

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
Phone 815 741-1023; Cell 913-558-5031 abugarin@kc.rr.com

Sunday, December 30 – 31st Sunday after Pentecost / Sunday of the Holy Forefathers & The Holy Prophet Daniel and the Three Youths / Serbian Mother's Day / Materice

Epistle / Timothy 1:15-17; Hebrews 11:33-40 Gospel Luke 14:16-24; Luke 11:47-12:1 Tone 6th
Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Badnjak decoration and Lenten pot lock in the hall

Wednesday, January 2 – St Ignatius of Antioch / Св Игњатије Антиохијски

Culture class at 6:30 pm

Friday, January 4

Royal Hours at 10 am, confession to follow

Saturday, January 5

Vespers / confession at 5 pm

Sunday, January 6 – Eve of the Nativity & Sunday of the Holy Fathers / Serbian Father's Day / Бадњи дан / Очеви

Epistle Hebrews 11:9-10,17-23,32-40 Gospel Matthew 1:1-25 Tone 7th

Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school. Coffee hour. **Nativity vespers / Божићно вечерње** at 1 pm, confession to follow
Nativity Vigil / Божићно бденије at 6 pm

We are praying especially for: Mary Book, Millie Stapinski, Ceba Severns, Radovan Jovanovich, Delores Malinovich, Art Schumann, Zoran Nikitovich, Richard Jovanovich, Dragan Krstarevic, 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 7 - The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ / Рођење Господа Исуса Христа / Божић

9- St Stephen the Archdeacon / Св Стефан Архиђакон

14 – St Basil the Great / Old calendar New Year / Св Василије Велики / Старокалендарска Нова Година

Pomens: +Andrew and +Martha Elich, +George and +Anna Malinovich, +Michael O'Leary, +Michael Kljaich, given by Millie O'Leary. +Rajko Radojevich, given by Fr Aleksandar & family.

Please be advised, no pomens for Christmas and other Major Holy Days.

We will have the oath of office for the church board and other newly elected board members of the church groups on Sunday, January 13 after the Divine Liturgy. Please make sure you are in church that Sunday.

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!

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** or you may hear sometimes **Vaistinu se rodi**, which means the same.

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 Apodosis or Leave-taking of the Feast which is January 13.

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

Occasionally we see dates in religious books, bulletin or calendars like June 4 / 17 or September 1 /14 and we may get confused about why we have two dates. The first number is the church calendar date and the second is the date according to our old Julian calendar, which is always 13 days behind. The celebration of the Birth of Christ Jesus is December 25 /January 7. This means the church calendar states the Nativity of Christ is December 25, which is true but for us who follow the Julian calendar December 25 is actually January 7, again because we are 13 days behind.

Please keep the Nativity Fast until the Feast of Nativity and receive the Mysteries, especially on the Feast of Nativity. Let us remind ourselves that members/stewards in good standing are not just the one who pay their financial obligations but who are active in worship and church life and who receive the Mysteries regularly.

После литургије сиђите доле у салу на кафу и разговор са пријатељима и парохијанима.

Од Божића до Нове Године се поздрављамо са Христос се роди а одговор Воистину се роди. Од Божића до Крстовдана се не пости. Крстовдан, дан пре Богојављења је постан дан.