

**Prayers of Holy Oblation are offered for the Health of:**

Archprst. Stephen	Archprst. Elias	Mat. Marion	Irene
Fran	Connie	Jessie	Abigail
Ron	William	Laurie	Rose
Barbara	David	Tanya	Andrew
Harrison	Bill	Kay	Heather
Rolando	Anisia	Dn. Paul	Savinian
Barbara	Darrell	Archprst. Alexander	Vasily
Helen	Lana	Dennis	Amber

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

Archbp. David (ND)	Hildegard (ND)	Kh. Ruth (ND)
Herman (ND)	Irina (ND)	Archprst. Ernesto (ND)
Gregory		

**January Birthdays**

Phillip Chernaya (1/11)	Abigail Insley (1/16)	Emilia Stankevskaya (1/16)
Robert Serko (1/25)	Galina Tschursin (1/28)	Angela Orras (1/29)
Chris Traycoff (1/31)		

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.

St. Mark has been open during the pandemic; however, we are following certain guidelines because of COVID-19, especially social distancing, masks, and hand washing. With these guidelines, we can only accommodate 50 people in the Nave and Narthex. If you wish to attend any service, it's important to contact Sub-deacon James to reserve a spot. For Saturday Vespers and Sunday Liturgy, please contact Sbdcn. James by Thursday evening. The doors will be close 5 minutes prior to the start of any service. Sbdcn. James can be reached at 336-337-1147or [jim.abraham51@gmail.com](mailto:jim.abraham51@gmail.com).

If you are unable to attend services, but wish to continue your Stewardship contributions, send them to PO 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

Nadya Golubov  
Choir Director  
Michael Winters  
Assistant Director

Parish Phone: (941)-749-7662  
Parish E-mail: [stmarkocarector@gmail.com](mailto:stmarkocarector@gmail.com)  
Fr. Jonathan's Cell: (941)-807-5393  
Office Hours: TuWF 10:00 AM – Noon

This week at St. Mark

01/05: Vigil – 5:00 PM
01/06: Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM (Theophany)
01/06: Blessing of the water (Manatee River)– 4:00 PM
01/09: Great Vespers – 5:00 PM
01/10: Divine Liturgy – 9:30 AM
Sunday School immediately following Liturgy

**Sunday, January 3, 2021 Tone 5**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost**

Forefeast of Theophany  
Holy Prophet Malachi  
Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

**Prokeimenon            Tone 6                            (Sunday Before)**

O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! *(Ps. 27:9a)*

V. *To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me! (Ps. 27:1a)*

**2 Timothy 4:5-8 (Epistle, Sunday Before)**

But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry. For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.

**Mark 1:1-8 (Gospel, Sunday Before)**

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the Prophets: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You. The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; make His paths straight.'" John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Then all the land of Judea, and those from Jerusalem, went out to him and were all baptized by him in the Jordan River, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Anyone interested in sponsoring coffee hour, please sign up on the calendar book on the glass case. Keep it simple – donuts, coffee cake, bagels, etc.
- Icons of Christ and the Theotokos have been placed on the front analogia for prayer and veneration. For right now, refrain from actually kissing the icons, being mindful of others. We will be wiping the icons after Liturgy to meet COVID-19 guidelines.
- First Sunday of every month will now be a regular coffee hour. All following Sundays will be Bible Study.
- **The Annual Parish meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 17, 2021 immediately following Divine Liturgy**
- **House Blessings will begin this Friday, January 8. Please sign up on the list in the Narthex to have your house blessed this Theophany season according to the following schedule: 1) January 8-11 East Bradenton & Lakewood Ranch; 2) January 12-15 Palmetto/Ellenton/Parrish north; 3) January 16-19 West Bradenton & Anna Maria Island; 4) January 20-23 Sarasota south; 5) January 25-29 any others. It is Fr. Jonathan's intention and hope to visit every home in the Parish for blessing and mutual conversation.**

**Tone 5                    Troparion                    (Resurrection)**

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,  
born for our salvation from the Virgin;  
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,  
to endure death,  
and to raise the dead//  
by His glorious Resurrection.

**Tone 4                    Troparion                    (Forefeast)**

Prepare, O Zebulon,  
and adorn thyself, O Naphtali!  
River Jordan, cease flowing,  
and receive with joy the Master coming to be baptized!  
Adam, rejoice with our first Mother,  
and do not hide yourselves as you did of old in Paradise;  
for having seen you naked,  
He has appeared to clothe you with the first garment//  
Christ has appeared to renew all creation.

**Tone 5                    Kontakion                    (Resurrection)**

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior,  
shattering its gates as Almighty,  
resurrecting the dead as Creator,  
and destroying the sting of death.  
Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of man,//  
and we cry to Thee: “O Lord, save us!”

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

**Tone 4                    Kontakion                    (Prophet Malachi)**

Endowed with the gift of prophecy, O Malachi,  
thou didst clearly proclaim the saving coming of Christ to the world.//  
His brightness has brought light to the whole universe.

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

**Tone 4                    Kontakion                    (Forefeast)**

Today the Lord enters the Jordan and cries out to John:  
“Do not be afraid to baptize Me.//  
For I have come to save Adam, the first-formed man.”

**Tone 6                    Troparion of 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 as a fellow laborer//  
And you enlighten the world with your Holy Gospel

**Tone 2                    Kontakion of 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

**Tone 6                    Theotokion**

Steadfast Protectress of Christians  
Constant Advocator before the Creator  
Do not despise 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!