

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 21 -Sunday of Orthodoxy /Недеља Православља *Epistle Hebrews 11:24-26;32-12:2 Gospel John 1:43-51* Tone 8th 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Have a blessed and spiritually beneficial Great Lent!

Monday, March 22 - Holy 40 martyrs of Sebaste / 40 мученика севастијских - младенци

Wednesday, March 24 Lenten hours at 5 pm, confession at 5:40 pm; Presanctified liturgy at 6 pm

Saturday, March 27 Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, March 28 - 2nd Sunday of Lent / of St Gregory Palamas /Друга недеља поста

Epistle Heb. 1:10-2:3; Heb. 7:26-8:2 Gospel Mark 2:1-12; John 10:9-16 Tone 1st 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. ASSC annual meeting

Upcoming Feast days and events: April 7 - Annunciation / Благовести

Pomens (Litany for departed): +Paul Shimek, given by Gayle Shimek, Nenad/Stephanie Jakovljevic; +Mary Book, given by Sue Kljaich; +Mary Book, given by Ely Grubisich; +Mary Book, given by Art/Olga Schumann; +George Enich, given by Dr's Michael/Nada Keer; +Delores Malinovich, +Mary Book, +Chuck Andreson and +Paul Shimek, given by Nick/Helen Malinovich; +Delores Malinovich, +Mary Book and +Paul Shimek, given by Millie O'Leary, +Delores Malinovich, +Mary Book and +Paul Shimek, given by Nadine O'Leary & Josh Potts; +Delores Malinovich, +Mary Book and +Paul Shimek, given by Annette O'Leary; +Delores Malinovich and +Mary Book, given by Steve Malinovich; +Debra Stoll, given by Kirk/Jackie Stapinski;

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

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. The Sign-up sheet is on the warden table.

The best time for confession is on the eve of the Liturgy, after vespers, 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 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 can not make it early enough before the Liturgy, you can always make an appointment with your priest for your confession at another time.

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.

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. 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.

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!