

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, March 13 – Sunday of Orthodoxy / Nedelja Pravoslavlja

Epistle Hebrews 11:24-26;32-12:2 Gospel John 1:43-51 tone 5th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school and coffee hour. Kolo sestara meeting in the Social Center

Wednesday, March 16 Lenten hours at 5 pm, confession at 5:30 pm, Presanctified Liturgy at 6 pm. Religious discussion after

Friday, March 18 = Dormition of St Nikolai of Žiča Fish Fry from 4 – 7 pm

Saturday, March 19 Fr Aleksandar will travel to Moline, IL to serve the Divine Liturgy, Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, March 20 – Sunday of St Gregory Palama / Nedelja Sv Grigorija Palame

Epistle Hebrews 1:10 - 2:3 and 7:26 - 8:2 Gospel Mark 2:1-12 John 10:9-16 tone 6th 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine

Liturgy at 10 am. Fr Alex will have class with students, teachers, parents and parishioners in church after the services.

Coffee hour, Deanery Lenten vespers at St Arch Michael church in Lansing, IL at 6 pm. Homilist Fr Vladimir Lange

Upcoming Feast days and events:

March 27 – Kolo sestara anniversary, potluck luncheon in lower level of Social Center and everyone is invited!

April 7 – Holy Annunciation / Blagovesti

10 – Lenten luncheon after the services sponsored by the choir

17 – Palm Sunday, our Diocesan Bishop, His Grace Bishop Longin will be with us, plan to attend the Hierarchal Liturgy

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): +Mary Basarich, given by Dr Howard Grundy; +John L. Pissinis, given by Joseph Orlovich Jr family;

Our Church sponsored Fish Fry's continue every Friday through April 15th. We always need volunteers so feel free to join the fun and help. We have an online system called SignUp Genius where you can find an area to work and sign up for a particular week(s). You can access SignUp Genius at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4fa4ae23ab9-fish>
If you don't want to use the online system, just talk to someone on the church board and let them know when and how you would like to help. This is a major source of income for our church and we need everyone's involvement.

The church board is currently seeking candidates for a new paying position of Hall Maintenance Superintendent. Interested candidates should contact Dan Dorsey at rdaniel.dorsey901@gmail.com or 815-274-8331.

After the liturgy, all who received Holy Communion should remain in church to read the required prayers after receiving Holy Communion. The prayers are at the end of liturgy book. After you receive prosphora please return to the pew until everyone receives the blessed bread, prosphora. The priest will then start the prayers loudly with "Glory to Thee, O God, Glory to Thee" three times. Then everyone will read the prayers aloud. It is best if one person starts and the rest follow.

Coming to church services late after the service has begun is not spiritually beneficial for many reasons. First you are missing many important prayers and especially if a person is not on time for the epistle or gospel message. If you come late, you might disturb others in their prayers and finally it can become a very bad habit for you and your family who will learn from you that it is ok to come to church late and miss half of the service.

Try to get up earlier on Sunday, get yourself ready and come to church on time. During the service, be actively involved by singing with the choir and praying with the church prayers. Then you will not be bored and think the service was 10 minutes longer, we had more Serbian or English, or that the sermon was long and/or think about unimportant and irrelevant issues when you are in church to worship.

You are welcome to take one of the Orthodox books from our library home to read during Great Lent and return it when you are done reading it. Please see Fr Aleksandar if you need a recommendation for the book.

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!