

Liturgical Schedule

Monday, March 18, 11:30 AM Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM Great Canon

Tuesday, March 19, 11:30 AM Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM Great Canon

Wednesday, March 20, 11:30 AM Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM

Presanctified Liturgy

Thursday, March 21, 11:30 AM Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM Great Canon

Friday, March 22, 11:30 AM Lenten Hours

Saturday, March 23, 5:00 PM Great Vespers

Saturday, March 23, 6:00 PM Great Vespers (**at St. Macrina Chapel,
Waupaca**)

Sunday, March 24, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy (Sunday of
Orthodoxy)

Sunday, March 24, 9:30 Hours, 9:50 Typika (**at St. Macrina Chapel,
Waupaca**)

Sunday, March 24, 6:00 PM Great Vespers (The Annunciation)

Tone 8 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!

Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!!
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

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 & 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.

Glory... Now and Ever...

Tone 6 Kontakion (*from the Lenten Triodion*)

O Master, Teacher of wisdom,
Bestower of virtue,

Who teachest the thoughtless and protect the poor,
strengthen and enlighten my heart!

O Word of the Father,

let me not restrain my mouth from crying to Thee:

"Have mercy on me, a transgressor!!

O merciful Lord!"

St. Matthew Orthodox Church

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March 17, 2024

Forgiveness Sunday and Cheesefare Sunday

41st Sunday After Pentecost

Romans 13:11-14:4 (Epistle)

Brethren, do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

Matthew 6:14-21 (Gospel)

The Lord said: if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Food for Pantries.....Our ministry focus this month is “ Food for Pantries.” As you may know, our local pantry in Green Bay and the pantry in Appleton could use extra help right now in keeping their shelves stocked - **especially with non-perishable proteins such as tuna, chicken, beef soup, hamburger helper, peanut butter, etc..** Let's bless them this month with an abundance of food that will help out our neighbors. Please bring in your non-perishable food items and leave them in Herrick Hall. Don't forget to check the expiration dates! Thank you for your support!

Services for the Feast of Annunciation: There will be Great Vespers on Sunday, March 24, at 6:00 pm, and Divine Liturgy on Monday, March 25, at 9:30 am (Hours preceding at 9:10 am). The Annunciation is the beginning of our salvation - when Christ, 9 months before his birth, first became physically present in the world!

Annual Orthodox Christians for Life Baby Shower Drive: In honor of the Feast of the Annunciation, we are participating, for the entire month of March, in purchasing infant items that will be distributed for mothers served by Alexandrina Pregnancy Crisis Center here in Green Bay. Having this kind of material support for mothers available makes it an easier decision for them to enjoy the fulfillment of raising a child. Essentially, any and all infant items are needed... but of course most of all, diapers and wipes!



.....the KITCHEN.....



.....the KITCHEN..... is in need of bottled water and 100% pure juice, meaning no sugar has been added to the juice.

.....the KITCHEN.....our coffee hour/fellowship time is made possible by your donations of food to share every Sunday morning. We can always use help with the clean up after Coffee/fellowship hour is over. Want to help? Stay until the end of coffee hour and we will find a task for you to do.

Church Cleaner.....

Mykhaylyuk - week of 3/17 for 3/24/24

SMOC News and Events Schedule

- **Book Study/Bible Study** will resume meeting on **Tuesday, March 26 at 10:30 am.**
- **Adult Education** meets every Wednesday after Daily Vespers at **6:00 pm.**
- **No Sunday School today, Sunday, March 17** due to Forgiveness Vespers, and **no Sunday School on March 24** due to the Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Procession after Liturgy. **The High School Group** meets on Sundays when there is no Typika in Waupaca.
- There is a **sign-up sheet** for the meals after Presanctified services on Wednesdays during Lent.
- **40 Days for Life, February 14 to March 24:**
From February 14 through March 24, you're invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to walk and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood 2605 S Oneida St in Ashwaubenon and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. **Our parish's assigned time slot, as usual, is every Tuesday from 8:00 am to 9:00 am, during these 40 days.** If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact: Angelica Pfitzinger 662-664-4127 amjpfitz@gmail.com .
- **Services at St. Macrina Chapel in Waupaca:**
There will be Vespers at 6:00 pm on **Saturday, March 23,** and Hours and Typika at 9:30 & 9:50 on Sunday, **March 24.**
- **Meal at St. John's Men's Shelter on Friday, March 29:** Our parish will be sponsoring a meal for the 110 guests at St. John's Men's Shelter on Friday, March 29, from 5:15 - 7:15pm. **Volunteers are needed to serve the meal at the shelter** as well as to **prepare the meal** ahead of time. There is a **sign-up sheet** in Herrick Hall for both volunteering opportunities. Please note the costs of the food will be covered by the parish (of course, donations toward this purpose are appreciated).
- **April 7: Final Catechumens' Class:** The final class will be on **Sunday, April 7, from 12:00 - 2:30 pm,** on the topics of the Feasts and Calendar of the Church Year, and on Prayer and Personal Spiritual Practice.

THE SUNDAYS OF GREAT LENT

The Final Sunday before Great Lent: Forgiveness Sunday

The day before Lent begins, we make a long greeting line in the church, and say to one another: “Forgive me, a sinner!”, with the response being: “God forgives, and I forgive!” This act of mutual forgiveness recognizes the truth that our actions hurt others, while it also heals us by changing our perspective toward others to be one of mercy. And this mutual act certainly makes present to all of us the mercy of God!

The 1st Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy The Sunday of Orthodoxy originally marked the specific event in 843 of the restoration of icons for liturgical use in churches. More generally, it is a celebration of the theology of icons (aka, holy images). We believe it is possible to make icons of Jesus Christ because He truly became a man for our sake!

The 2nd Sunday of Great Lent: Gregory Palamas

Gregory Palamas was a champion of “hesychasm,” which means quietness or stillness. Against those who thought of God as ultimately inaccessible to man, Saint Gregory defended the belief that one can truly come to know God, in a real sense, through prayer and contemplation.

The 3rd Sunday of Great Lent: the Veneration of the Cross

On the middle Sunday of Great Lent, we remember that the journey of Lent is all about denying ourselves, taking up our Cross, and following Christ. Historically, for many Christians, this entailed the veneration of the shards of the True Cross, which were kept in many great cathedrals in big cities around the world (and still are in some places today).

The 4th Sunday of Great Lent: John of the Ladder (“Climacus”)

Saint John was a 7th century Abbot at the monastery on Mount Sinai. He wrote a famous book called “The Ladder”, which walks the reader through the steps of the monastic experience of growth in the struggle against sin.

The 5th Sunday of Great Lent: Remembrance of Mary of Egypt

Mary of Egypt is perhaps the best example of repentance. Being engulfed by sinful living since childhood, she had an encounter with God that brought her to incredible change, revealing to all of us that change is always possible, because God always desires it for us!

