

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, December 2 – 27th Sunday after Pentecost / Prophet Obadiah / Martyr Barlaam of Caesarea in Cappadocia

Epistle Ephesians 6:10-17 Gospel Luke 12:16-21 Tone 2nd

Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Coffee hour.

Monday, December 3

Vigil / confession at 6 pm

Tuesday, December 4 - The Entry into the temple of the Theotokos/ Ваведеније

Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Saturday, December 8 – Hieromartyr Clement / Св Климент

Vespers/confession at 5 pm

Sunday, December 9 – 28th Sunday after Pentecost / Ven Alypius the Stylite / Св Алимпије

Epistle Col. 1:12-18 Gospel Luke 13:10-17 Tone 3rd

Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Lunch sponsored by the ASSC and Annual assembly. NOTE: Church organization reports have been sent out via email to be read in advance of the Annual Meeting. If you do not receive email, printed copies are available at the warden stand.

We are praying especially for: Ceba Severns, Mary Book, Millie Stapinski, Radovan Jovanovich, Delores Malinovich, Art Schumann, Zoran Nikitovich, Millie Rowe, Richard Jovanovich, Dragan Krcmarevic, 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:

December 16 – Lenten Palachinke sale /Продаја посних палачинки

December 19 – St Nicholas the wonderworker / Св Николај чудотворац

December 30 – Badnjak decoration after the service. / Украшавање бадњака после литургије

Pomens: +RoseMarie Boroni, given by Joseph Orlovich Jr family

We hope you visit our St George the Great Martyr Bookstore over the holidays. There are many cards, ikons and gift ideas.

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 months of December/January. We can do this but we need a strong will and obedience.

We invite all to join us at our coffee hour after Sunday Divine Liturgy. This is an integral part of our fellowship and allows parishioners to meet and know each other.

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 can not 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, take a copy of the post-communion prayers which are in the reader's stand 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.

You are welcome to take one of the Orthodox books from our library home to read during the Nativity fast and return it when you are done reading it. Please see Fr Aleksandar if you need a recommendation for the book.

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.

Retreat at St John Greek Orthodox church in Des Plaines, IL on December 7-9, 2018. Topic: Voice of the Voiceless. Youth and Young adults are especially encouraged to attend Friday evening's talk. Please check the Flier on the bulletin board downstairs. For more info view the church's website <https://www.stjohnthebaptistgoc.org/>

The essence of almsgiving is a heart burning with love for every creature and desiring what is good for it. Almsgiving consists not merely in the giving, but in compassion, when we see a fellow human being suffering in some way, and if we can help him somehow, we do so. **St. Marcarius of Optina**

Исповест је суботом вече после вечерњег и у недељу у 9 и 30 ујутро. Немојте долазити на исповест 5 минута пре литургије.