

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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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 3rd 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Fr Alex will have class with students in church after the liturgy, teachers and parents are welcome to stay in church. ASSC/Cultural Club sponsored chili and hot dogs' lunch in the main hall for all parishioners

Wednesday, March 2 Fish Fry from 4 – 7 pm

Friday, March 4 Fish Fry from 4 – 7 pm

Sunday, March 6– Cheese-fare Sunday / Siropusna nedelja / Forgiveness Sunday/ Nedelja praštanja

Epistle Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel Matthew 6:14-21 tone 4th 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Forgiveness vespers immediately after the liturgy. Faithful ask each other "Forgive me, a sinner." The response is, "God forgives." Church school. Lunch sponsored by the church in Social Center.

Upcoming Feast days and events: March 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; +Ljiljana Voulgaris, given by Art/Olga Schumann; +Mike, +Violet, +George, +Julia, +Joseph, +Stella Enich, +Iso Ciganovich, +Jovo and +Jeka Plecas, given by Dr's Michael/Nadine Keer;

Our church will sponsor Fish Fry's again this year with indoor dining and carryout available. The dates for the fish frys begin on Western Ash Wednesday, March 2nd and continue every Friday through April 15th for a total of 8 fish frys. 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.

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 Vesperal 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 vesperal liturgy? If not, make your plans now to attend it and partake of holy communion.

A special booklet for the preparation and the service of confession can be found on the warden's table. Before confession, please take one and read the prayers and the questions to help you with your confession. In the same booklet, you will find a service of confession which will be conducted before you go to make your personal confession with the priest. One of the faithful should read the prayers and everyone should read the Creed together. If you want, you may take the booklet home and get more familiar with it. Please return it back to the warden's table on the next Sunday.

The best time for confession is on the eve of the Liturgy, after the vigil, on Saturday evening, or on the eve of a Holy Day since the celebration of the Christian Sabbath and the Holy Days start in the evening. All faithful, and especially if a person wants to commune, should attend the evening service and the Holy Liturgy. Confession on Sunday Morning is only if you have family needs, job, distance, health or other important reason. Confessions on a Sunday, Wednesday and/or Holy Day Morning will start at least 30 minutes prior to the Liturgy. Please do not come to confession 5 minutes before the Liturgy begins! If the eve before you prepare to commune does not work for you and you cannot make it early enough before the Liturgy, you can always make an appointment with your priest for your confession at another time.

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. Open your mouth and put your head back to receive Holy 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 a bowed head go back to your place. Ladies should cover their heads during communion and not wear heavy lipstick which can leave marks on the spoon.

Часни пост почиње у понедељак, марта 7. Сваке среде ће бити преосвећене литургије на којима се можете причестити. Увек погледајте распоред богослужења у цркви на црквеном фејсбуку. Припремите се за исповест и св причест барем једном у току поста.

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

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!