

**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** (*Feast - Nativity of the Theotokos*)

Thy nativity, O Virgin,  
has proclaimed joy to the whole universe!  
The Sun of righteousness, Christ our God,  
has shone from thee, O Theotokos.  
By annulling the curse,  
He bestowed a blessing.//  
By destroying death, He has granted us eternal life.

**Tone 1 Troparion** (*Martyrs*)

Let all who rejoice at their triumph honor those three virgin martyrs,  
who are united to God as sisters  
and who pour forth fair streams of grace:  
Menodora, Metrodora, and Nymphodora,  
who were in all things courageous://  
they ever pray to the Trinity for us.

**Glory... Tone 3 Troparion** (*St. Matthew*)

From the tax desk you eagerly followed the call of Christ the master,  
Who of His goodness, revealed Himself on earth to man.  
You appear as a chosen apostle and eloquent proclaimer of the  
Gospel to the universe!  
Wherefore, we revere your honorable memory, O Divinely speaking  
Matthew//  
Pray to the merciful God that He will grant remission of sins to our souls.

**Now and Ever... Tone 4 Kontakion** (*Feast - Nativity of the Theotokos*)

By thy nativity, O most pure Virgin,  
Joachim and Anna are freed from barrenness,  
Adam and Eve — from the corruption of death.  
And we, thy people, freed from the guilt of sin, celebrate and sing to  
thee://  
“The barren woman gives birth to the Theotokos, the nourisher of our  
Life.”

**St. Matthew Orthodox Church**

607 Ravenswood Drive, Green Bay, WI 54302

[www.smocgb.com](http://www.smocgb.com)

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the Midwest

**Rector: Father John Thetford**

[frjohnthetford@gmail.com](mailto:frjohnthetford@gmail.com)

(920) 412-8974 (Cell)

[pastor@smocgb.com](mailto:pastor@smocgb.com)

(920) 455-0744 (Church)

September 10, 2023

14th Sunday After Pentecost

**2 Corinthians 1:21-2:4 (Epistle)**

Brethren, He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. Moreover I call God as witness against my soul, that to spare you I came no more to Corinth. Not that we have dominion over your faith, but are fellow workers for your joy; for by faith you stand. But I determined this within myself, that I would not come again to you in sorrow. For if I make you sorrowful, then who is he who makes me glad but the one who is made sorrowful by me? And I wrote this very thing to you, lest, when I came, I should have sorrow over those from whom I ought to have joy, having confidence in you all that my joy is the joy of you all. For out of much affliction and anguish of heart I wrote to you, with many tears, not that you should be grieved, but that you might know the love which I have so abundantly for you.

**Matthew 22:1-14 (Gospel)**

At that time, Jesus spoke to them again by parables and said: “The kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who arranged a marriage for his son, and sent out his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding; and they were not willing to come. Again, he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner; my oxen and fatted cattle are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the wedding.”’ But they made light of it and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his business. And the rest seized his servants, treated them spitefully, and killed them. But when the king heard about it, he was furious. And he sent out his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding is ready, but those who were invited were not worthy. Therefore go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.’ So those servants went out into the highways and gathered together all whom they found, both bad and good. And the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he saw a man there who did not have on a wedding garment. So he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you come in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the servants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

## SMOC News and Events Schedule

- There is **No Book Study/Bible Study this Tuesday, Sept. 12.**
- There is **No Adult Education class this Wednesday, Sept. 13.**
- **Adult Choir practice** will be today, Sunday, September 10 and on **Sunday, September 24.**
- **Parish Council** will be meeting via Zoom on **Tuesday, September 12 at 6:00 pm.** If you would like to attend as a guest, please let President, Paul Novak, know at **paulnovak11@gmail.com**
- **Sunday School** will be on **Sunday, September 17.**
- **New High School Discussion Group for grades 9th-12th** will be on **Sunday, September 17.**
- On **Saturday, October 7,** we will have the annual Chapel cleanup, picnic, and Vespers at **Transfiguration Chapel in Sister Bay.** More info to follow.
- On **Saturday, October 21,** we will have our **Annual Fall Festival and Bake sale.** What great baked goods will you bring to this year's festival?

## Iconography Project

**Please support our fundraising campaign as we raise \$49,000 for Phase III of our Iconography Project.** This phase will focus on the large wall spaces on each side of the church directly above the Iconography of the Saints. Once completed we will have Iconography of our Lord's Resurrection on one side with the Lord's Nativity adorning the other side of the church. In addition, large icons of the Feeding of the Five Thousand and of the Sermon on the Mount will grace the balcony spaces of the Church. Other Icons are also being prepared allowing us to finish the iconography inside our church building. Your donation will help make this possible.

## A Note From the Ministry Team: SEPTEMBER FOCUS

Our September focus is on benevolence. Benevolence: an act of kindness / a generous gift. Your act of kindness to our Benevolence Fund helps those who are in our church family and our community. Please consider giving a generous gift to help out someone in need. Cash or a check made out to St. Matthew with Benevolence Fund on the outer envelope will be greatly appreciated.

## Liturgical Schedule

Wednesday, September 13, 6:00 PM Great Vespers & Divine Liturgy  
(Exaltation of the Cross)

Saturday, September 16, 5:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, September 17, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

## **Sunday School Starts On September 17**

We are looking forward to a great new year with our new curriculum! Every Sunday that there is Sunday School, children and their teachers/teachers assistants should go first in line at Communion and then immediately gather at the bottom of the steps to go up to their Sunday School classrooms. There will no longer be separate Sunday School Singing.

**Keeping SMOC clean is all our responsibility.** We all can be good stewards of the facility the Lord has given us by keeping it clean and maintained. Besides the cleaning that is done every week, don't be afraid to tidy things up if you are at church during the week. Waste basket full, go ahead and empty it. Maybe a carpet looks like it should be vacuumed, go ahead and break out the vacuum. The work we put in is a clear representation of the love of God by the effort we take in keeping our facility clean and maintained.

## NEW High School Discussion Group

For the past few years, our parish has had a joint group of high schoolers and post-high school young adults called "The Upper Room" group. We are now splitting off a distinct high schoolers only group, **starting September 17,** for those currently in 9th-12th grades in school. This group will meet about 2-3 times a month, immediately after Liturgy, with Mat. Photini Roegner facilitating the group. The Young Adults "Upper Room" group will continue to meet as well in its new iteration.

## 40 Day Walk for Life : September 27- November 5

Our parish will once again be participating in the National 40 Day Walk for Life this fall. Our usual time slot is on Tuesdays from 8:00 to 9:00 am. Please consider joining us as we peacefully and prayerfully walk and pray for the unborn, for their mothers and for families who are considering abortion. More information to come. See Mary, Nana, or Melissa.