

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, March 31 – Sunday of St Gregory of 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 2nd
3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 10 am. Church school and coffee hour
Deanery vespers at Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Chicago at 6 pm. Homilist Fr Aleksandar Petrovic

Tuesday, April 2 – Lenten Retreat in our Parish Vespers at 6 pm, light dinner in the social center (free-will donation) and a presentation will begin at 7 pm. The guest speaker is protodeacon Dr Jovan Anicic. Topic: “The Cross as a constant witness and an inspiration in our lives” Q & A session to follow. Plan to attend and bring your family and friends.

Wednesday, April 3 Lenten Hours at 8 am; Confession at 8:40 am; Presanctified Liturgy at 9 am.

Saturday, April 6 Fr Aleksandar will serve in East Moline at Assumption Greek Church for the Serb community in Quad City There will be no vigil and confession in our church. Confession on Sunday morning at 9:20 am

Sunday, April 7 – Sunday of veneration of the holy cross / Annunciation / Blagovesti

Epistle Heb. 2:11-18; Heb. 4:14-5:6 Gospel Luke 1:24-38; Mark 8:34-9:1 tone 3rd
3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great at 10 am. Church school and coffee hour
Deanery vespers at St Stephen of Decani church in Chicago at 6 pm. Homilist Fr Dobrivoje Milunovic

Upcoming Feast days and events:

April 27 – Lazarus Saturday / Beginning of Holy Week
28 – Palm Sunday / Cveti / His Grace Bishop Longing will serve the Liturgy

We are praying especially for: Radovan Jovanovich, Richard and Nancy Jovanovich, Michelle Honiotes, Stevan Lunich, Craig Vercelote, Steva Iacsin, Nicholas Malinovich, Natalie Radakovich, Alexandra Starcevic, Genevieve Ostoich, Donald Laketa, Draginja Lukin, Roger Trizna, Kathy Petkovich, Gene Denonovich, Momcilo Lecic (Moline), 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!

Pomens (Litany) + Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor Sajic family; +Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin family; +Paul Shimek given by Gayle Shimek; +Gabriel Carreno Sr, given by Joseph Orlovich Jr family; +Nicholas Ostoich and +Mary Babich, given by Genevieve Ostoich; +Milorad Arsenovic, given by Rajko Arsenovic family;

The Lenten Journey: “The Cross as a constant witness and an inspiration in our lives” Tuesday, April 2 in our church! Vespers at 6 pm, dinner in the social center (upper hall) at 7 pm, free-will donation, with a presentation by guest speaker protodeacon Dr Jovan Anicic; Q & A session to follow. Plan to attend and bring your family and friends.

The St. George Culture Club is hosting an “Orthodox Baby Shower” during Great Lent and Holy Week to help mothers in need. We are working with Morning Star Mission Ministries located in Joliet. They are in need of the following items: Diapers (All Sizes), Baby Wipes, Baby Formula, Baby Food, Baby Cereal, Toiletries (disposable razors, deodorant, lotion, toothpaste)
Items can be placed in the large box labeled “Orthodox Baby Shower” located in the bottom level of the narthex. Donations will be picked up on Bright Monday. Monetary donations are welcome. Please make checks payable to St. George Culture Club. Please contact Kristy Kourkoumelis (kristy.kourkoumelis@gmail.com) with any questions.

The presanctified Liturgy was created by St. Gregory the Dialogist in the 7th century as a Lenten Vespers Liturgy without the Eucharistic prayer. The Communion - Body and Blood of Christ, is consecrated in a previous Liturgy. These Liturgies are served to enable Orthodox Christians to partake of Communion more often during the Great Lent. For preparation for the evening communion, please consult Fr Aleksandar.

Weather and grass conditions permitting, Culture Club will sponsor an Easter Egg Hunt for church school students and guests on Sunday, 05.05.24. Children must come downstairs after Liturgy to get a bag and be grouped by age/size, then all will go outside together and go to the area of the lawn for their age group.

We are seeking donations of Pre-Stuffed Plastic Eggs for this event. Eggs can be stuffed with candy, coins, favors, stickers, etc. Items may be on sale now, through and after Western Easter which is March 31st.

By the time our Easter nears 5 weeks after Western Easter, all of the Easter eggs, candy, favors, etc. will be gone from the stores, so purchasing those items over the next 7-10 days and immediately after 03.31.24 would be a good idea.

Donations can be brought to any of the classroom’s downstairs, left near the teacher/desk area.

Culture Club thanks you for your support of our efforts for our St. George children and young visitors!

The Prayer of St. Ephrem of Syria:

O Lord and Master of my life, a spirit of idleness, despondency, ambition, and idle talking give me not. *Prostration*
But rather a spirit of chastity, humble-mindedness, patience, and love bestow upon me Thy servant. *Prostration*
Yea, O Lord King, grant me to see my own failings and not condemn my brother; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages.
Amen. Prostration

Go in Peace to Love and Serve the Lord!