

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, December 1– 24th Sunday after Pentecost / Martyr Platon

Epistle Ephesians 2:14-22 Gospel Luke 8:41-56 7th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school and coffee hour

Tuesday, December 3 Vigil / confession at 6 pm

Wednesday, December 4 – The Entry into the temple of the Theotokos / Ваведеније

Divine Liturgy at 9 am, Religious discussion at 6:30 p.m.

Fr Aleksandar will be in Moline, IL on Saturday. There will be no vigil/confession on Saturday evening. Confession on Sunday at 9:30 am

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. Annual assembly at 1 pm.

Upcoming feast days/events:

December 12 – Feast of St Mardarije of Libertyville

19 – St Nicholas the wonderworker / Св Никола

Pomens: + Millie Stapinski, given by Barbara Konjavich; +Sam Konjevich, given by Jack Book Sr; +Sam Konjevich, given by Nancy Jovanovich; +Sam Konjevich, given by Peter Grubisich; +Sam Konjevich, given by M/M Roger Trizna; +Sam Konjevich, given by Sue Kljaich and Frances Juarez; +Sam Konjevich, given by M/M Mike Cora; +Jeffrey Lockwood, +Lois Orlovich, given by Judy and Scott Lockwood;

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Judy Lockwood, Stevan Iacsin, Stevan Lunich, George Cizmas, Snežana Djordjević, 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.

Reminder: The end of the year is coming up. Please make sure you are up to date with your financial obligations to St George Church. Please consider the extra expenses we had this year including painting the classrooms, new carpeting and leaks on church roof that had to be repaired as well as other expenses/bills that have to be paid. Orthodox Christian stewardship is a way of life which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith. How much you are involved in Church life and donate - returning to God what He has blessed you with will be the sign of how spiritual and strong an Orthodox Christian you are.

On Sunday, December 8 after the services, the annual assembly of St George Serbian Orthodox Church - school congregation will be held. All members in good sacramental, liturgical and financial standing are obligated to attend and take an active part in this yearly meeting. Please mark your calendar now!

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.

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.

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 зе кандила, угаљ, православен кљиге и друге поклоне и сувенире.