

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
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Sunday, July 4 – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost / Ven Anastasia of Serbia / Св Анастасија српска, мајка Св Саве
Epistle Romans 2:10-16 Gospel Matthew 4:18-23 tone 1st 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am.

Tuesday, July 6 Vigil / confession at 6 pm

Wednesday, July 7 – Nativity of St John / Ivandan / Рођење Св Јована – Ивандан Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Saturday, July 10 Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, July 11 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost / Translation of the Relics of Ss. Cyrus and John

Epistle Rom. 5:1-10 Gospel Matt. 6:22-33 tone 2nd

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am.

Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Upcoming Feast days and events:

July 12 – Sts Peter & Paul /Петровдан

17 – Celebration of St Mardarije at St Sava Monastery in Libertyville, IL

We are praying especially for: Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Christopher, Richard Kovacevich, Stevan Lunich, Sandy Grundy, Michelle Honiotes, Dmtar Kovacevich, Milos Acamovic, Donna Caton, 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): +Milovan and +Gospava Kisich, given by Bosa Goodale; +Irwin Schroder and +Charles Murray, given by Ely Grubisich;

As our society is fully opened, so is your Church! Thank God who saved and preserved us from this awful virus and may He give rest to the souls who did not survive it. It was the toughest year most of us have experienced in our lives and may God save us from anything like it in the future. Some holy fathers of the Church said that trials and tribulations are part of our lives and we must see our God as an All-Almighty God, most Powerful and Strong One Who is with us when we are in good times as much as when we are having problems. Our God is a Strong God and never weak! Trials and tribulations should not separate us from God but make us draw closer to Him.

Let us fully pick up where we left in March of 2020, come back to worship, live as Christ-like people, restore our Sacramental life and give praise to the Lord every day! As you know the Sacraments are not practiced only during the Fasting season. Confession should be often and spiritual and never mechanical. Holy Communion is offered as a Gift from Heaven to us at every Liturgy.

Jesus said:

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world. ... Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him."

Looking to support your church? The social center is open and 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.

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 parent thinks he/she is available to start preparation for fasting and confession.

Please remember St Mardarije celebration which will be this year on Saturday, July 17 in St Sava Monastery. Hierarchal Liturgy will start at 10 am. Hope you can make it.

Прослава Св Мардарија у манастиру Св Саве у Либертивилу ће бити у суботу 17 јула. Планирајте да идете ако сте слободни!

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!