

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church

300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436

Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest

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Stewardship is caring for the needs of others.

Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us.

Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I believe..." as proof of that belief.

Sunday, February 3 – 36th Sunday after Pentecost / St. Maximus the Confessor / Св Максим исповедник

Epistle II Cor. 9:6-11; Heb. 11:33-12:2 Gospel Matt. 15:21-28; Luke 12:8-12 Tone 3rd

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church School and coffee hour. Kolo sestara annual meeting.

Super Bowl Sunday sponsored by ASSC at 3:30 pm, food available. Please bring your friends to watch the game.

Saturday, February 9

Vespers / confessions at 5 pm

Valentine's Party at 6 pm in the hall

Sunday, February 10 – 37th Sunday after Pentecost / Ven Ephraim the Syrian /

Epistle I Tim. 4:9-15 Gospel Luke 19:1-10 Tone 4th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church School and coffee hour.

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Millie Stapinski, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Delores Malinovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Dragan Kremarevic, Slavka Novakovic, Dolly Book, Nicole Petkovich, and all others in our parish who are ill, afflicted, suffering and/or unable to attend services. May Our Lord Jesus Christ Touch Them with His Healing Hand!

Upcoming holy days / events:

February 12 – Holy Three Hierarchs / Св Три Јерарха

15 – The Presentation of the Lord in the temple / Сретеније Господње

The Valentine's Party will be on Saturday, February 9th starting at 6 pm. This is a great opportunity for all of our parishioners to come together as one family and enjoy fellowship and especially for our youth to get to know each other and to socialize in person instead of by social media. Parents, please encourage your children to attend and come with them. By attending with your children, you are setting a good example for them. In addition to bringing your family, please invite your friends.

We will start reading the 3rd and 6th hours on Sundays before the Liturgy, starting at 9:30 am. "Take not Your Holy Spirit from me." Psalm 51. Commemorates the Third Hour when the Holy Spirit came down upon the apostles on Pentecost. We give thanks to God for this gift and ask that He never deprive us of the fruits and graces of the Spirit. We also commemorate the condemnation of Christ by Pilate. "There they crucified Him... It was now about the Sixth Hour"

Luke 23: 33-44. The Sixth Hour is the time when Pilate released Jesus to the Jews and He was condemned and was nailed to the Cross. We rejoice in the infinite life of God and show our gratitude, for through this event He wrought our salvation.

Prayer before Partaking Holy Water

O Lord, my God, may Thy holy gift and Thy holy water be for the remission of my sins, for the enlightenment of my mind, for the strengthening of my soul and body, for the health of my soul and body, for conquering of my passions and infirmities, according to Thy mercy that hath no limit, through the prayers of Thy Most Pure Mother and all Thy saints. Amen.

Coming to church services late after the service has begun is not spiritually beneficial for many reasons. First you are missing many important prayers and especially if a person is not on time for the epistle or gospel message. If you come late you might disturb others in their prayers and finally it can become a very bad habit for you and your family who will learn from you that it is ok to come to church late and miss half of the service.

Try to get up earlier on Sunday, get yourself ready and come to church on time. During the service, be actively involved by singing with the choir and praying with the church prayers. Then you will not be bored and think the service was 10 minutes longer, we had more Serbian or English, or that the sermon was long and/or think about unimportant and irrelevant issues when you are in church to worship.

A moleben is a service of intercession, or service of supplication. This supplicatory prayer service is used within the Orthodox Church in honor of Jesus Christ, the Mother of God, a Feast, or a particular saint or martyr. Molebens may be occasional, served according to need. For instance, molebens could be served for one who is ill or going on a journey, for the beginning of the New Year, or when children begin school. Or they may be devotional, in honor of a particular saint, or for the health and salvation of your children and family. Molebens can be served in church or in homes or at any other appropriate locations. Please let your priest know if you would like to have a moleben for someone who is ill, or before a journey, or a thanksgiving moleben for one recovering after illness or after any other unfortunate event.

In our church we have at least 4 bulletin boards. One is in the Narthex and the rest are downstairs. Bulletin Boards are important because all parochial and news from Serbian and other Orthodox churches are posted there for us to get information and to learn about the upcoming events in our church community. Please stop by a Bulletin Board and read the fliers on it. All church groups, please post your fliers on the Bulletin Boards.

Fr Thomas Kazich, Director of Christian Education of our Diocese, will be with us next Sunday. Fr Thomas will serve the liturgy and visit every church school class and talk to the teachers and students. Afterwards he will have a meeting with Fr Alex and all the teachers. Parents, please bring your child/children to church next Sunday!

Attention Amazon Shoppers - You can now shop at AmazonSmile to support St George SOC Joliet. The direct link is <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/83-0599738>, or just go to AmazonSmile and add St George as your charity. Support us every time you shop. Amazon will donate 0.05% of the purchase price on eligible products to St George SOC.

