

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, March 8 – Sunday of St Gregory Palamas / Nedelja Sv Grigorija Palame

Epistle Hebrews 1:10-2:3; Hebrews 7:26-8:2 Gospel Mark 2:1-12; John 10:9-16 tone 6th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy of St Basil at 10 am Church school and coffee hour
Deanery Lenten vespers at 6 pm. Holy Arch Michael church in Lansing, IL Homilist: Fr Vladimir Lange

Wednesday, March 11 Lenten hours at 8 am; Confession at 8:40 am; Presanctified Liturgy at 9 am

Saturday, March 14 Vigil/confession at 5 pm

Sunday, March 15 – Sunday of veneration of holy cross / Nedelja poklonjenja krstu

Epistle Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel Mark 8:34-9:1 tone 7th

3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy of St Basil at 10 am. Fr Aleksandar will have a class with students/teachers/parents in the church after Liturgy. Kolo anniversary luncheon under the church. All invited.
Deanery Lenten vespers at 6 pm. St Elijah Church in Merrillville, IN. Homilist: Fr Radovan Jakovljevic

Upcoming Feast days and events:

March 22 – Deanery Lenten vespers in our church. Plan to attend. Mark your calendar now!

We are praying especially for: Richard Jovanovich, Michelle and Pete Honiotes, Stevan Lunich, Steva Iacsin, Sandy Grundy, Nicholas Malinovich, Dusan Cvjetkovic, Roger Trizna, John Radakovich, Russell Johnston, Edward Phelon, Gayle Shimek, Angela Hartz, Paul Bielich, and all others in our parish who are ill, afflicted, suffering, in need of our prayers, and/or unable to attend services. May Our Lord Jesus Christ Touch Them with His Healing Hand!

Pomens (litany for departed) +Dimitrije Sajić, given by Velibor Sajić and family; +Radovan Jovanovich, given by Kirk/Jackie Stapinski; +Sreto Šuvira, given by Novica Šuvira; +Nikola Nikolić, given by Ružica Palavestrić;

Culture Club will sponsor a food drive during Great Lent to give to a local food bank We ask for non-perishable food items and toiletries. If you like to give a monetary donation, you can make your check to Culture Club and give your donation to Nancy Cora. Thanks.

All parishioners should observe Great Lent by attending services, fasting, increasing prayers and strengthening relationship with God. Great Lent is not meant to be a "burden" for the faithful but rather a voluntary change of everyday routine and to be more attentive to one's spiritual life. The reason for serving Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday is to enable everyone to receive spiritual food more often and become closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Confess your sins and receive Holy Communion often, every week at least once. Suggested reading for Lent is the Old Testament, the first five books and the prophesy as well as appointed verses in the New Testament for every day. Spend more time with your prayer book instead of your cell phone and time on social media. Share your free time to help others.

Make this Great Lent a special and beneficial time for your soul and body. Please let Fr Aleksandar know to bring Holy Communion to your home if you are unable to attend worship services. Divine and Presanctified Liturgies during Lent are the worship services when you may receive Holy Communion. Vespers, Vigil, Hours and other services are not Eucharistic and Holy Communion is not offered in these services.

It is useful to remind ourselves occasionally how to properly and respectfully enter and behave in the church. Before the church door, please leave all conversation and laughing outside and think about entering God's House. As soon as you enter the church cross yourself and say "O God, have mercy upon me a sinner". The ikon which sits on the ikon stand in the vestibule by the entrance should be venerated and not neglected. In fact, all the ikons in the church must be venerated! The proper way of venerating an ikon is to cross yourself and make a small metania twice, kiss the ikon, cross again and make another metania. This is the proper Orthodox way to venerate all ikons in church. Metania is performed by first making the [sign of the cross](#). Then, one bends from the waist, reaches toward the floor with the right-hand open and facing outward, and touches the floor. In case you physically have a problem doing it, just do your best.

If you come to church before liturgy and during the reading of hours, please piously listen to it. During the reading of psalms, you can sit down. A reader will give a sign when you can sit or stand. If you prefer to sit down because of health issues, you may do so.

During the liturgy, all type of conversation in the church is not permitted. During the liturgy and other services, everyone should be in the sanctuary taking part in the worship and never congregating in the back, around the candles, or downstairs!

Some Sundays we don't have a choir, and we are expected to sing as a congregation together.

At the end of the liturgy, remember to venerate all ikons, and before you approach the priest place your right hand over left and receive the blessed bread. Leave the church piously and quietly, but before leaving the church turn toward the altar and bow down saying a small prayer or just "O Lord, Jesus Christ, thank you for today's service".

После литургије сви који су се причестили треба да остану у цркви и да прочитају молитве после причести које се налазе на крају књиге за праћење литургије.

У недељу 22 марта увече у 18 часова у нашој цркви ће бити великопосно вечерње нашег јуж Чикашког намесништва. Планирајте да дођете. После вечерњег, у сали ће бити вечера. Жене се умољавају да донесу посне колаче или пите за вечеру и оставе у цркви пре вечерње молитве.

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!
Идите у миру, волите и служите Господа!