

Schedule of Lenten Services

St George Serbian Orthodox Church, Joliet, IL

Sunday, March 10 – Forgiveness Sunday

Divine Liturgy and Forgiveness vespers to follow. *“Forgive me, a sinner.”* The response is, *“God forgives.”*

Monday, March 11 – Beginning of Great Fast / Clean Week / Почетак Часног Поста

Vespers and Canon of St Andrew of Crete at 6 p.m.. Religious discussion after.

Wednesday, March 13

Lenten hours at 8 a.m.; Confession at 8:40 a.m.; Presanctified Liturgy at 9 a.m.

Religious discussion at 6:30 p.m.

Every Wednesday Evening during the Great Lent, we will have religious discussions in one of the classrooms beneath the church. If the liturgy is in the evening, the discussion will be after the liturgy at approximately 7 p.m.. When the liturgy is in the morning, a religious discussion will start at 6:30 p.m.. If you have any questions about the Bible, our practices, Orthodox faith, prayer, or other topics, please tell Fr Aleksandar, and we will have it as a topic of our discussion. If you wish you may bring fruit, pastry and/or other posno snacks especially after evening Liturgy.

Saturday, March 16 – Theodore Saturday / Теодорова Субота

Vespers / confession at 5 p.m.

The best time for confession is on Saturday after vespers. 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 fa.m.ily 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.

Sunday, March 17 – Sunday of Orthodoxy / Недељ Православља

Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 10 a.m..

Sunday of Orthodoxy vespers in Holy Resurrection Serb Orthodox Church in Chicago at 6 p.m.. Homilist Fr. Serafim Baltic

Wednesday, March 20

Lenten hours at 5 p.m.; Confession at 5:40 p.m.; Presanctified Liturgy at 6 p.m.

Religious discussion and pot luck at around 7 p.m.

When the Presanctified Liturgy is served in the evening, those who will partake of Holy Communion should fast from 12 p.m. (noon) until receiving communion. For those who can physically endure an all-day total fast, please do so.

Saturday, March 23

Vespers / confession at 5 p.m.

Sunday, March 24 – Sunday of St Gregory Pala.m.a / Недеља Св Григорија Паламе

Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 10 a.m.

Lenten vespers in Holy Arch Michael Serb Orthodox church in Lensing at 6 p.m.. Homilist

Fr Aleksandar Bugarin

Wednesday, March 27

Lenten hours at 8 a.m.; Confession at 8:40 a.m.; Presanctified Liturgy at 9 a.m.

Religious discussion at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 30 – Ven Alexius, Man of God and St Patrick of Ireland

Fr Aleksandar will serve the Divine Liturgy in Moline, IL. There will be no vespers / confession in our church. Confession only on Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 31 – Veneration of Holy Cross / Крстопоклона Недеља

Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 10 a.m..

Lenten vespers in St Elijah Serb Orthodox Church in Merrillville at 6 p.m.. Homilist Fr. Vladimir Lange

Tuesday, April 2 – Lenten Retreat in our church

Vespers at 6 p.m.; Lenten dinner in the social hall. Presentation will start at 7 p.m..

Guest speaker Hieromonk Fr Alexii Altschul, from Holy Arch Michael Serb Orthodox Monastery in Missouri. Topic: **Spiritual Exercise**

Wednesday, April 3

Lenten hours at 5 p.m.; Confession at 5:40 p.m.; Presanctified Liturgy at 6 p.m.

Religious discussion and pot luck at around 7 p.m.

Saturday, April 6 – Eve of the Annunciation / Навечерје Благовести

Vespers / confession at 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 7 – Sunday of St John the Climacus / Annunciation / Благовести

Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 10 a.m..

Lenten vespers in St George Serb Orthodox church in East Chicago at 6 p.m.. Homilist Fr Marko Matic.

Lenten vespers in St Nicholas Serb Orthodox church in Brookfield at 6 p.m.. Homilist Fr Radovan Jakovljevic.

Most Sundays during Lent we will have two vespers in the evening in our Chicago Deanery. The reason is we stopped having Friday Presanctified Liturgies and Saturday Vespers as a joint service for our Deanery, only Sunday evening Lenten Vespers.

Wednesday, April 10

Lenten hours at 8 a.m.; Confession at 8:40 a.m.; Presanctified Liturgy at 9 a.m.

Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos at 6 p.m.

Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokis will be tonight instead of Friday night, as it should be according to the Typicon. Due to the Annual Diocesan Meeting on Friday.

Saturday, April 13

Vespers / confession at 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 14 – Sunday of St Mary of Egypt / Недеља Св Марије египћанке

Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 10 a.m..

Lenten vespers in Sts Peter & Paul Serb Orthodox church in South Bend at 6 p.m.. Homilist Fr Aleksandar Savic

Lenten vespers in St Simeon St Serb Orthodox church in So Chicago at 6 p.m.. Homilist Fr Aleksandar Novakovic

Wednesday, April 17

Lenten hours at 5 p.m.; Confession at 5:40 p.m.; Presanctified Liturgy at 6 p.m.

Religious discussion and pot luck at around 7 p.m.

Friday, April 19 – Beginning of Holy Week / Почетак Велике Недеље

Vespers / confession at 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 20 – Lazarus Saturday / Vrbica / Лазарова субота - Врбица

Divine Liturgy at 9 a.m.

Vespers and procession around the church at 5 p.m.

Sunday, April 21 – Entrance of our Lord in Jerusalem / Palm Sunday / Цветна Недеља

Hierarchal Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m., served by His Grace Bishop Longin

Lenten vespers in St George Serb Orthodox church in Joliet at 6 p.m.. Homilist Fr Milos Vesin

Holy Week is observed by strict fast and attending all the services in which we relive the capture, passion, death and burial of our Savior. Orthodox Christians partake of Holy Communion at least once during the week, especially on Holy Thursday. Receiving Holy Communion on Pascha is the culmination of the Holy Week services and the resurrection of our Lord and our resurrection in Him.