church, converts to the Faith first receive instruction as catechumens and then confess their sins prior to Baptism and Chrismation. The catechumenate (instructional period) also includes selection of a Sponsor, an Orthodox fellow-believer who can vouch for the genuineness of the convert, stand with them during conversion, and then personally support each other in a lifetime of prayer and communion in Christ.

Converts who have been baptized in water in the name of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, under the auspices of another non-Orthodox but genuinely Christian confession acknowledging the Savior Jesus Christ the God-Man; those so baptized are not re-baptized, but their Baptism is brought to fulfillment in the Orthodox Church through Chrismation, the anointing with Holy Chrism, the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit.

All who are baptized and chrismated in the Orthodox manner become members of the Body of Christ, the Church, and receive Holy Communion which is the defining activity of the authentic Christian life.