

Announcements

- Yard Sale/Open House Saturday, March 9 from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- Burn scheduled for Saturday, March 19
- Holy Spirit Orthodox Church will sponsor Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers on March 17 @ 5:00 PM. A Lenten Supper to follow.
- Church School Parents' Meeting Sunday, March 10 **immediately** after Liturgy.
- We are planning on creating a photo directory. Marsha Blazso will be coordinating.

Prayers of Oblation are offered for the Health of:

Fr. John Christopher
Irene Fran

Prayers of Oblation are offered in Memory of:

Gregory Travis

Holy Communion is reserved for Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through fasting and confession. In keeping with ancient Traditions and the injunction of St. Paul, the blessed bread (*Antidoron*), following Divine Liturgy, is shared by all who worship with us

St. Mark Orthodox Church

*1517 Morgan Johnson Rd.
Bradenton, FL 34208*

"The Messenger"

V. Rev. Fr. Stephen Plumlee
Coordinating Priest

Sub-deacon James Abraham
Parish Administrator

Nadya Golubov
Choir Director

Parish Phone: (941)749-7662

Parish E-mail: stmarkocarector@gmail.com

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 to be who enter;
to be a Christ-like community of Orthodox Christians:
to be active in worship, fellowship, and witness,
and through participation in the Sacraments
to come into close union with God

Sunday, March 3, 2019

Meatfare Sunday

Sunday of the Last Judgement

Tone 7

Prokeimenon Tone 3

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, His understanding is beyond measure. (*Ps 146/147:5*)

v: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God! (Ps 146/147:1)

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 (Epistle)

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Matthew 25:31-46 (Gospel)

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'

And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sunday of the Last Judgement

The Gospel today gives a glimpse of what will be at the Last Judgement. Christ will be seated on His throne in glory, surrounded by the angels, judging all nations. He will place some on His right and some on His left. To those on His right He will say "Come you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." He goes on to explain His rationale for those on His right to inherit the kingdom. It's actually quite a simple formula. Christ says, "for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me." What was the response of those on His right? When did we do all these things? We don't remember doing them. What was Jesus' reply? "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to me." Then to those on His left He says. "depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels." He goes on to explain why. And what are those reasons? They are the exact **opposite** of what those on His right did. They did nothing to "least of these, you did not do it to Me."

As we prepare for Great Lent, let us take time to be like those on His right so the we may enter His kingdom prepared for us.

Lenten Services for March

Sunday, March 3: Meat Fare Sunday. Last day to eat meat

Sunday, March 10: Cheese Fare Sunday. Last day to eat cheese First Canon of St. Andrew - 6:00 PM

Monday, March 11: Canon of St. Andrew - 6:00 PM

Tuesday, March 12: Canon of St. Andrew - 6:00 PM

Wednesday, March 13: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy - 6:00 PM

Wednesday, March 20: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy - 6:00 PM

Monday, March 25: Annunciation - Divine Liturgy - 9:30 AM

Wednesday, March 27: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy - 6:00 PM

This year, Parish Council has voted to complete the Lenten Projects voted on last year, but were tabled because of the need to replace the AC unit. Those projects include a defibrillator, replace the center carpet runner, and possibly outdoor LED lights along the walkway of the parking lot. Please contribute to these projects.

Financials from 02/24/19

Collection: \$2,206; YTD Ave. \$2,493 Budget: \$3,484

Attendance: 71/9; YTD Ave. 69/8

Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection)

By Thy Cross Thou didn't 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.

Tone 1 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory,
all things shall tremble,

and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgement seat;
the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed;
then deliver me from the unquenchable fire://

and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge!