

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, January 13- Apodosis of the Nativity & Sunday After Nativity / New Year eve/ Odanije Bozica

Epistle Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel Matthew 2:13-23 Tone 8th

Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Oath of officers. Church school. Coffee hour
Vespers/ confession at 5pm

Monday, January 14- The Circumcision of the Lord / St Basil the Great / Obrezanje Gospodnje I Sv Vasilije Veliki

Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 9 am Srecna Nova Godina

Wednesday, January 16

Culture class at 6:30 pm. Topic: "Feast of Theophany, the great blessing of waters and the blessing of homes"

Friday, January 18 - The Eve of Theophany / fast day / Navecerje Bogojavljenja / postan dan

Royal Hours at 9 am and Great blessing of waters

Vigil / confession at 6 pm

Saturday, January 19 - Holy Theophany / Bogojavljenje

Divine Liturgy at 9 am, Great blessing of waters

Vespers / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, January 20 - Sunday After Theophany / Synaxis of St John the Baptist / Sv Jovan Krstitelj

Epistle Eph. 4:7-13; Acts 19:1-8 Gospel Matthew 4:12-17; John 1:29-34 Tone 1st

Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Coffee hour

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Millie Stapinski, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Delores Malinovich, Art Schumann, Richard Jovanovich, Dragan Krcmarevic, Sophia and Slavka Novakovic, Linda, 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!

Upcoming holy days / events:

January 27 – St Sava, lunch and children's program

Pomens: + Rosella Petrich, given by Tana Petrich.; +Rosella Petrich, given by Vicki Petrich Dorsey and family; +Rosella Petrich, given by the Dauer family

Note: Please call the parish priest in case of sickness and hospitalization.

Fr Aleksandar will start the blessing of homes in our parish on the eve of Theophany. For the blessing of your home you should have a church candle and a bowl half filled with water placed on a table. If you have a hand censer and would like the priest to use it, place it on the table. A list of the names of the living members of the family may be placed by the bowl. You can also light your vigil lamp - kandilo during the service. After the blessing of your home, please save the water and you can mix it with your last year holy water if you still have some. Use Theophany water during the year; it is a spiritual medicine when you use it with faith. Before you consume the Theophany water please say a prayer.

This year, our Sveti Sava celebration will be on the Feast of Sveti Sava on Sunday, January 27. After the Divine Liturgy, there will be a blessing of festal bread and koljivo in the hall, lunch and a children's program. Please mark your calendars, and plan to attend this important event!

From Nativity on Jan. 7 until the eve of Theophany, Jan. 18 is a fast-free period. The Church lets us enjoy the feast and eat all the food we love. Remember this isn't the time for us to neglect our spiritual life. On the Feast of Theophany, Jan. 19, which is a Major Holy Day, we are invited to partake of the Holy Mystery of Communion. Some might say, "I did not fast, I cannot take communion." If the Church tells us not to physically fast then why would we question it? We have enough time of the year when we should physically fast, but we all ought to practice spiritual fasting

Clergy brotherhood calendars/yearbooks are available in narthex for sale for \$15. They contain the addresses/phones of every Serb Orth Church in North and South America.

Cross Medallions left from our 90th anniversary are available for sale on wardens table, \$20 each. They are graciously donated by Anka Laketa and Mr and Mrs Radovan Jovanovich. All proceeds to our church.

Orthodox children who have been baptized should partake of Communion regularly. Younger children may take Communion without Confession. Confession and preparation should start when they can understand preparation and the meaning of sin usually at the age of 7 or 8. Parents as the child's first teachers of the faith, should explain to their children the importance of proper preparation and the true meaning of Confession and Holy Communion and monitor their spiritual as well as their physical development.

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 or outside. Loud conversations in church before the liturgy starts and/or after the liturgy should never happen.