

**Tone 6 Troparion (Resurrection)**

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb;  
the guards became as dead men.  
Mary stood by Thy grave,  
seeking Thy most pure body.  
Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it.  
Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life.  
O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, //  
glory to Thee.

**Tone 1 Troparion (The Cross)**

O Lord, save Thy people,  
and bless Thine inheritance!  
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians  
over their adversaries;  
and by virtue of Thy Cross, //  
preserve Thy habitation!

**Tone 5 Troparion (Martyrs)**

Thou didst blossom in the courts of the Lord  
as a fruitful olive tree,  
O holy martyr Sophia;  
in thy contest thou didst offer to Christ the sweet fruit of thy womb,  
thy daughters Faith, Hope, and Love. //  
Together with them intercede for us all!

**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 our sins to our souls.

**Now and Ever... Tone 4 Kontakion (The Cross)**

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake,  
grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God;  
make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power,  
granting them victories over their adversaries //  
by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

**Church Cleaner.....**

**Tomac - week of 9/17 for 9/24/23**

**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 17, 2023

15th Sunday After Pentecost

**2 Corinthians 4:6-15 (Epistle)**

Brethren: it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

**Matthew 22:35-46 (Gospel)**

At that time, a certain lawyer asked Him a question, testing Him, and saying, "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?" Jesus said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." While the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them, saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?" They said to Him, "The Son of David." He said to them, "How then does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying: 'The LORD said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool'? If David then calls Him 'Lord,' how is He his Son?" And no one was able to answer Him a word, nor from that day on did anyone dare question Him anymore.

### SMOC News and Events Schedule

- **Book Study/Bible Study** is meeting every **Tuesday at 10:30 am**.
- **Adult Education class** is meeting every **Wednesday** after Daily Vespers at **6:00 pm**.
- **Sunday School** will be **today, Sunday, September 17**.
- **New High School Discussion Group for grades 9th-12th** will be **today, Sunday, September 17**.
- **Adult Choir practice** will be on **Sunday, September 24**.
- On **Saturday, October 7**, will be our annual gathering at the Chapel in Sister Bay. The entire parish is welcomed to come up to **Holy Transfiguration Chapel in Sister Bay, on Saturday, October 7**, to do a deep clean of the Chapel, have a potluck picnic, and have Great Vespers. There will be no Great Vespers at St. Matthew's this day. **The cleaning will start at 10:00 AM, with Lunch around 12:30 or 1:00 PM, and Great Vespers at 3:00 PM.**
- 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 20, 6:00 PM Daily Vespers

Saturday, September 23, 5:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, September 24, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, September 27, NO Daily Vespers

Saturday, September 30, 5:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, October 1, 8:30 Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

### Sunday School Starts TODAY!!!!

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. **Sunday School is for those in grades Prek - 8.**

**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 today, 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.