

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, December 8 – 25th Sunday after Pentecost / St Clement of Rome / Св Климент римски

Epistle Ephesians 4:1-6 Gospel Luke 10:25-37 8th 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Lunch prepared by the ASSC. Annual assembly at 1 pm.

Monday, December 9 - St Alypius / Св Алимпије

Religious discussion at 11 am. This is an opportunity for our retired parishioners to attend the discussion and learn more about their faith and Bible.

Thursday, December 12 – St Mardarije of Libertyville, Divine Liturgy at 10 am in St Sava Monastery.

Saturday, December 14 Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, December 15 – 26th Sunday after Pentecost / St Uros of Serbia / St Joanikius of Devič

Epistle Ephesians 4:1-6 Gospel Luke 10:25-37 1st 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. ASSC annual meeting. Cooking class

Upcoming feast days/events:

December 19 – St Nicholas the wonderworker / Св Никола
29 – Serbian Mother's Day - Materice

Pomens: + Millie Stapinski, given by Barbara Konjavich; +Sam Konjevich, given by Peter Grubisich; +Sam Konjevich, given by Sue Kljaich and Frances Juarez; +Sam Konjevich, given by M/M Mike Cora; +Jeffrey Lockwood, given by Pat Mancke; +Sam and +Mike Orlovich, given by Bill Harper family; +Sam Konjevich, +Delores Malinovich, + Michael Kljaich and +Michael O'Leary, given by Susan Kljaich;

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Judy Lockwood, Stevan Iacsin, Stevan Lunich, George Cizmas, Bosko Stamenich, George, Christopher, Slavka Novakovic, Rada Albu, 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!

The best time for confession is on the eve of the Liturgy, after vespers, on Saturday evening or on the eve of a Holy Day since the celebration of the Christian Sabbath and the Holy Days start in the evening. All faithful, and especially if a person wants to commune, should attend the evening service and the Holy Liturgy. Confession on Sunday Morning is only if you have family needs, job, distance, health or other important reason. Confessions on a Sunday and/or Holy Day Morning will start at least 30 minutes prior to the Liturgy. Please do not come to confession 5 minutes before the Liturgy begins! If the eve before you prepare to commune does not work for you and you cannot make it early enough before the Liturgy, you can always make an appointment with your priest for your confession at another time.

Before communion, please make sure you spiritually and physically prepare, make peace in your heart and read all your pre-communion prayers from your prayer book. Prayers should be read by all who communed after the Liturgy. Remain in church after you receive blessed bread, the prayers after communion are at the end of the Divine Liturgy book, and wait until everyone in the church has received blessed bread, prosphora. Wait until the priest says, "Glory to Thee our God, Glory to Thee" 3 times. After this everyone who communed should read the prayers together and loudly. It would be best if one person leads the prayers.

We are entering busy holiday season and also our Orthodox Nativity fast. Let us observe our fast and prepare to confess and at least once partake the precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Let us find a way to combine our busy life and our faith and continue to be good Orthodox faithful during the month of December. We can do this but we need a strong will and obedience. Can we at least attend one of the adult religious classes? Of course, we can but we need strong will and discipline.

I ask and recommend you to please get one of the Orthodox religious books and finish it during the Nativity Fast.

The 2020 wall calendars are available in the narthex. 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.

After the Divine Liturgy and after receiving the prosphora is the time to solemnly leave the House of God. Any type of loud conversation and laughter in church is forbidden especially when people who are reading the prayers after communion are trying to concentrate and pray. We are all happy to see each other and like to visit, and the perfect place for that is after church during coffee hour. Loud conversations in church before the liturgy starts and/or after the liturgy should never happen.

Our St. George Cultural Club will sponsor a Serbian Cooking class on Sunday, December 15th, following Divine Liturgy in our Social Center. Protinica Gordana and Draginja Lukin will graciously serve as our teachers, along with Father Aleks. This class will highlight lenten specialties, and our teachers will demonstrate and teach the art of making **lenten palačinke** and **lenten kiflice**. Parishioners who pre-paid for the cooking class in November that was cancelled are welcome to attend our December class. We are also planning another Serbian Cooking class in February, which will highlight the items that had been planned for our November class. Anyone is able and encouraged to attend our Lenten Serbian Cooking class in December. Cost for the class is \$10 per person, which can be paid on the day of the class. A delicious Serbian-style bean soup and homemade Serbian-style bread will be served to all class participants. Thank you to all who support our efforts to promote our rich and flavorful Serbian traditions!

За веће прзнике или било када у току године ако желите да донесете цвеће у цркву можете то слободно урадити, само назовете свештеника дан или два раније. Имамо вазе за цвеће, то не морате доносити.

За све информације у вези богослужења и догађаја у цркви проверите на црквеном Фејсбуку или на званичној интернет презентацији цркве.

Посетите црквену кљижару у подруму цркве где можете купити Божићне и друге православне карте, иконе, тамјан, жижке за кандила, угалј, православен кљиге и друге поклоне и сувенире.