

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, April 3 – Sunday of St John the Climacus / Nedelja Sv Jovana Lestvičnika

Epistle Hebrews 6:13-20; Ephesians 5:9-19 Gospel Mark 9:17-31; Matthew 4:25-5:12 tone 8th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school and coffee hour

Deanery Lenten vespers at St George church in East Chicago, IN at 6 pm. Homilist Fr Aleksandar Bugarin

Monday, April 4 Canon of St Andrew/Life of St Mary of Egypt at 6 pm

Wednesday, April 6 Lenten hours at 8 am, confession at 8:30 am, Presanctified Liturgy at 9 a.m. Vigil / confession at 6 pm

Thursday, April 7 – Holy Annunciation / Blagovesti Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom at 9 am

Friday, April 8 Fish Fry from 4 – 7 pm, Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos at 6 pm

Saturday, April 9 Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, April 10 – Sunday of St Mary of Egypt / Nedelja Sv Marije Egipćanke

Epistle Hebrews 9:11-14; Galatians 3:23-29 Gospel Mark 10:32-45; Luke 7:36-50 tone 1st

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Fr Alex will teach the church school after the liturgy. Teachers, parents and parishioners are welcome to stay.

Deanery Lenten vespers at Sts Peter and Paul church in South Bend, IN at 6 pm. Homilist Fr Radovan Jakovljevic

Upcoming Feast days and events:

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

24 – Holy Pascha / Uskrs

May 1 - Church slava celebration

We are praying especially for: Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Christopher, Sandy Grundy, Michell e Honiotes, Stevan Lunich, Pat Zakavec, Craig Vercelote, Millie Skoryi, Donna Moses, Gayle Shimek, George Cizmas, Donna Laketa Catan, Steven Pyevich, 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!

Please be advised that there will be no pomens on Palm Sunday and Pascha.

Thank you note: Dan and Vicky Dorsey donated \$100 to the Fr Ned Scholarship Fund in memory of their prijatelj, daughter in law Connor's grandfather +John Peterson. Memory eternal! We are grateful to Dan and Vicky for their contribution!

Pomens (litany for departed): +Danica Belfield, given by Jean and Chuck Panella, Janet Belfield and Denis Belter, Andrea & Marwen Poipovich -Maachaoui, Jovana, Tijana, Jamerson and Talon Popovich; +Anne Orlovich, +Judy and +Jeffrey Lockwood and +Kimball Mancke, given by Bob Orlovich; +Ron Cingrani, given by Will/Kathy Harper and family; +John Peterson, given by Dan/Vicki Dorsey;

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, Akathist, and other services are not Eucharistic and Holy Communion is not offered in these services.

Holy Week begins on Lazarus Saturday, April 16, and will continue until Holy Saturday, April 23. On Palm Sunday our Diocesan Bishop, His Grace Bishop Longin will serve the hierarchal liturgy in our church. Please plan now to attend and prepare to partake holy communion. In the evening at 6 pm our church is hosting the last Deanery Lenten Vespers and dinner for all after the services. Plan to attend!

This week, the fifth week of Great Lent we will have a few extra services in church. Monday evening is the Great Canon of St Andrew and the life of St Mary of Egypt. The canon was written by a holy man to teach himself the right way to live. "Come and see", experience this worship. Wednesday morning is presanctified liturgy. Thursday is Holy Annunciation, the beginning of our salvation! Arch Gabriel announces good news to the Virgin Mary about the birth of our Savior. Friday evening is the Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos. Hope many will make all efforts to come and see, live out the services and their meaning. There are booklets in English for all services to follow which makes it much easier to understand.

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!