

**St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**  
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**Sunday, December 12 – 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / St Mardarije of Libertyville** *Epistle Ephesians 4:1-6 Gospel Luke 10:25-37 tone 8<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Coffee hour*

**Monday, December 13 – Apostle Andrew the First called / Св Андреј Првозвани**

**Friday, December 17 – Great martyr Barbara / Св мученица Варвара** Confession, 8:30 am; Divine Liturgy at 9 am

**Saturday, December 18 – St Sava the Sanctified / Св Сава Освећени** Fr Alex will travel to East Moline to have liturgy in the Greek church for the Orthodox Serbs living there. Vigil / confession at 5 pm

**Sunday, December 19 – 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost / St Nicholas the wonderworker / Св Никола**  
*Epistle Ephesians 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. Kolo bake sale*

**Upcoming Feast days and events:**

December 25 – St Spiridon / St Herman of Alaska

26 - Serbian Mother's Day / Materice

January 2 – St Ignatius of Antioch /Св Игњатије / Serbian Father's Day / Очеви

**We are praying especially for:** Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Christopher, Sandy Grundy, Michelle Honiotes, Mary Basarich, Stevan Lunich, Pat Zakavec, Craig Verelote, 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) +Lazo and +Mike Susich, +Joyce Bauman and + Ruth Wright, given by Steve Malinovich; +Nicholas Ostoich, given by Joseph Orlovich Jr family; +Nicholas and +Beda Nikolich, +Peter and +Leona Petkovich, +Paul Shimek, +Joyce Bauman, given by Pete/Kathy Petkovich; +Zorka Miller, given by Vivian Tadin; +Nicholas Ostoich, given by Genevieve Ostoich; + Sam Kovacevich III, given by Robbie Kovacevich;

**The 2022 wall calendars are available in the narthex, one per family for free.** 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 year's.

**The Kolo will sponsor a Bake Sale on Sunday, December 19th** in the Social Center following the Liturgy. It will feature a variety of baked goods (posno/non-posno) that can be used during the Nativity fast or saved for after the fasting season. Please stop by to support your Kolo while getting some pastries for your upcoming get togethers.

**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 Divine 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.

**In preparation for a joyous Nativity**, some Orthodox Serbs plant wheat in a pot on the Feast of St. Barbara, and eat the cooked and sweetened wheat together with other cooked grains like barley and corn. In some areas this is the tradition on St. Nicholas. Two Sundays before Nativity is Serbian Mother's Day - Materice, when children tie their mothers' and grandmothers' legs together, and in return they get symbolic presents. The same is done with fathers and grandfathers on the next Sunday. Tying the legs represents the bonds and love in the family before the Feast of the Birth of our Savior.

**Зидни календари за 2022 годину** се налазе у цркви и можете их узети за Вашу кућу. Уколико имате прошлогодишње славске свеће можете их донети и упалити у цркви. Венчиће од Духова, старе календаре са иконама, бадњак или палмове - врбове гране од Врбице, све остало што је освећено и донето из цркве, можете спалити у вашим каминима. Крај године долази и проверите да сте за 2021 годину дали ваше прилоге цркви. Хвала

**Налазимо се у Божићном посту.** Молите се и постите, праштајте и конторлишите речи и понашање. Припремите се за исповест и причест да достојно и духовно припремљени дочекате Радосни Празник Христовог Рођења у Витлејему.

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