

**St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**  
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436  
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest  
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**Sunday, March 6– Cheese-fare Sunday / Siropusna nedelja / Forgiveness Sunday/ Nedelja praštanja**

*Epistle Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel Matthew 6:14-21 tone 4<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> 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.  
Deanery Forgiveness vespers at Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Chicago at 6 pm. Homilist Fr Aleksandar Novakovic*

*As we are about to begin Great Lent, I would like to ask all for forgiveness and wish you a blessed and spiritually beneficial journey to Pascha. The best way to experience Great Lent is to attend the services and try to change your everyday routine and modify it according to the Lenten practices. Fr Aleksandar*

**Monday, March 7- Beginning of 40 days fast / Great Lent / Početak Časnog posta**

Vespers and Canon of Repentance completed by St Andrew of Crete at 6 pm, religious discussion after

**Wednesday, March 9** Lenten hours at 8 am, confession at 8:30 am, Presanctified Liturgy at 9 am

**Thursday, March 10** Vespers and Canon of Repentance completed by St Andrew of Crete at 6 pm, religious discussion after. The service will be served /attended by all Orthodox Christians in Joliet area.

**Friday, March 11** Fish Fry from 4 – 7 pm

**Saturday, March 12 – Theodore Saturday / Teodorova subota** Vigil / confession at 5 pm

**Sunday, March 13 – Sunday of Orthodoxy / Nedelja Pravoslavlja** *Epistle Hebrews 11:24-26;32-12:2 Gospel John 1:43-51 tone 5<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school and coffee hour. Kolo sestara meeting.*

**Upcoming Feast days and events:** March 27 – Kolo sestara anniversary, posno potluck luncheon.

**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): +Ljiljana Voulgaris, given by Art/Olga Schumann; +Barb Barnes, given by Will/Kathy Harper and family;

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and continue every Friday through April 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

**All parishioners should observe Great Lent** by attending services, fasting, increasing prayers and strengthening relationship with God. Great Lent is not meant to be a "burden" for the faithful but rather a voluntary change of everyday routine and to be more attentive to one's spiritual life. The reason for serving Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday is to enable everyone to receive spiritual food more often and become closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Confess your sins and receive Holy Communion often, every week at least once. Suggested reading for Lent is the Old Testament, the first five books and the prophesy as well as appointed verses in the New Testament for every day. Spend more time with your prayer book instead of your cell phone and time on social media. Share your free time to help others. Make this Great Lent a special and beneficial time for your soul and body. Please let Fr Aleksandar know to bring Holy Communion to your home if you are unable to attend worship services. Divine and Presanctified Liturgies during Lent are the worship services when you may receive Holy Communion. Vespers, Vigil, Hours and other services are not Eucharistic and Holy Communion is not offered in these services.

**Of all Lenten hymns and prayers,** one short prayer can be termed the Lenten prayer. Tradition ascribes it to one of the great teachers of spiritual life - St. Ephrem the Syrian. Here is its text:

*O Lord and Master of my life! Take from me the spirit of sloth, faint-heartedness, lust of power, and idle talk. Prostration  
But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant. Prostration  
Yea, O Lord and King! Grant me to see my own errors and not to judge my brother; For Thou art blessed unto ages of ages.  
Amen Prostration*

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