

**St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**  
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436  
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest  
Phone 815 741-1023; Cell 913-558-5031 abugarin@kc.rr.com

**Sunday, February 20– Sunday of Prodigal Son / Nedelja Bludnoga Sina**

*Epistle I Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel Luke 15:11-32 tone 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Coffee hour.*

**Friday, February 25** Vespers / confession at 6 pm

**Saturday, February 26 – Memorial Saturday / Pokladske zadušnice / St Simeon the myrrh-gusher**

Divine Liturgy and general parastos at 9 am. We celebrate the memorial of all Orthodox Christians who have fallen asleep from the beginning, our brethren in Christ

**Sunday, February 27– Meat-fare Sunday / Mesopusna nedelja / St Cyril, teacher of the Slavs**

*Epistle I Corinthians 8:8-9;2 Gospel Matthew 24:31-46 tone 3<sup>rd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Fr Alex will have class with students in church after the liturgy. ASSC/Cultural Club sponsored chili and hot dogs lunch in the main hall for all parishioners*

**Upcoming Feast days and events:**

March 6 – Cheese-fare Sunday – Forgiveness Sunday / Church sponsored lunch in Social Center, please plan to attend  
7 – Beginning of Great Lent, clean week / Početak Časnoga posta I čista nedelja

**We are praying especially for:** Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Christopher, Sandy Grundy, Michelle Honiotes, Pat Zakavec, Craig Vercelote, Millie Skoryi, Donna Moses, Gayle Shimek, Donna Laketa Catan, Steven Pyevich, 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!

**Pomens** (litany for departed): +Paul Shimek, given by Gayle Shimek and Nenad/Stephanie Jakovljevic; +Rada Lukin and +Ljubomir Dmitrov, given by Steva/Druginja Lukin; +Ljiljana Voulgaris, given by Art/Olga Schumann; +Marie Basarich, given by Dr Howard Grundy; +Walter Dulevich, +George Jovanovich, +Olga and +Daniel Kovalchuk, given by Nancy Jovanovich; +Stojka Markovic, given by Protinica Gordana; +Kimball Mancke, +Eva and +Betty Grubisich, given by Ely Grubisich;

**Our church will sponsor Fish Fry's** again this year with indoor dining and carryout available. The dates for the fish fries begin on Western Ash Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> and continue every Friday through April 15<sup>th</sup> for a total of 8 fish fries. You can use the online system called SignUp Genius that was used in the past to volunteer. The link for this is at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4fa4ae23ab9-fish> If you're uncomfortable with using this online system, please talk to someone on the church board and let them know when and how would like to help. This is a major source of income for our church and we need everyone's involvement.

**The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the first Sunday of a three-week period** prior to the commencement of Great Lent. It marks the beginning of a time of preparation for the spiritual journey of Lent, a time for Orthodox Christians to draw closer to God through worship, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. It is also on this day that the Triodion is introduced, a liturgical book that contains the services from this Sunday, the tenth before Pascha (Easter), to Great and Holy Saturday.

The Church eases us into the Lenten fasting discipline during this period. The week following the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee is fast-free. The week following the Prodigal Son is a normal week -- we fast as usual on Wednesday and Friday. In the week following Meat fare Sunday, no meat is eaten; eggs, fish, and dairy are permitted on any day.

**Presanctified Liturgies** will be served every Wednesday during the Great Lent, the first Wednesday in the morning at 9 a.m. and next in the evening at 6 p.m. Lenten hours are read an hour before and confession is about 30 minutes prior to the Liturgy. The presanctified Liturgy was created by St. Gregory the Dialogist in the 7th century as a Lenten Vespereal Liturgy without the Eucharistic prayer. The Communion - Body and Blood of Christ, is consecrated in a previous Liturgy. These Liturgies are served to enable Orthodox Christians to partake of Communion more often during the Great Lent. For preparation for the evening communion, please consult Fr Aleksandar. Have you ever experienced the Lenten vespereal liturgy? If not, make your plans now to attend it and partake of holy communion.

The danger of missing church is that soon you don't miss it!

***The life of St. Nektarios: Man of God in Theaters One Night Only! March 21, 2022***

**MAN OF GOD**

*Exiled unjustly, convicted without a trial and slandered without cause, St. Nektarios of Aegina's life was one of persecution and prosecution. A priest of the common people, St. Nektarios's popularity provoked the jealousy of the clergy in Alexandria and, as a result, he was defrocked and expelled from Egypt. In contrast to his religious "superiors", Nektarios cared for the poor, taught peasant girls to read and write, and performed miracles. Even his last moment on earth was used to help another: upon his death, Nektarios' undergarment was removed, and as it fell upon a paralyzed man in the hospital bed next to him, the lame man miraculously arose to walk. Nektarios was recognized as a saint in the Eastern Orthodox Church in 1961, and his feast day is celebrated Nov. 9/22*

***Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!***