

**St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**  
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**Sunday, June 9 – Sunday of holy fathers of 1<sup>st</sup> council / Недеља св отаца првог васељенског сабора**  
*Epistle Acts 20:16-18,28-36; Gospel: John 17:1-13; Tone 6<sup>th</sup>; 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m.; Coffee hour*

**Saturday, June 15 – Memorial Saturday / Духовске задушнице:** Vigil / confession at 5 p.m.

**Sunday, June 16 – Sunday of Holy Pentecost / Духови:** *Epistle Acts 2:1-11 Gospel John 7:37-52; 8:12; 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Pentecost vespers with kneeling prayers. Coffee hour*

**Upcoming feast days/events:**

June 23 – Pizza lunch sponsored by the ASSC for all fish fry workers and their families as thank you for all hard work.  
24 – Beginning of Apostolic Fast / Pocetak Apostolskog posta  
28 – Vidovdan  
30 – Vidovdan parish celebration and potluck luncheon  
July 14 – St Mardarije celebration in St Sava Monastery. Our church will be closed that Sunday

**We are praying especially for:** Mary Book, Millie Stapinski, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Judy Lockwood, Alysha Bojovic, George Cizmas, Stevan Iacsin, Mike 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!

**Pomens;** +Eli and +Anka Orlovich, +Kimball Mancke, + Jeffrey Lockwood, +Robert, +Mildred, +George and +Rose Radeka, given by Orlovich, Mancke and Lockwood families; +Teri Chuk, +Ilija and +Mary Grubisich, given by Ely Grubisich; +Nicholas and +Beda Nikolich, +Peter and +Leona Petkovich, +Delores Malinovich and +Bertha O'Brian, given by M/M Pete Petkovich; +Joan Orlovich, given by Judy Lockwood; **On Pentecost June 16 there will be no pomens because it is a Major Holy Day**

**Looking to support your church?** The social center is always looking for people to help with event set-up, waitresses, kitchen help and dish washers. Please see Tana Petrich if you are interested.

**On the Feast of Pentecost - Holy Trinity Day,** Orthodox Churches are decorated with tree branches, grass and flowers according to the ancient tradition of the Church. The life-giving Holy Spirit which descends upon the Church renews the nature in each of us. In the Old Testament, Pentecost was the feast which occurred fifty days after Passover. As the Passover Feast celebrated the exodus of the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt, so Pentecost celebrated God's gift of the ten commandments to Moses on Mount Sinai. In the new covenant of the Messiah, the Passover event takes on its new meaning as the celebration of Christ's death and resurrection, the "exodus" of men from this sinful world to the Kingdom of God. And in the New Testament as well, the Pentecostal Feast is fulfilled and made new by the coming of the "new law," the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples of Christ. During the vespers, which is served immediately after the liturgy of Pentecost, special Pentecost prayers are read while the faithful kneel and during that time the faithful make their wreaths out of grass and decorate them with fresh leaves and flowers.

**Life Chicago Benefit, Friday, June 14, 2019** at 6 p.m. in Lansing, IL. Presented by the three kolo sestaras. Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Alexander and his wife Katarina will be visiting in honor out 10 years of service with Lifeline Chicago and the Lifeline Chicago 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Please read more info on the bulletin board.

**If you have a book** you were given by the priest to read at your confession, please return to the church if you are finished with it.

**Theophany season is the usual time of the year to bless our homes** and to obtain fresh holy water for family use throughout the year. For some people it is a still busy time of the year and they prefer to do it later. Some people bless their homes either a day before or on the day of their slava after the blessing of kolac and koljivo. If you have not had your home blessed during the Theophany season this year and would like to do it, please let Fr Aleksandar know.

**The Forty Day Blessing of a mother and a new born baby** takes place before the Divine Liturgy or any other time in the narthex and essentially consists of prayers of joyful thanks for the safe delivery of mother and child. The service blesses the mother who has been absent from the sacramental life of the Church for forty days and formally presents the newborn child to the Church family for the first time. During the 40 days between the birth of the child, the mother and newborn should refrain from regular sacramental life/attending church services.

In imitation of Christ's forty-day blessing (Luke 2:22-38), the parents of the newborn bring the baby to the church in order for the child to be dedicated to the Lord.

This beautiful tradition is practiced throughout the Orthodox World. The parents become a symbol of the Virgin Mary and Joseph, while the priest symbolizes St. Symeon who held Christ in his arms at the time of the presentation.

When a baby is born the parents should inform the parish priest to come to the hospital to say prayers for the mother and baby a day after birth. Eight days after the birth special prayers of naming the baby should be said by the priest in the parent's home and finally the 40 days prayers are said in the parish church.

Baptism of an infant can be done any time after the birth, but usually parents wait until after the 40 days so the mother can attend the service as well. Waiting for a long time to baptize the baby is not recommended. Every baptized baby should be brought to Holy Communion regularly and the preparation for confession will start as the child is 7 or 8 or at any time a parents thinks he/she is available to start preparation for fasting and confession.

**We invite all to join us at our coffee hour** after Sunday Divine Liturgy. This is an integral part of our fellowship and allows parishioners to meet and know each other.

**If you are planning your vacation this summer** make sure you look for an Orthodox church or Monastery in the area where you will be vacationing to attend on Sunday. Please remember your weekly donations to St George, even though you are not in church, we still have to pay our bills.