

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church

300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436

Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest

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Lord of the Powers be with us, for in times of distress we have no other help but You.

Lord of the Powers, have mercy on us.

“Do not fear, only believe.” Mark 5:36

Brothers and sisters, remember your St George Church with your generous Christmas donation.

Sunday, January 3– Sunday before Nativity / Serbian Father’s Day / Očevi

Epistle Hebrews 11:9-10,17-23,32-40 Gospel Matthew 1:1-25 Tone 5th 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Decoration of badnjak in church.

Wednesday, January 6 - Nativity Eve / Badnji dan / strict fast / Rozdestvenski sochelnik / Бадње вече Confession at 8:30 am Divine Liturgy of St Basil at 9 am

Blessing of Badnjak in the church at 4 pm. *From this service until the Nativity Matins the church will be open for all who wants to come, say their prayers, light candles, and take piece of badnjak (Yule Log) home. We are suggesting to our senior citizens and the parishioners of higher risk to attend these two services and leave the Nativity Matins at 6 pm for working - younger people. Please let Fr Alex know which service you would like to attend since we cannot have many in church! Masks and social distancing requested!* Nativity Matins at 6 pm. Confession after the services

Thursday, January 7 - The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ /Рођење Христа Спаситеља - Божић

Divine Liturgy at 10 am **Fast free until the Eve of Theophany / Ne posti se do Krstovdana**

The church will be open from 5 pm to 7 pm for all who want to come.

Friday, January 8 – Synaxis of the Theotokos /Сабор Св Богородице Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Vespers/confession at 6 pm

Saturday, January 9 – St Stephen the First Archdeacon / Св Стефан Први мученик и Архијакон

Divine Liturgy at 9 am. Pomens for: +George, +Mike, +Violet Enich, +Jovo, +Jeka, +Sam, +Iso and +Joseph Plečaš, +Iso Ciganovich, +Dorothy Pribish, given by Janice/Wm Taylor Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, January 10– The Kinsmen of the Lord / Sunday After Nativity /Недеља по Божићу

Epistle Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel Matthew 2:13-23 Tone 6th 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school.

Upcoming Feast days and events:

January 14 – Feast of St Basil / Old calendar New year / Св Василије Велики и Нова Година

18 – Eve of Theophany / strict fast /Крстовдан, навечерје Богојављења – постан дан

Pomens (Litany for departed): +Rada Albu, given by Radoica and Dan Kilgore and family, +Rada Albu, given by Joana Albu; +Fr Milos Bugarin, given by Fr Alex Bugarin family; +Paul Shimek, given by Gayle Shimek, Nenad/Stephanie Jakovljevic; +Mile Milutinov, given by M/M Steva Lukin;

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Stevan Iacsin, Christopher, Richard Kovacevich, Stevan Lunich, Milorad Ristich, Allan Miller, Gayle Shimek, Chuck Anderson, for all who are afflicted by coronavirus, 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!

Let St George prepare your charcuterie / meza platter for your Christmas celebration. Pre-Order a Platter of a various meats and cheese for curbside pick-up. Place your order by phone before **8pm Sunday, January 3rd**. Pick Up between 10:30 -11:30am or 4:00-6:00 pm on **Wednesday, January 6th** from the East side (upper level) of the Social Center. Call or Text Danielle at (630) 709-7437 and include your name, number of platters and pick-up time. Each 14" Platter contains slices of Cheese, Prosciutto, Suvi Vrat, Kobasica and Salama. Plus, you'll even receive a small pogača and container of kajmak with every order! **\$30** per Platter. Cash or Check payable to St. George Serbian Orthodox Church.

The traditional Serbian Orthodox greeting for the Nativity season is Christ is Born and the reply is Indeed He is Born or Truly He is Born. In Serbian it is Hristos se rodi and the reply is Voistinu se rodi.

Many Slavic people such as Russians and Ukrainians say Christ is Born, Glorify Him! Either all together or One person would say Christ is Born and another Glorify Him. The Christmas greeting in Greek is Christ is Born, give glory! Again, either just one person or two with Christ is Born and reply Give glory.

The Christmas greeting is used from the day of the Nativity until the Apodosis or Leave-taking of the Feast which is January 13.

During the pandemic four of our parishioners continued to read 3rd and 6th hours before a Sunday Liturgy. Many thanks. If you would like to read the hours and feel safe and are healthy, please let the priest know.

Most of us have our Living Will prepared to avoid any kind of unnecessary problems to our children or family when we leave this world. As we plan to leave our assets to our family so they can have a better and easier life, let us remember our beloved St George Church in our Wills to help ensure her mission of preaching the Gospel of Christ and sharing the love of God will continue.

A few months ago, we had instructions for making and baking the prosphoras - liturgical bread, in our kitchen. Some parishioners were not able to attend, but we will have another one in January. Please let Fr Aleksandar know which day of the week would work the best for you if you would like to participate.

Coronavirus Prayer

O Lord our God enter not into judgement with Thy servants, and protect us from the pestilence coming onto us. Spare us, Thy humble and unworthy servants, who in repentance, with a warm faith and contrition of the heart, are falling down before Thee, our merciful and beneficent God, and trusting in Thy mercy. Thine is mercy and salvation, our God. Glory to Thee, to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, both now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!