

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, December 26 – Sunday of holy Forefathers / Serbian Mother's Day / Materice

Epistle Colossians 3:4-11 Gospel Luke 14:16-24 tone 2nd 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Fr Alex will have class with students and parents are welcome. Coffee Hour.

Saturday, January 1

Vigil / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, January 2 – Sunday before Nativity / St Ignatius of Antioch/ St John of Kronstadt/ Serb Father's Day

Epistle Hebrews 11:9-10;17-23; 32-40; 1 John 4:7-11 Gospel Matthew 1:1-25 Luke 6:31-36 tone 3rd 3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Soup/palacinke brunch in social center. ASSC Annual meeting

Upcoming Feast days and events:

January 7 - The Nativity of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ / Bozic
9 - St Stephen the First Deacon and Martyr / Sv Stefan Prvomucenik

We are praying especially for: Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Christopher, Sandy Grundy, Michelle Honiotes, Mary Basarich, Stevan Lunich, Pat Zakavec, Craig Vercolote, Millie Skoryi, Ioana (Kathy) Albu, 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) +Zorka Miller, given by Vivian Tadin; +Nicholas Ostoich, given by Genevieve Ostoich; +Cvita Babich, given by Millie O'Leary; +Cvita Babich, given by Annette O'Leary; +Cvita Babich, given by Nadine O'Leary and Josh Potts;

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.

The Kolo Christmas Luncheon will be after Liturgy on January 16th at Syl's in Rockdale. All parishioners are welcome to attend and enjoy the lovely Sunday brunch at Syls. The cost is \$26 and includes coffee, tea or soda. Please RSVP by January 9th to Nadine Paukstys at 708-707-4963 or Danielle Serdar at 630-709-7437. You can pay in advance with cash or check payable to St George Circle of Serbian Sisters. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please visit our St George Bookstore which is located in the basement of our church to purchase your Orthodox Christmas cards and other gifts for the upcoming holidays. Please look for Nancy Cora to help you.

All Orthodox Christians are obligated to confess and at least once partake of Holy Communion during fasting seasons as well as on Holy Days and whenever they are spiritually prepared. Since we are still in a pandemic and if you are concerned about being in church on Sunday, you can attend weekday liturgies. There are fewer people at these services, and you can receive the Holy Mysteries. Also you can call Fr Alex at any time to come to church to pray and receive the saving Mysteries or he will gladly bring them to you at home. There is no reason for any Orthodox Christian not to confess or partake of the saving Mysteries.

After the liturgy On Sunday, January 2, Feast of St Ignatius and Serbian Father's Day, there will be an annual meeting of the American Serbian Social Club. Parishioners are invited to attend. Church school children will be decorating the badnjak - Yule Log in the upper hall, and the Culture Club will have a posno Soup/ Palačinke (crepe) brunch for our parishioners. You can eat inside or place an order to go, or both!!

Small pocket size 2022 calendars are for sale by the candles. Every family should get one and use it to follow the church holy days and fasting seasons, and use it when making plans and events. Major holy days are always marked in red ink, important holy days are in bold ink and every day of the year has at least one or two saints which are commemorated.

The traditional Serbian Orthodox greeting for the Nativity season is Christ is Born and the reply is Indeed He is Born or Truly He is Born. In Serbian it is Hristos se rodi and the reply is Voistinu se rodi Many Slavic people such as Russians and Ukrainians say Christ is Born, Glorify Him! Either all together or One person would say Christ is Born and another Glorify Him. The Christmas greeting in Greek is Christ is Born, give glory! Again, either just one person or two with Christ is Born and reply Give glory. The Christmas greeting is used from the day of the Nativity of Christ until the Apodosios or Leave-taking of the Feast which is January 13.

Culture Club is asking for PRE-STRUNG OR PRE-HOOKED donations of candies/candy canes/small favors/ and fruit to hang on the badnjak (Oak Tree) for after Christmas Eve Service. We will be decorating the badnjak Sunday 01.02.21 after Liturgy, anyone who would like to join us is welcome. Sales and Clearance start as soon as tomorrow 12/24/21 and increase on Sunday 12.26.21, when wrapped candy and trinkets can be bought on sale. While all donations are much appreciated, we tend to get plenty of candy canes, perhaps because there are usually many leftover at 50% off, or because they can just be hung without any need to put loops on them, so if you see other sweets that can have a loop or hook added, that would be great.

BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO ANY CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER'S ROOM BY END OF LITURGY 01.02.21. Thanks in advance for your help, we always have many guest children on Christmas Eve, and our own kids young and old look forward to this tradition.

Мали џепни календари за 2022 су на продају и можете их наћи код свећа. Свака породица треба да има по један календар и да прати празнике и постове.

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!