

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 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.

Wednesday, January 13 – Apodosis or Leave-taking of Nativity

Thursday, January 14 – St Basil the Great / Circumcision of our Savior / Old Calendar New Year

Divine Liturgy of St Basil at 9 am

Fast free until the Eve of Theophany / Ne posti se do Krstovdana

Sunday, January 17– Sunday before Theophany/ Synaxis of the 70 apostles / Недеља пре Богојављења

Epistle II Tim. 4:5-8; Rom. 8:8-14 Gospel Mark 1:1-8; Luke 10:1-15 Tone 7th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school.

Upcoming Feast days and events:

January 19- Holy Theophany /Богојављење

20 – Synaxis of St John the Baptist /Сабор Св Јована Крститеља

27 – St Sava of Serbia /Св Сава

Our deepest condolences to Sophie Anderson and family upon the repose of her husband +Chuck. Vjecnaja Pamjat.

Pomens (Litany for departed): +Rada Albu, given by Radoica and Dan Kilgore and family, +Rada Albu, given by Joana Albu; +Paul Shimek, given by Gayle Shimek, Nenad/Stephanie Jakovljevic; +Rosella Petrich, given by Tana Perich & family;

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Stevan Iacsin, Christopher, Richard Kovacevich, Stevan Lunich, Milorad Ristich, Fr Aleksandar and family, Gayle Shimek, 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!

The traditional blessing of homes during and after the feast of Theophany in 2021 will be postponed until June of 2021. Hopefully, by then the virus will be conquered and/or transmission will be greatly decreased and the priest can visit homes. The great blessing of water will be in church for the feast of Theophany and if you need Holy Water for your home, please let Fr Aleksandar know.

From Nativity on Jan. 7 until the eve of Theophany, Jan. 18 is a fast-free period. The Church lets us enjoy the feast and eat all the food we love. Remember this isn't the time for us to neglect our spiritual life. On the Feast of Theophany, Jan. 19, which is a major holy day, we are invited to partake of the Holy Mystery of Communion. Some might say, "I did not fast, I cannot take communion." If the Church tells us not to physically fast then why would we question it? We have enough time of the year when we should physically fast, but we all ought to practice spiritual fasting

Boxes of weekly envelopes for your donations are available in church for all stewards. If you are not officially a steward of St George and would like to get a box of weekly envelopes, please see either John Dauer or Fr Aleksandar. Your weekly donations are very important for the normal life of the Church. This is your tithe and the value of our offering is not determined by how much we give but how we give! Do you feel blessed when you give or it is a burden, something you have to do, or just to have something to use for taxes? As we pay our bills, let us remember to give a part of our income back to God by supporting our church financially.

Sunday, January 31 after the Divine Liturgy there will be a parish celebration of **St Sava of Serbia**. The traditional blessing of Kolac and Koljivo after the Liturgy and Church School Children's program. Everything will take place in the church. The Feast of St Sava of Serbia is on January 27 when the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated and the vigil on the Eve at 6 pm. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

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.

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.

Свећење кућа које се обично ради после Богојављења, ове године ради пандемије одложиће се за Јун месец кад се надамо да ће се вирус и болест смањити.

Мали календари за 2021 годину су на продају, цена је \$5. налазе се код свећа на столу.

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!