



# EDITOR'S NOTE

## Remembering Father John Matusiak



Photo courtesy of the Orthodox Church in America - oca.org

**The last time Father John Matusiak and I spoke was May of 2019.** He was a contributor to this magazine's Orthodox section and I had emailed him to see if he wanted to write anything for our upcoming issue. He informed me at that time that he was not going to be able to continue with the magazine due to his health. Even with everything going on he was apologetic, worried about how I would be inconvenienced. I assured him that we would take care of things on our end, and wished him well taking care on his.

He replied thanking me for my kindness and that was the last we spoke. I enjoyed our messages back and forth, brief as they were. I had meant to check back in with him to see how he was doing. Sadly by the time I did check in, he had already passed away. I wish I would've checked in sooner, but he seemed fairly positive in his email and I thought I'd have more time. I guess you always feel like you'll have more time, but you never really know how much you'll get. I think there's a lesson in there somewhere.

Father John was a long time LCBA member and contributor to *Direction Magazine*. His articles, written for our Orthodox section of the magazine, added quality to the book. A little over a year has gone by since his passing in August 2019, and I thought it important to remember him. In addition to this personal remembrance, we will be rerunning some of his articles in our future quarterly editions. He has been missed by myself and all of LCBA.

To read more about Father John Matusiak's life, visit Orthodox Church in America's website where he was the Director of Communications: [www.oca.org/in-memoriam/archpriest-john-matusiak](http://www.oca.org/in-memoriam/archpriest-john-matusiak)

Thank you,

Michael Mursch  
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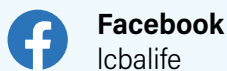
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**business hours:**  
Monday - Friday | 8am - 4pm

**upcoming holiday closings:**  
Columbus Day : Monday, October 12



# BRANCH EVENTS

Monthly meetings, making and donating items for those less fortunate, and feeding firefighters are some of the ways our Branches have continued to help their communities and beyond, while keeping themselves and others safe.

**Looking to get involved? Visit [www.lcbalife.org](http://www.lcbalife.org) to find a complete list of our Branches.**

BRANCH 49 / ERIE, PA



Branch 49 delivered trays of cookies to local Erie firefighters.

BRANCH 654 / SALEM, OH



August Branch meeting.



BRANCH 867 / DOVER, OH



Branch 867 has been busy making more dresses to send to *Dress a Girl with Hope*, a non-profit that provides dresses to girls around the world. They've also been making adult bibs and walker bags.

BRANCH 1425 / FORD CITY, PA



August Branch Officers meeting.

