

**St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**  
300 Stryker Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436  
Protojerej-stavrofor Aleksandar Bugarin, parish priest  
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**Sunday, December 24 – Sunday of Holy Forefathers / Serbian Mother's Day - Materice**

*Epistle Col. 3:4-11 Gospel Luke 14:16-24 tone 4<sup>th</sup>*

3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> 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

**Monday, December 25 – St Spiridon and St Herman of Alaska / Sv Spiridon and Sv German Aljaski**

Divine Liturgy at 9 am

**Saturday, December 30 Vigil/confession at 5 pm**

**Sunday, December 31 – Sunday of Holy Forefathers / Serbian Father's Day - Ocevi**

*Epistle Heb. 11:9-10,17-23,32-40 Gospel Matt. 1:1-25 tone 5<sup>th</sup>*

3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> hours at 9:40 am; Divine Liturgy at 10 am. Church school and decoration of Badnjak in Social Center, Palachinke and more luncheon for all.

**Upcoming Feast days and events:**

January 2 – St Ignatius of Antioch and St John of Kronstadt / Sv Ignjatije I Sv Jovan Kronštacki  
7 – The Nativity of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ / Bozic

**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, Genevieve Ostoich, 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; +Zorka Miller, given by Vivian Tadin; +Rada Albu, given by Katy Albu; +Rada Albu, given by Dan/Radoica Kilgore; +Jayne Ferraro, given by Mike/Deborah Stamenkovich; +V Rev Lazar Kostur and +Nicholas Ostoich, given by Joseph Orlovich Jr family; +Nicholas Ostoich, given by Genevieve Ostoich and family;

Culture Club is asking for PRE-STRUNG OR PRE-HOOKED donations of candies/candy canes/small favors/ and fruit to hang on the badnjak (Oak Tree) for after Christmas Eve Service. We will be decorating the badnjak Sunday 12.31.23 after Liturgy, anyone who would like to join us is welcome. Sales and Clearance have started already and will increase after Monday 12.25.

*All donations are much appreciated, but we tend to get plenty of candy canes, so if you see other sweets or trinkets that can have a loop or hook added, that would be great.*

*Ideas for stringing or wrapping treats will be posted on the church Facebook page.*

**BRING YOUR DONATIONS TO ANY CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER'S ROOM EITHER 12.24.23 OR 12.31.23 BY END OF LITURGY.**

*Thanks in advance for your help, we always have many guest children on Christmas Eve, and our own kids young and old look forward to this tradition.*

**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 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.

**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!**