

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.”
- John 3:16

Sunday, December 29 – 28th Sunday after Pentecost/ Sunday of Forefathers / Serbian Mother’s Day

Epistle Colossians 3:4-11 Gospel Luke 14:16-24 tone 3^d

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

Thursday, January 2 – St Ignatius of Antioch / St John of Kronstadt /Св Игњатије Антиохијски

Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Saturday, January 4 Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, January 5 – 29th Sunday after Pentecost/ Sunday of Holy Fathers / Serbian Father’s Day/Очеви

Epistle Hebrew 11:9-10, 17-23; 32-40 Gospel Matthew 1:1-25 tone 4th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Oath of officers. Church school. Posno lunch in hall, organization meeting. Badnjak decoration

Upcoming feast days/events:

January 6 – Badnje vece / Rozhdestvensky Sochelnik / Nativity Eve

7 – The Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ / Божић

Pomens: +Sam Konjevich, given by Peter Grubisich; +Sam Konjevich, given by Sue Kljaich and Frances Juarez; +Sam Konjevich, given by M/M Mike Cora; +Draga Tadin, +Julie Starceвич, +Paul Kateris and +Zorka Miller, given by Neddie Astorino; +Michael Kljaich, +Michael O’Leary, +Delores Malinovich, +Rada Albu, +Resemary Dillon, given by Sue Kljaich and Frances Juarez; +Rada Albu, given by Joseph Orlovich Jr family; +Nicholas Ostoich, given by kumovi Joel, Marlo and Paula; +Betty Grubisich, given by Ely Grubisich; +Vladimir Jovanovic, given by M/M Steva Lukin;

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Judy Lockwood, Stevan Iacsin, Stevan Lunich, George Cizmas, George, Christopher, Slavka Novakovic, Fr John Kuchta, 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!

Prepare to partake of holy communion on Christmas Divine Liturgy. It is requested and is a very beneficial for all to receive communion on all Major Holy Days

Fr. Alex would like to have a meeting with the church board president, other church organization presidents, and one more from the boards, like Vice-president, secretary, treasurer, etc., on Sunday, January 5th after the Divine Liturgy. If anyone else from the boards desire to attend they are more than welcome to do so. The goal of this meeting is to create the 2020 church calendar events, to improve our ministries and to work closer together, more effectively and proficiently for the benefit of St. George Church. If you have any questions please call Father Alex.

Part II When the time for communion comes, if you are prepared please come out of the pews and loudly read the prayers before communion. Venerate the ikon and cross your arms on your chest and approach the chalice with great contrition of heart. In some Orthodox traditions, the faithful turn toward the congregation after the prayers are read, turn and bow down to the faithful on each side asking their forgiveness and prayers. I think it is a wonderful Orthodox tradition which we should accept. Please tell the priest your baptism name before you receive communion. Please don’t cross yourself in front of the chalice, rather kiss the bottom of it after you partake of the communion. Take a piece of blessed bread and with bowed head go back to your place. Ladies should cover their heads during communion and not wear a heavy lipstick which leaves marks on the spoon.

At the end of the Liturgy, please come to venerate ikons in the middle of church and all ikons in front of the altar. Kiss the cross from the priest’s hand and receive the blessed bread or prosphora. Please consume it and all crumbs from your hand. If you partook of Holy Communion, please go back to your place and open the liturgy book at the end where the prayers after communion are located. The priest will start with “Glory to Thee o Lord, glory to Thee” 3x and after everyone is loudly reading the prayers. If we have guests or visitors in our church, please be kind and welcome them and invite them to our coffee hour and/or lunch if we are having one and walk with them downstairs or into the hall.

After the Liturgy it is not appropriate to stay in church and visit and loudly talk because the prayers after communion are being read. The place for visiting and conversations is downstairs where the coffee is or in the hall. As you leave the church please turn back facing altar and bow down and cross yourself. Hope this will help.

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

On January 6 after the Vigil Service in church, we will have a blessing of the badnjak (Yule Log) in the social hall and refreshments for all who attend. Please encourage your family and friends to come even if they don’t belong to our church. This is a chance for us to invite and bring a non-Orthodox to our church services and show them how we celebrate the Birth of our Savior. **The Culture Club and children will decorate the badnjak on Sunday, January 5** after the services. Fr Alex and John Dauer cut the badnjak on John’s property. Badnje Vece is a church event and we would appreciate if you can bring a posno snack, salad, or dessert to the hall to share for the evening celebration. Please bring your food in a disposable container or one you can take home with you. This can be dropped off at the hall prior to the 6pm Vigil Service. We will also need help with setup and ask that EVERYONE help with cleanup after the event. Please see Sue Kljaich to offer your help.

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!