

**St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**  
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436  
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest  
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**Sunday, August 1 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / Holy fathers of the first six ecumenical councils**

*Epistle Rom. 12:6-14; Heb. 13:7-16 Gospel Matt. 9:1-8; John 17:1-13 tone 5<sup>th</sup>*

3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Blessing of vehicles / Свећење возила  
Vigil/confession at 5 pm

**Monday, August 2 – Holy Prophet Elijah /Св пророк Илија** Divine Liturgy at 9 am

**Wednesday, August 4 – St Mary Magdalene / Св Марија Магдалена**

**Sunday, August 8 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost /Ven Parasceva of Trnovo /Трнова Петка**

*Epistle Rom. 12:6-14; Heb. 13:7-16 Gospel Matt. 9:1-8; 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 am.

**Upcoming Feast days and events:**

August 9 – St Panteleimon / Св Пантелија

14 – Beginning of Dormition fast / Почетак Госпојинског поста

19 – Holy Transfiguration / Преображење

**We are praying especially for:** Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Christopher, Stevan Lunich, Sandy Grundy, Michelle Honiotes, 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) +Richard Kovacevich, given by Jerry/Connie Kinney; +Richard Kovacevich, given by Dave/Neda Nissen; +Dusan and +Mike Grubish, given by Ely Grubisich; +Anka Govedarica, given by Dan/Vicki Dorsey; +Anka Govedarica, given by Joey/Erin Eric family; +Anka Govedarica, given by Danilo/Connor Dorsey; +Dušica, +Mihajlo and +Draginja Jurišić, +Mile Petrov, given by Steva/Draginja Lukin; +Barbara Kozak, given by Kirk Stapinski; +Gospava Kisich, given by Dave/Bosa Goodale; +Michael Kljaich, given by Sue Kljaich; +John Oldham, given by Joseph Orlovich family;

**Church school parents/teachers and students**, please enjoy your summer and let us plan on a new and more beneficial 2021/22. You will either receive or can pick up in church the enrollment form for your child/children. The upcoming school year will be in person, God willing. Many thanks to all teachers who held classes in person and prepared and sent lessons via email during the pandemic.

**The presence of children in worship is a gift from our Lord** and a reminder that our Church is growing. Any noise that children may make during the Divine Liturgy is pleasing to God's ears. In fact, one American Orthodox theologian, Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, referred to the activity of children during Liturgy as "holy noise." Please greet our children and young families with smiles and encouragement. Remember that the way we welcome children in the Church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are welcome and at home in our parish. At the same time parents have a sacred duty to teach their children about the House of God, proper prayerful behavior and the way we Orthodox should act and not just in the House of God but outside as well. The attitude of one in church should be reflected in one's attitude outside of the church, in the social hall, the school, in the work place, and in the home.

**The Dormition fast was established as preceding the great feasts of the Transfiguration of the Lord** and of the Dormition of the Mother of God. It lasts two weeks—from August 1/14–August 14/27 (old style/new style). The Dormition fast comes down to us from the early days of Christianity. The Theotokos, the Virgin Mary, was "blessed among the women", and she was chosen to "bear the Savior of our souls". Orthodox Christians consider her to be the Queen of all the saints and angels.

Rejoice! O Virgin Theotokos! Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Savior of our souls! (**Memorize it**)

The essence of the fast is expressed in the following Church hymn: "If you fast from food, my soul, but are not purified of the passions, in vain do we comfort ourselves by not eating. For if the fast does not bring correction, then it will be hateful to God as false, and you will be like unto the evil demons, who never eat."

**More readers for the 3rd and 6th hours on a Sunday morning** or at any time before the liturgy are needed. The reading starts 25 minutes before the liturgy. You can chant if you can or just plain reading. Please let the priest know if you are interested. This will give an opportunity to all for more involvement in the worship.

**When our college students leave their homes** to study outside of their parishes they should look for the Orthodox Christian Fellowship at their new campuses. OCF is the official collegiate campus ministry program under the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America. OCF transforms the lives of college students in the United States and Canada by guiding them along the path to Jesus Christ through His Church, cultivating a campus community of worship, witness, service, fellowship and education. Most of the bigger Colleges and Universities have organized OCF. Students, look for the OCF when you move in the campuses and parents please encourage your children to stay connected with their Orthodox church, OCF and /or local Orthodox church. Please let Fr Aleksandar know if you need more info about OCF and/or contact of the local Orthodox church in the town that your child is going to school.

**Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!**