

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, August 18 – Forefeast of Transfiguration / Предпразднштво Преображења

Epistle I Cor. 3:9-17; Gospel Matt. 14:22-34; tone 8th; 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Blessing of grapes and other seasonal fruits. Coffee hour. Parish picnic at St Nicholas church in Joliet.

Monday, August 19 – Holy Transfiguration / Преображење Господње; Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Wednesday, August 21; Choir practice at 7:30 pm

Fr Aleksandar will be in East Moline, IL on **Saturday**. Confession in our church will be on Sunday at 9:30 am

Sunday, August 25 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost / Kolo slava celebration: *Epistle I Cor. 3:9-17 Gospel Matt. 14:22-34 tone 8th; 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Parastos for all deceased kolo members. Blessing of kolach in hall, slava lunch. Please bring your family and friends!*

Upcoming feast days/events: August 28 – The Dormition of the Theotokos / Velika Gospojina
September 8 – Beginning of church school / Почетак црквене школе

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Millie Stapinski, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Judy Lockwood, Stevan Iacsin, Stevan Lunich, Bosko Stamenich, 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: +Delores Malinovich, given by Steve Malinovich; +Delores Malinovich, given by Sue Kljaich; +Michael Kljaich, given by Sue Kljaich; +Orville Belfield, given by Jean and Chuck Panella, Janet Belfield and Denis Belter, Andrea, Jovana, Tijana and Jameson Popovich; +Alexander Miljus, given by Marlo Perry;

The Executive Board has made the decision to move forward with both painting and carpeting all of the classrooms in the lower level of the church for the upcoming 2019-20 school year. This project will be taking place over the next six weeks. Please be generous and offer your help and/or your monetary donation toward the project. Please talk to either Dave Laketa or John Dauer.

Church school will start on Sunday, September 8. Parents please enroll your children and bring them to church regularly. Classes will start after communion every Sunday unless it is previously announced that the class is cancelled. We are trying to organize a culture class on one weekday evening. When you fill out the enrollment form, please mark if you are interested and which evening will work out the best for you and your children. Culture class will consist of basic Serbian language, Serb history and geography, singing and folklore. The evening will also be a great opportunity for the children and parents to get to know each other better. Parents are invited to participate and learn more about Serbian language, history and music.

Part I It is important to periodically remind ourselves about the proper way of entering and behaving in church during worship services. The church is the House of God and even before we enter, we must prepare ourselves and realize where we are entering. All loud talking and laughing should stay outside. Please take candy or gum out of your mouth since it is inappropriate to chew in church. Immediately after you make your entrance into the church, you are in the church and you should cross yourself with a bow and say "Lord, have mercy upon me a sinner" and venerate ikons which are in the narthex. The faithful should always make two small metanias, bows, before an ikon, kiss the ikon either the hands or feet of the Saint who is depicted in the ikon and the third bow. Proceed to the nave of the church and venerate the ikon in the middle isle and other ikons in front of the altar. After this, purchase and light your candles and go to your place and piously wait for the beginning of the service. Please read all prayers before the Liturgy. Loud conversations and congregating in the back is not appropriate in church. If you come to church you should be participating in the worship with all the faithful and not socializing in the back. **Please come to church on time** and before the service starts.

During the service you should follow the Liturgy book, if it is a liturgy, or other booklets which are usually available on the warden table for vespers and other services. Try to sing responses and actively participate in the worship. In the Divine Liturgy book, it is marked when you should stand and when you may sit down. If you have health issues and/or children and elderly, you may sit down at any time. When the deacon/priest senses you, you should bow down and cross yourself. When the priest turns and gives blessing to the faithful, they should bow down **and not cross themselves**.

If you are late for the service, please don't purchase or light your candles nor walk through the church during the small or great entrance and during the reading of Scriptures and during the homily.

Some of our sick and elderly parishioners have not been to church for a while, and they would love to receive a call or a card. They are in our thoughts and prayers, but if we give them a call, visit them once in a while or send them a nice card we know it would make their day.

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 14–August 27. 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."