

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest
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Sunday, December 17 – 28th Sunday after Pentecost / Great Martyr Barbara/ Sv mučenica Varvara
Epistle Col. 1:12-18; Gal. 3:23-29 Gospel Luke 17:12-19; Mark 5:24-34 tone 3rd
3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school, coffee hour. Kolo sisters meeting.

Monday, December 18 Vigil / confession at 6 pm

Tuesday, December 19 - St Nicholas the Wonderworker / Sv Nikola Čudotvorac Divine Liturgy at 9 am
Pomens: +Sophia Komadina Peters, given by Dr Howard Grundy

Saturday, December 23 Vigil/confession at 5 pm

Sunday, December 24 – Sunday of Holy Forefathers / Serbian Mother's Day - Materice

Epistle Col. 3:4-11 Gospel Luke 14:16-24 tone 4th
3rd & 6th hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Coffee hour. Fr Alex will have a class with church school students/teachers and parents in church after the liturgy

Upcoming Feast days and events:

December 25 – St Spiridon and St Herman of Alaska

31 – Serbian Father's Day – Očevi

January 2 – St Ignatius of Antioch and St John of Kronstadt / Sv Ignjatije I Sv Jovan Kronštacki

We are praying especially for: Radovan Jovanovich, Richard and Nancy Jovanovich, Christopher, Sandy Grundy, Michelle Honiotes, Stevan Lunich, Craig Vercelote, Steva Iacsin, Nicholas Malinovich, Jovanka Rastović, Natalie Radakovich, Alexandra Starceвич, V Rev Sava Cakardich, 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; +Janice Taylor, given by Dr's Mike/Nadine Keer; +Marion Oldham and +Nicholas Ostoich, given by Gayle Shimek and family; +Zorka Miller, given by Vivian Tadin;

In preparation for a joyous Nativity, some Orthodox Serbs plant wheat in a pot on the Feast of St. Barbara, and eat the cooked and sweetened wheat together with other cooked grains like barley and corn. In some areas this is the tradition on St. Nicholas. Two Sundays before Nativity is Serbian Mother's Day - Materice, when children tie their mothers' and grandmothers' legs together, and in return they get symbolic presents. The same is done with fathers and grandfathers on the next Sunday. Tying the legs represents the bonds and love in the family before the Feast of the Birth of our Savior.

The proper way is to cross your arms when receiving Holy Communion, open your mouth, and put your head back. We cross our arms over our chest with our **right arm over our left**, symbolizing the superiority of the sheep on Christ's right to the goats on his left, as spoken about by Christ in Matthew 25. Not only does this position seal the cross upon ourselves as we approach the precious Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, but it also indicates our submission to Christ: that we are receiving His holy Gifts from Him. It also has the practical benefit of keeping our hands out of the way of the cloth, chalice, spoon, and priest, lest we accidentally cause the precious Gifts to be spilled or fall.

It is time to renew your annual subscription for the Serb which is \$20 if you would like to continue to receive it in the mail. If anyone would prefer a hard copy of the Serb to receive instead of an electronic version, please pay \$20 and make a note that it was for the Serb subscription.

A special booklet for the preparation and the service of confession can be found on the warden's table. Before confession, please take one and read the prayers and the questions to help you with your confession. In the same booklet you will find a service of confession which will be conducted before you go to make your personal confession with the priest. One of the faithful should read the prayers and everyone should read the Creed together. If you want, you may take the booklet home and get more familiar with it. Please return it to the warden's table on the next Sunday.

The 2024 weekly offering envelopes are available in church narthex. Please look for your name on the box and take it home today. Please use your envelopes for your weekly and other donations. Please be generous with your church Christmas gift. Hvala.

Кутије са недељним кофертама за Ваше прилоге за 2024 год. и са Вашим именима су у цркви код свећа. Узмите Вашу кутију и користите коферте за недељне и остале прилоге.

Нека Вам је благословен Божићни пост и припрема за Најрадоснији Хришћански Празник – Божић. Исповедите се и припремите за причест. Исповест је суботом у 17 часова или недељом пре литургија на пола сата.

Lord, we raise Israel and Gaza to You, and pray for those suffering. We ask that You provide peace in this crisis, and protection and comfort for all those who have been impacted. We lift our prayer to You, Lord, hear us.

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