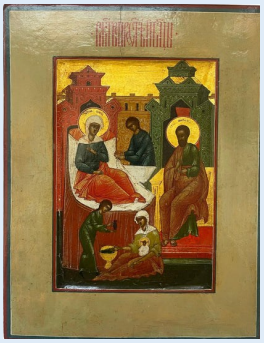

Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church
A parish of the Diocese of the Midwest

Weekly Bulletin 10/4/2026

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Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens (1st c.).

Regular Schedule

- ◊ **Fr. Peter's Office Hours:** Tue-Thur 10-3 (parish office) or by appointment (Wednesdays vary)
- ◊ Saturdays**: Inquirers Class** 3:00 in the temple. **Great Vespers** 5pm followed by confession
- ◊ Sundays**: Hours & Divine Liturg**y 9:30 am followed by fellowship at the parish center. All are welcome.
- ◊ **Bible Study:** Tuesdays 6pm - Online

Announcements and News

- FOCUS **Socktober**: Please bring new or slightly worn socks to Church. Men's socks are most needed. A collection box is available in the parish center.
- **IOCC Banquet** Oct 4 6:15pm**:** Adults $40. Children $25. Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church
- Fr. Peter, Matushka, Lori Billy and Christine Schilling in Cleveland for **Diocesan Assembly** Oct 4-7
- **Pierogi Prep** Oct 4. **Pierogi Session** Oct 6
- Annual **Golf Tournament** Oct. 10
- Parish **FOCUS dinner** Oct 18—See Todd for details
- Nov 8 Sunday Liturgy at Saint Michael in Saint Louis. **No liturgy in Madison.**
- Check out the **bookstore** in the parish center!

Special days: Christine Schilling's anniversary

John 20:1-10

Now on the first day of the week Mary Magdalene went to the tomb early, while it was still dark, and saw that the stone had been taken away from the tomb. Then she ran and came to Simon Peter, and to the other disciple, whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken away the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid Him." Peter therefore went out, and the other disciple, and were going to the tomb. So they both ran together, and the other disciple outran Peter and came to the tomb first. And he, stooping down and looking in, saw the linen cloths lying there; yet he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb; and he saw the linen cloths lying there, and the handkerchief that had been around His head, not lying with the linen cloths, but folded together in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who came to the tomb first, went in also; and he saw and believed. For as yet they did not know the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead. Then the disciples went away again to their own homes.

2 Corinthians 9:6-11

But this I say: "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Luke 6:31-36

And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise. But if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive back, what credit is that to you? For even sinners lend to sinners to receive as much back. But love your enemies, do good,

and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil. Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

Hieromartyr Hierotheus, Bishop of Athens

https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2026/10/04/102849-hieromartyr-hierotheus-bishop-of-athens

Troparion — Tone 1

We the faithful all praise Hierótheus, the disciple of Paul, / Hierarch of Athens, / the world's teacher and a preacher of the Faith, / who revealed to us Christ's Mysteries / and poured forth streams of godly doctrine. / His life was well-pleasing to God, who is greatly merciful.

Kontakion — Tone 8

Hierarch of Athens, we praise you for you have instructed us in awesome and ineffable things, / and you were revealed to be a divinely-inspired writer of hymns. / Pray that we be delivered from every kind of sin, so that we may cry to you: / "Rejoice, divinely-wise Father Hierótheus."

God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

CHEERFULNESS IN GIVING. CHRYSOSTOM: Paul's purpose was not only for money to be contributed to the poor but for it to be contributed with great eagerness. Likewise, God appointed almsgiving not only for the nourishment of the needy but also for the benefit of the providers, and much more so for the latter than for the former. For if he considered only the interest of the poor, he would have commanded solely that the money be given, and he would not have asked for the eagerness of the providers. But now you see the apostle in every way ordering by will first and above all for the givers to be joyful: the suppliers to furnish in a cheerful manner. And at one time he says, "Everyone must do as he has chosen in his heart, neither out of grief nor necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver," not simply a giver but the one who does this with pleasure. HOMILY 10.4.16: A SERMON ON ALMSGIVING.

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Latest Diocesan News

Latest OCA News