



**St. Matthew Orthodox Church  
Orthodox Church in America  
Diocese of the Midwest**

**Father John Thetford**

**607 Ravenswood Drive  
Green Bay, WI 54302**

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*From the desk of Father John.....*

Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be!

There are a number of well known and beloved saints who are remembered during the month of October. We remember four of the Apostles: Thomas, Luke, James the Son of Alphaeus, and James the Brother of our Lord, as well as Saint Longinus, the centurion who believed in Christ when he saw him crucified. We also commemorate a number of well known martyrs of the ancient Church, such as Saint Demetrios of Thessalonica, as well as some Old Testament figures, such as the Prophets Hosea and Joel. We also remember two of our own local American saints, Saint Innocent of Alaska, and Saint Tikhon of Moscow, the enlightener of America.

In last month's newsletter, I spoke of how we see the saints as our examples. We try to figure out how to live a good life in accord with God's good will for humanity, and we look to the lives of the saints, and imitate them and adapt their examples to our own situations.

At the same time, however, we must also remember that the saints are not just historical examples, but they are real, living, people, present with us spiritually even now.

As we hear at Pascha, "Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the tomb." And while the saints' bodies may indeed be in tombs, they are not "dead." Their bodies, yes, physically "died," and maybe even were burned up or eaten by worms! But they, the people, the saints who were known in the world, are even now together with Christ, awaiting their resurrection. They are with Him, they are around His throne, together with the hosts of angels. They are His friends. They are His brothers and sisters, forever. And because they are the brothers and sisters of Christ, they are the sons and daughters of God. They are adopted into the family of the Trinity, and have themselves become full of the divine presence of God.

So the saints, certainly, are not prayed to as God is prayed to, but as they have been granted the gift of becoming God's children, they are powerful intercessors for us. We ask for their intercessions, so that they may ask Christ to give us His divine grace. We can communicate with them, directing our thoughts and questions to them, and asking them for help, grace, and guidance.

May we all keep the saints close, speaking to them as friends, and asking for their intercessions before the Throne of God.

In Christ,  
Fr. John



Our Ministry Team Focus is three-fold. We strive to support locally, nationally and internationally. We also involve our Sunday School kids when we can. Here's an opportunity for you to be part of ministering to others this month. Our focus this month is encouraging the OCMC missionaries in Guatemala by sending them a monetary gift. Just imagine if everyone gave just 10.00 this month! A tax-deductible check or cash may be given to Tom Julian, Treasurer. Thank you!

**Other news:**

We have recently become affiliated with OCL (Orthodox Christians for Life). OCL is a non-profit organization dedicated to equipping the Orthodox community to strengthen its commitment to the sacredness of human life from conception to death, illuminating the church's teaching on life issues through education and engagement. OCL asks us to support 40 Days for Life, to support a local pregnancy crisis center and provide educational opportunities for our parish. See Svetlana, Fr. John or Mary for more information.

The 40 Days for Life is currently under way. 40 Days is dedicated to peacefully supporting moms, dads and families in crisis pregnancy situations. It also supports post abortive parents. This is a peaceful, loving way to take a stand against abortion, to offer alternatives and support to hurting people. You can make a difference. If you have a little time and would like information on how to get involved, please ask Nana, Melissa or Mary.



### SMOC Church Library

The **church library** is undergoing a few changes to better facilitate locating books. There are several categories that are labeled on a shelf marker. These categories are color-coded for ease of locating and re-shelving. There will be a chart displaying category/color. Check-out is signing the card, leaving it in the designated tray and returning books to the designated basket. You will not need to re-shelve.

If you have any new or gently used books you could donate to the library, it would be greatly appreciated to expand the offerings. I will have a box labeled for donations. Also, if you find a library book that has lost its way, please return and I will make new cards for those that return home to the library! 😊

There is a wise saying, "Don't judge a book by its cover"! This is great advice as there are many treasures just waiting to be discovered!

Serving Christ, Juliana (Cheryl)



**St. Matthew's Bookstore** has something for everybody. New inventory is added monthly. so if you haven't visited recently please come in and take a look! 👁️👁️

## Parish Council President's Perspective.....Paul Novak

I hope this finds you and your families well. I was recently asked a question about our Church Bells and if there is a proper or special way they are rung. As books have been written and even formal classes have been held on bell ringing in the Orthodox church, I only have space in this article to give a very short answer to this question.

The ringing of the bells serves two functions in the Orthodox Church. The first is for calling the faithful to divine services, think of village farmers working in the fields, and the second is to announce the beginning of various parts of the services to those faithful who are absent from the church. The use of bells is not only practical, but is also considered to be spiritual. Bells are sometimes referred to as "singing icons," because they establish the acoustic space of an Orthodox temple just as painted icons and hymnography define its visual and noetic space, respectively. Icons are considered "scripture in image" as bells are "scripture in sound."

The ringing of bells is one of the most essential elements of an Orthodox church. Church bells are rung to:

- Summon the faithful to services
- Express the triumphal joy of the Christian Church
- Announce important moments during the services both to those in church and to those who are not able to be physically present in the church, so that all may be united in prayer
- Strengthen Christians in piety and faith by its sound, which Orthodox Christians believe is "alloyed with divine grace to disperse and destroy the forces of cruelty and of demonic suggestion"
- Proclaim important events, such as the death of a member of the church; the arrival of an important person, such as the bishop or civil ruler.

Technically, bells rung in the Russian tradition are sounded exclusively by chiming (i.e., moving only the clapper so that it strikes the side of a stationary bell) and never by swinging the bell. The bells at Saint Matthews have clappers which you can see if your walk under them in the front of our church building. No melody is employed, as in the Western Carillon, but rather a complicated polyrhythmical sequence of sounds is produced. "The foundation of Orthodox bell ringing lies not in melody but in rhythm, with its intrinsic dynamic, and in the interaction of the timbres of [various] bells. The *Trezvon* (triple-peal) is the rhythmical ringing of multiple bells, using all the major groups of the bell scale. The *trezvon* is the most joyous of the various types of rings. The order of ringing the different bells is not fixed, but may be composed by the bell-ringer himself and prompted by his creativity and self-expression.

What I have outlined is a very general answer to the question that was asked of me and cannot accommodate the full richness and diversity of the use of bells in the Orthodox Church. I hope this brief summary gives you some insight and inspiration to learn more about the bells and their ringing in the Orthodox Church.

In Christ,  
Paul M. Novak

Please review in more detail the following source information that I used in this article:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian\\_Orthodox\\_bell\\_ringing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Russian_Orthodox_bell_ringing)

<https://holy-trinity.org/bells/onbells.html>

<https://holy-trinity.org/cathedral-bells/on-bells-and-their-ringing>



**SMOC Event 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.**
- The next **Parish Council** meeting will be held via Zoom on **Tuesday, October 12 at 6:00 pm.** If you would like to attend as a guest, please let President, Paul Novak know at [paulnovak11@gmail.com](mailto:paulnovak11@gmail.com) .
- The next **Children's Choir practice** will be during Sunday School time on **Sunday, October 17.**
- **Adult Choir practices** in October will be **Sunday, October 10 & 31.**
- **Fall Festival returns!** Mark your calendars. **Saturday, October 23** has been set for our annual Bake and Gyro sale. We need volunteers to help in numerous areas. More details to follow, but see Katherine Wieland about the bake sale and Paul Novak about the Gyro sale.
- **St. Matthew Dinner** will be held on **Sunday, November 14.** More details to follow.

**October Birthdays!**

- 1 - Kyria Tomac (Kyriakos)
- 2 - Ariadne Jeffers
- 4 - Timothy Grinsteiner
- 4 - Alexander Massopust
- 5 - Martha Heid
- 6 - Gloriya Grinsteiner
- 6 - Matthew Hanson (Augustine)
- 6 - Evelyn Kizewski (Nina)
- 9 - Judith Stuck
- 9 - Alicia White
- 19 - Craig Schweiner
- 21 - Kaine Bernarde (Nicholas)
- 24 - Bonnie Zdrle
- 27 - Dimitrija Kuzeva
- 28 - Tanya Pitkevich
- 29 - Lisa Ocokoljich
- 31 - Andrei Gudumac
- 31 - Tania Phillips

Many Years!

**October 2021 SMOC Liturgical Schedule**

Saturday, October 2, 2:00 PM Great Vespers (at Holy Transfiguration Chapel, Sister Bay)  
(no Vespers in Green Bay)

Sunday, October 3, 9:10 Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, October 6, 6:00 PM Daily Vespers

Saturday, October 9, 5:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, October 10, 9:10 Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, October 13, no Daily Vespers (Fr John at Diocesan Assembly)

Saturday, October 16, 5:00 PM Great Vespers

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

Wednesday, October 20, 6:00 PM Daily Vespers

Saturday, October 23 5:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, October 24, 9:10 Hours, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, October 27, 6:00 PM Daily Vespers

Saturday, October 30, 5:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, October 31, 8:30 AM Matins, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy (St. John of Chicago)



### St. Matthew Legacy Endowment Fund

At the September 19th parish informational meeting, we announced the establishment of the St. Matthew Legacy Endowment Fund. This fund, set up under the IRS code 501c(3), allows Grantors to make financial gifts/donations to St. Matthew Orthodox Church that are for both specified and unspecified purposes. This fund will act as the conduit for our church to accept and grow funds for future expenditures. At this time, we have 3 categories of anticipated gifts:

1. SMOC Scholarship Funds for seminarians, diaconate candidates, clergy development.
2. Endowment Funds for building and grounds improvement and ministry development.
3. Holy Transfiguration Chapel support and maintenance Funds.

I want to encourage us all to consider a generous annual gift to the Legacy Fund and specify how you would wish for it to be used. I anticipate that the Legacy Fund will inherit assets from the estate of parish supporters during their lifetime and after they fall asleep in the Lord.

The Legacy Fund can also receive gifts of non-tax qualified securities that can be transferred to the account and the grantor(s) can avoid capital gains tax on the growth of those securities.

It may accept QCD's (qualified charitable distributions) from IRA's and other retirement accounts.

Grantors over age 70 ½ can transfer up to \$100,000.00 and avoid the taxes on the distribution(s).

Donors over age 72 can avoid taxation on their RMD's (required minimum distributions) from IRA's and other qualified retirement accounts.

Please talk to Father John, Paul Novak or Tom Julian if you have any questions regarding your gifts to the SMOC Legacy and Endowment Fund. Your support for SMOC is always appreciated and so impactful to the Kingdom of God.

SMOC Treasurer, Tom Julian

### **October Church Cleaners**

**Thank you for your help!!!**

**TOMAC** (week of) 9/26/21 for 10/3

**WEILAND** (week of) 10/3/21 for 10/10

**SARSAMA** (week of) 10/10/21 for 10/17

**MYKHAYLYUK** (week of) 10/17/21 for 10/24

**ODMAN** (week of) 10/24/21 for 10/31

**BISBEE** (week of) 10/31/21 for 11/7





## Clam Sauce served with Pasta

Half an onion, chopped  
 3 garlic cloves, chopped  
 4 scallions, chopped  
 1 tablespoon oregano  
 1 tablespoon chopped dill  
 Black pepper  
 Dash of thyme  
 Handful of chopped parsley  
 Olive oil  
 2-4 cans chopped clams  
 White wine (optional)  
 Pasta of choice

Thank You.....  
 Matushka Katherine  
 for the delicious  
 recipes!

Sauté onion, garlic, and scallions, along with the herbs, in olive oil in a saucepan until soft. Add the liquid from the clams and bring to a boil with white wine (if using). Simmer with lid on, 5-10 mins or until your pasta boils (cook pasta in separate pot according to directions). Right before eating, add the clams and raise heat until sauce boils again. Taste -add salt if needed or add pasta water if too salty. Serve over pasta and enjoy!



## Oatmeal Chocolate Chip Walnut Cookies



3 sticks butter softened  
 1 1/2 cups light brown sugar  
 3/4 cup white sugar  
 1 large egg  
 1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract  
 3 cups old fashioned rolled oats  
 1 1/2 cups all purpose flour  
 3/4 tsp kosher salt  
 2 1/2 tsp baking soda  
 1 cup semi sweet chocolate chips  
 1 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix the softened butter with both sugars, till fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla. Add dry ingredients. Mix in chocolate chips and walnuts. Roll into balls about 1 tablespoon large and place on baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Allow 2 inches in between each, as they will flatten. Bake 7-8 minutes or until golden brown. Cool and enjoy!