

Tone 2 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, 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 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.

Glory...Now and Ever... Tone 1 Kontakion (*Triodion*)

When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory,
all things shall tremble,
and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat;
the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed;
then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,//

Making of Catechumens Next Sunday, March 2

Those who have been attending catechism classes, if they are sure they want to become Orthodox Christian, will be formally made catechumens during the course of the liturgy (shortly after the sermon) on Sunday, March 2, when the priest will read a short prayer and "blow" the Holy Spirit on the catechumens.

Church Cleaner

McGraw—week of 2/23 for 3/2

St. Matthew Orthodox Church

607 Ravenswood Drive, Green Bay, WI 54302

smocgbwi@gmail.com

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the Midwest

Rector: Father John Thetford

frjohnthetford@gmail.com

(920)-412-8974 (Cell)

(920)-455-0744 (Church)

February 23, 2025

Sunday of the Last Judgment

1 Corinthians 8:8–9:2 (Epistle)

Brethren, 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)

The Lord said to his disciples: “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, →

Matthew 25:31–46, cont'd

'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."

SMOC News and Events

- Choir Practice will take place today, and on March 9 and March 23 from 11:45–12:30. We will be practicing musicianship as well as preparing for Great Lent. All are welcome to join Choir Practice!
- Confession is an excellent way to be honest with ourselves, before God, with the priest as a witness, so that we can make a fresh start. In the Orthodox Church in America, it is expected that every Orthodox Christian come to confession at a minimum of once a year, and this typically would be during Lent. Think of it like an annual doctor's checkup—Christ is our physician!
- We have boxes in the church to collect donations of cleaning items for local people experiencing homelessness and indigency/extreme poverty. Any cleaning items for your body or your home can be donated!
- On the last day before Lent begins, after the Liturgy, we have a special shortened vespers service, and we make a line in the church asking one another for forgiveness. Since, in some sense, our individual sins affect the entirety of humanity, we shake hands and ask forgiveness from all, even those we may not know.
- Catechism Classes in preparation for Pascha 2025 have begun! The remaining classes will be held March 16, and March 30.

Liturgical Schedule

St. Matthew Orthodox Church, Green Bay

◆ Please see full liturgical schedule online at www.smocgb.com

Wednesday, February 26, 6:00 PM—Daily Vespers
Saturday, March 1, 5:00 PM—Great Vespers
Sunday, March 2, 8:30 AM—Matins; 9:30 AM—Divine Liturgy & Rite of Forgiveness (Forgiveness Sunday)
Monday, March 3, 11:30 AM—Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM—Great Canon
Tuesday, March 4, 11:30 AM—Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM—Great Canon
Wednesday, March 5, 11:30 AM—Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM—Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday, March 6, 11:30 AM—Lenten Hours; 6:00 PM—Great Canon
Saturday, March 8, 5:00 PM—Great Vespers
Sunday, March 9, 8:30 AM—Matins; 9:30 AM—Divine Liturgy (Sunday of Orthodoxy)
Wednesday, March 12, 6:00 PM—Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday, March 15, 5:00 PM—Great Vespers
Sunday, March 16, 8:30 AM—Matins; 9:30 AM—Divine Liturgy (Sunday of Gregory Palamas)

St. Macrina Chapel, Waupaca

(All services in Waupaca)

Saturday, March 22, 8:30 AM—Matins; 9:30 AM—Divine Liturgy

Holy Transfiguration Chapel, Sister Bay

Saturday, April 5, 9:10 AM—Hours; 9:30 AM—Divine Liturgy

A note from the Ministry Team:

This month, our focus is supporting the Sarsamă Family. Pedro Constantine, Keely, and their four children are at St. Tikhon's in Pennsylvania. Pedro is studying in the Master of Divinity program. God willing, he will be ordained and serve as a priest in the Diocese of the Midwest. Our parish has committed to supporting Pedro and his family while they do this. This is an opportunity for each of us to personally support them additionally, both financially and with our prayers. Please consider a financial gift and praying for them. Thank you!