

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, June 30 – Sunday of All Saints / Nedelja Svih Svetih

Epistle Hebrews 11:33-12:2 Gospel Matthew 10:32,33,37-38; 19 27-30 tone 8th, 3rd & 6th hours at 8:40 am;
Divine Liturgy at 9 am. Vidovdan parastos and luncheon in the upper-level bar. Kolo sestara meeting

Monday, July 1 – Beginning of Apostolic fast / Početak Apostolskog posta Vigil/confession at 6 pm

Tuesday, July 2 – St John of San Francisco (Maximovich) Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Sunday, July 7 – Second Sunday after Pentecost / Nativity of St John the Baptist / Ivanjdan

Epistle Rom. 2:10-16 Rom. 13:11-14:4 Gospel Matt. 4:18-23 & Luke 1:5-25, 57-68, 76, 80 tone 1st
3rd & 6th hours at 8:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 9 am. Coffee hour

Upcoming Feast days and events:

July 12 – Ss Peter and Paul / Petrovdan
13 – St Mardarije' Day in St Sava Monastery in Libertyville
14 – 6 months parastos for + Fr Nedeljko
28 – Annual Serbfest/Picnic at St Joe Park in Joliet/ Godišnji crkveni piknik u St Joseph parku u Joliet

We are praying especially for: Radovan Jovanovich, Richard and Nancy Jovanovich, Michelle Honiotes, Stevan Lunich, Craig Vercelote, Sandy Grundy, Nicholas Malinovich, Natalie Radakovich, Alexandra Starceвич, Genevieve Ostoich, Roger Trizna, Gayle Shimek, Olivera Gligorevic, Milenko Rajak, Micah Epps, 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 Sajić, given by Velibor Sajić family; +Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin family; +Milorad Arsenović, given by Rajko Arsenović family; +Steve Pyevich, given by Pam Duncan; +Nicole Kundrat and +Dan Arangelovich, given by Radovan/Darlene Jovanovich; +Donna Moses, given by Ron Moses and family;

Dear Parishioners, beginning Monday, July 8th, the entire Social Center parking lot will be resurfaced, resealed, and restriped. This means there will be no access to foot or vehicular traffic the entire week through Friday, July 12th. Thank you, Dan Dorsey

The Nativity of Mother of God Monastery near South Bend, IN needs our prayers and support. Currently, they have many financial struggles, and an elderly nun who has been in the monastery since the beginning of the 1980's is ill. Please keep Mother Makrena and sisters in your prayers and especially Mother Antonina who is ill. If you can, please send them your contribution to help with their financial struggles. You can send your check to: The Nativity of the Mother of God Monastery, 32787 Early Rd, New Carlisle, IN 46552. Or you can make your check to St George Church, and in the memo note it is for the monastery in IN. Thank you, and may God reward you.

"The benefit of fasting," teaches Saint Basil the Great, "is not limited by the abstinence of food alone, because true fasting is the eradication of evil deeds. Everyone should become liberated from lies. Forgive your neighbor when he insults you; forgive him his debts. You don't eat meat, but hurt your brother ... We will fast in a way that is pleasing to God. A true fast is the elimination of evil, restraint of what one says, suppression of anger, the alienation of lust, malignant gossip, lies, and perjury. Abstinence from all these is true fasting." In summary, just as we fell into sin and lost heavenly bliss because of the lack of restraint of our forefathers, so through voluntary fasting we can restore in ourselves the grace of God.

During the church services all faithful should chant responses. It is not just a priest and choir/chanter dialog but the entire church. Please get more active during the services and praise your Lord

Parastos or Panikhida is a memorial service in the Orthodox Church, praying for the repose of the departed, comforting the living, and reminding the living of their own mortality and the brevity of this earthly life. The service can be held at the graveside of the departed or in church. The service is composed of Psalms, ektenias (litanies), hymns and prayers. In its outline it follows the general order of Matins and is, in effect, a truncated funeral service. The Parastos is most frequently served at the end of the Divine Liturgy; however, it may also be served after Vespers, Matins, or as a separate service by itself. For the service koljivo is prepared and placed on the table next to the Cross and candle. The koljivo is symbolic of the resurrection of the dead on the day of the second coming of the Lord. St Paul said, "**what you sow does not come to life unless it dies**" (I Corinthians 15:36), and St John, "**unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit**" (John 12:24). Koljivo is cooked wheat mixed with various dried fruits, sugar/honey and different spices and it is prepared by the family or friends. The top of the koljivo is decorated with candy, sugar cubes, walnuts, raisin, and powder sugar and such. Most people make a cross out of candy or raisins on top of the koljivo. After the memorial service the priest will pour red wine in the shape of a cross over the koljivo which represents that the blood of Christ washes away the sins of reposed. After the service, koljivo is served to all those who attend the service. Parastos is performed in the Orthodox Church traditionally on the 40th day after the repose, it should be done exactly on 40th day, six months and one year anniversary of the repose. Parastos is served on Memorial Saturdays – zadušnice Parastos can be performed at any time the relatives like to have memorial service for their beloved ones.

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