

**St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**

300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436

Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest

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**Lord of the Powers be with us, for in times of distress we have no other help but You.**

**Lord of the Powers, have mercy on us.**

**“Do not fear, only believe” Mark 5:36**

**May His Holiness Patriarch Irinej memory be eternal! Vječnaja Pamjat!**

**Sunday, December 6 – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / St Alexander of Neva /Св Александар Невски**

*Epistle Eph. 5:8-19 Gospel Luke 12:16-21 Tone 1<sup>st</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school.*

**Wednesday, December 9 – St Alypius / Св Алимпије столпник** Divine Liturgy at 9 am

**Saturday, December 12 – St Mardarije of Libertyville / Св Мардарије либертивилски**

Divine Liturgy at 9 am, Vigil / confession at 5 pm

**Sunday, December 13 – 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / St Andrew the first-called apostle/ Ан Андреј првозвани** *Epis-*

*tle Eph. 6:10-17; I Cor. 4:9-16 Gospel Luke 13:10-17; John 1:35-51 Tone 2<sup>nd</sup>*

*3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school.*

**Upcoming Feast days and events:**

December 19 – St Nicholas the wonderworker / Св Никола

25 – St Herman of Alaska / St Spiridon / Св Герман аљаски и Св Спиридон

**Pomens (Litany for departed):** +Patriarch Irinej; +Paul Shimek, +George Enich, +Milovan Kisich, +John and +Bertha O'Brian, +Mary Shimek, given by Gayle Shimek and Nenad/Stephanie Jakovljevic; +George Enich, +William VanDuyne, given by Joseph Orlovich Jr family; +Jeffrey and +Judy Lockwood, +Kimbell Mancke and +George Enich, given by Pat Mancke and family; +George Enich, given by Pete and Michelle Honiotes; ++George Enich, given by Ed and Barbara Phelan; +George Enich, given by Steve Malinovich, +George Enich, +Ann Malinovich, +Michael O'Leary, +Michael Kljaich, given by Millie O'Leary, Nadine O'Leary and Josh Potts and Annette O'Leary – individually; +George Enich and +Jeffrey Lockwood, given by Bob Orlovich; +Dusan Vlajin, given by M/M Steva Lukin; +George Enich, +Milovan Kisich, +Milos Konjevich and +Martha Konjevich, given by Sophie Anderson; +George Enich, +Paul Shimek, +Nicholas and +Beda Nikolich, given by M/M Pete Petkovich; +George Enich, given by Anka Laketa and family;

**We are praying especially for:** Mary Book, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Stevan Iacsin, Christopher, Richard Kovacevich, Stevan Lunich, Milorad Ristich, 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!

**Wishing you a blessed and spiritually beneficial Nativity Fast** which started on Saturday, November 28, and will last until Christmas, January 7. During this time of preparation for the joyous Holy Day of the Christian Church, let us all fast, repent, cleanse our hearts from all spiritual impurity and sin and anticipate the joyous Nativity. This season of anticipation for us Orthodox Christians is the time to confess our sins and partake of Holy Communion at least once. The Sacraments have never been stopped in our church, not even during this Pandemic. Confession can be done in the church at any time. If Saturday evening after the vigil does not work for you, please let Fr Aleksandar know which day you can come to church to make your confession. **Holy Communion is offered at every Divine Liturgy.** Please check the bulletins regularly for the schedule of services in our church. Holy Communion can also be received at any time during the week. Please let Fr Aleksandar know the day and time you want to come. Fr Aleksandar can also bring communion to your home if you prefer to take communion that way. There is no reason to deny yourself Holy Confession and Communion.

**The 2021 wall calendars** are available in the narthex, one per family for free. Many thanks to Tezak funeral home for sponsoring it again this year. Every calendar has a nice Orthodox ikon on it and if you like it, you can frame it at the end of year, if not you can burn it in your fireplace together with your last year's badnjak branch, old bulletins, Pentecost wreath or any other sacred item which you have in your home, rather than just throw it in the trash. You can bring old slava candles to church and burn them. Theophany water should be prayerfully used during the year and not just saved. By the time new Theophany water comes, you can mix it with the last years.

**Pomens (litany for the reposed) are given for the reposed on any Divine Liturgy,** Sundays or any Holy Day except on the Major Holy Days. If a family would like to remember their reposed on a Sunday or any Holy Day, they should contact the priest and give him the name/s of the reposed a few days before the Liturgy and the pomens will be printed in Sunday's bulletin.

Names can also be given to the wardens when coming to church for the pomens on following Sundays/Holy Days if they want it to be printed in the bulletins. The church fee is \$5 per name which should be paid to the wardens.

For the 40-day parastos and any other parastos, the family should schedule it with the priest. The church fee of a parastos is \$10 which the family should pay to the warden and give a donation to the priest for his services and time.

**The Church Board is sponsoring a Curbside Cookie Bake Sale on December 20th.** For \$20, you will get a container with an assortment of Serbian and Christmas cookies for the upcoming holidays. Pre-orders only. Curbside Pickup on December 20th at the upper level of the Social Center between 11:30am - 12:30pm. Call or text Danielle at 630-709-7437 with your name and number of containers by December 13th. Cash or Checks payable to St George when you pick up. Let us bake for you this holiday season while supporting your parish for the final fundraiser of 2020.

**After the liturgy,** all who received Holy Communion should remain in church to read the required prayers after receiving Holy Communion. The prayers are at the end of your liturgy book. Please return to the pew after you receive prosphora. The priest will then start the prayers loudly with “Glory to Thee, O God, Glory to Thee” three times. Then everyone will read the prayers aloud. It is best if one person starts and the rest follow. If you are in hurry that Sunday for a good reason, please read by yourself after you receive prosphora.