

**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**

**Sunday, March 7 -Meat-fare Sunday / Месопусна недеља - покладе** Epistle 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel Matthew 25:31-46 Tone 6<sup>th</sup> 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Parastos for +Milan Laketa.

**This week fish, eggs and dairy are permitted to consume every day, no meat allowed**

**Saturday, March 13** Vigil / confession at 5 pm

**Sunday, March 14 -Cheese-fare Sunday/Forgiveness Sunday/Беле покладе - Недеља праштања** Epistle Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel Matthew 6:14-21 Tone 7<sup>th</sup> 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Forgiveness Vespers.

**Upcoming Feast days and events:**

March 15 – Beginning of Great Lent / Почетак Часнога Поста

18 – Repose of St Nikolai of Zica

28 – ASSC annual meeting after the liturgy

**Pomens (Litany for departed):** +Paul Shimek, given by Gayle Shimek, Nenad/Stephanie Jakovljevic; +Milan Laketa and +Mary Book, given by John/Bonnie Dauer; +Milan, +Peter Sr and +Thomas Laketa, +Mary Book and +Joyce Ozella, given by Joseph Orlovich family; +Mary Book, given by Sue Kljaich; +Mary Book, given by Ed/Barb Phelan; +Mary Book, given by Pete/Michelle Haniotis; +Mary Book, given by Ely Grubisich;

**We are praying especially for:** Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Christopher, Richard Kovacevich, Stevan Lunich, Milorad Ristich, Sandy Grundy, Nick Malinovich, Sheila Bojovic, 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!

**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.

**What a Deal!!!** New tables were ordered for the hall and we are now selling the existing 60" round folding tables for \$10 to interested parishioners. Contact Tana at 815-207-0737 to arrange a time for pickup in the next few weeks. In March, any remaining tables will be advertised for sale to the public.

**Here are great opportunities to help your church.** St George has two management positions that remain open. These are 2-year positions at the Social Center: 1) Hall Manager and 2) Bar Manager. If interested, send a letter to Father or the Church Board indicating your interest and qualifications. Should you have any questions about these positions, feel free to contact Bonnie Dauer at 815-715-2189.

**Lenten hours readers are needed on Wednesdays before Presanctified liturgy during the Great Lent.** Lenten hours in the morning will start at 8 am and in the evening at 5 pm. Please sign up for the Wednesday you would like to read. Sign-up sheet is on the warden table.

**All of St George church news and updates are announced** in the Sunday bulletins and information is on the bulletin boards in the vestibule and the lower level of church. The church website and FB are also updated with all upcoming events and news from our community. Emails are sent to all parishioners. If some parishioners are still unaware of upcoming events and/or Holy Days, please try to avail yourself of all the information announcing all activities of our church. Much effort is made to ensure that all are aware of upcoming services and events.

**All parishioners should observe Great Lent by attending services,** 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. Feel free to call Fr Aleksandar to open the church for you to come and pray, light candles, and receive the Holy Mysteries at any time!

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.

**Часни Пост почиње у понедељак, марта 15.** Сваке среду у току поста служиће се преосвећена литургија на којој се може причестити. Прве среде почиње у 9 ам, исповест у 8 и 30 а следеће увече у 18 ч, исповест у 17 и 30. Ако се желите причестити увече, немојте јести ни пити после 12, подне.

**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!**