

# THE SERB

*A quarterly publication of St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Joliet*  
*Тромесечно издање Српске Православне Цркве Св. Георгија у Цолијету*  
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**St Elijah the Prophet**  
**Sv Prorok Ilija**

The Serb  
**Summer of 2024**  
**publication of St. George Serbian Orthodox Church**  
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The Church news-letter Editor assumes responsibility and the right to reject, delete and rewrite any part or all of the articles submitted for the publication. Any news of the social interest should be submitted to the Editor. No articles will be considered that are submitted unsigned and/or improperly identified

## From your priest's desk

Any couple who are preparing to get married in the Orthodox Church, should consult with their priest to make sure the time is good and is not during the fasting season when marriages are not conducted without Diocesan permission. As most couples reserve a reception location a year or more before their wedding, this will save them unnecessary worries and finances by applying to the Diocese and our Metropolitan for a special blessing. Remember we have four fasting seasons when the Holy Mystery of marriage is not permitted without the special approval and blessing of our Metropolitan who may or may not agree to issue a blessing and approval!

We are trying to organize a "Family Night" in our parish this fall, possibly in October. Please share your ideas and suggestions. Let me know if you are interested and please talk to your family members and family about it.

Another church school year will be starting on Sunday, September 8. Classes will be after Holy Communion every Sunday unless it was previously announced there will be no class due to special church activities or celebrations. Church School applications for all students starting from pre-school (3 years old) through

high school, will be emailed to all parents. Some hard copies are always available in the church basement or from Gayle or Fr Alex. I hope and pray to see our students and parents regularly in church. For any questions, please see either Gayle or me.

There are four Fasting Seasons in the Orthodox Church Calendar. The strictest and most important fast is the Great Lent before Pascha. The Dormition Fast is from August 14 to 28. Nativity Fast is from November 28 to the Feast of Nativity, and the last is the Apostolic Fast which we just finished. (Please note that the dates of the Apostolic Fast change from year to year.) The Fasting Seasons are traditionally the times when Orthodox Christians prepare to receive the Holy Mysteries of confession and communion. The Holy Mysteries can be received at any time during the year when one is spiritually and physically prepared. To be a member in good standing of the St George Serbian Orthodox Church, you must partake of the mysteries, attend worship services, support all church activities and work for the benefit of the church and its life and mission. A financial contribution of \$300 a year is required as a minimum.



July 2024 President's Report

Hello Everyone,

I hope all of you are enjoying the summer weather with loved ones and friends.

While this is the time to enjoy yourselves, your Executive Board has been busy getting things done.

As I write this, the resealing of the Social Center parking lot is nearing completion with only the restriping to be completed. The weather has not been kind to us as it has rained 8 of the last 9 days. Fortunately, the contractor brought in a 2nd crew and the sealing was all completed in one day last Friday. We will conduct a walk-thru and, if all is well, move on to the next task or tasks.

Coming up, as you know, is our annual picnic and we ask for all of you to support the best you can with your dollars, baking, volunteering, etc....as this is the Big Fundraiser!!

Repairs and Maintenance never stop and I don't need to tell you the age of our facilities means we are continually fixing this and doing that.

In the next issue of the Serb, I hope to have more news to give you regarding our updates and improvements.

In the meantime, nice weather is so short so I hope you get out there and enjoy it.

Dan Dorsey President

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## **ST GEORGE EXECUTIVE CHURCH SCHOOL BOARD**

**JULY 2024**

Hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful summer! The Church Board has approved several improvements in recent months to ensure our property remains in excellent condition. Following the previous upgrades to the church driveways and parking lot, additional dirt and grass seed were necessary, and we're pleased to see this thriving. Additionally, the Social Center parking lot has been freshly resurfaced. Please take note of these improvements during your next visit to the church.

### **Donations**

The Church Board approved a \$250 donation to the St. Sava School of Theology.

### **New Members**

Please join us in welcoming Brian Kinney as our newest member of St. George. Brian attended our Sunday School and Church and has been residing in the Chicago area. We're delighted to have you officially as a member!

### **Scholarships**

Katerina Zubic was approved by the Church Board to receive the St George and +Father Ned scholarship as she continues her studies at Iowa State University.

### **Serbfest 2024**

Join us for our St. George SerbFest on Sunday, July 16th, at St. Joe's Park, 700 Theodore St, Joliet. The event will run from noon to 9:00 pm. SerbFest is a major fundraiser for our parish, vital for meeting our financial obligations throughout the year.

Your help is essential to make this event a success—it truly takes a village! There are many different areas where you can volunteer for a portion of this event including: lamb cooks, grillers, kitchen, bar, bakers, bakery area attendants, pop/water sellers, ticket sales and cleanup crew. WE NEED YOU!! PLEASE HELP!!

David Laketa is once again serving as the chairperson. Please contact David to volunteer your time and support. He can be reached at 815-263-3842 or [dlaketa@stfrancis.edu](mailto:dlaketa@stfrancis.edu)

### **Bakery For SerbFest**

Again, we will be selling baked goods and pastries at SerbFest. This area makes a substantial profit due to all the talented bakers in our parish. We need donated pastries, especially any ethnic items such as potica, cakes, bread, cookies, pies, etc. Since there is no refrigeration at the park, we ask that you only bring non-refrigerated items or we will have issues with the Health Department.

Please drop off your bakery items on Saturday, July 27th at the lower level of our Social Center between 9-11am. At that time, it will be sliced, packaged, and uniformly priced for the next day. If you cannot be there at that time, please let Elizabeth Laketa (630-247-1341) or David Laketa (815-263-3842) know in order to make other arrangements.

Many people are allergic to nuts, so if nuts are used in your baking, please indicate that on the packaging.

If you are only able to bring your bakery items to the picnic on Sunday, they must be packaged and ready to sell in disposable containers such as Ziploc bags, paper plates or clear clamshell food holders. Unfortunately, there will not be any cutting or packaging of baked goods at the event. Thanks in advance for your help.

*Wishing you all a blessed and enjoyable summer season!*



Mita Topalovich choir

Pomaže Bog! The summer is half gone and, hopefully, you have all been enjoying yourselves.

This year, the Serbian Singing Federation (SSF) Annual Choir Festival was hosted by SSS Gračanica in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Zora Goljić and Holly Goljić both participated in the concert, singing with a choir that was a combination of SSS Bishop Stefan Lastavica of Schererville, Indiana; SSS St. George of

Lenexa, Kansas; SSS St. Elijah of Merrillville, Indiana; and our SSS Mita Topalovich. The choir was directed by the talented, Dr. Janja Katich, director of SSS Bishop Stefan Lastavica. Everyone enjoyed singing together and gave a top notch performance! The entire weekend's festivities were spectacular!

Also recently, our youngest singer, Zvezdana Goljić, graduated 8th grade from St. Sava Academy in Chicago. Maria Vercelote graduated high school and is heading to University of Kansas in the fall. Niko Vercelote graduated from Illinois State University. Congratulations to our graduates! May God bless you in your future endeavors!

This summer, many choir members have been traveling to Serbia, Greece, Lika (Croatia), Cyprus, and other exotic places! Of course we are all wishing everyone safe travels making wonderful memories.

That being said, all singers need to come together and make a commitment by the end of the summer. At the time of +Fr. Ned's falling asleep in the Lord, we made the decision to sing his favorite song and honor him at our choir concert this year. Kindly, when you receive an email or text message regarding the choir, respond so plans can be made. Especially now. It is the least we could do to honor our long time singer, +Fr. Nedeljko Lunich.

Wishing everyone a great rest of your summer! Until next time...

Musically yours,  
Holly Goljić  
*Reporter*  
SSS Mita Topalovich

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**From: The American  
Serbian Social Club**

Happy Fourth of July, this summer we have had some doings with the Saint George Cultural Club. Sponsored a night out on Friday June 21st at the Joliet Slammers. It was a beautiful summer evening with a very well-played ballgame and fireworks after the game. Attendance was fair and we would like to have more. The tickets purchased and paid for by the ASSC.



Sponsored a lunch on the Sunday June 30<sup>th</sup> in honor of Vidovdan, in the upper bar room. We had hamburgers, hot dogs, sides and Kathy Petkovich made her delicious taco salad. Attendance was good.

Moving forward in for the reminder of the year we will,

- Host lunch's in the upper bar room for BEARS home games.
- A fall Chili luncheon
- The ASSC members are looking forward to serve at SERB FEST 2024
- With even more ideas being discussed

We will continue to have lunches at the hall and will get that information to Proto Alex to make announcements in church. As Proto says, stay after church and have fellowship with your St. George community, attend our luncheons, good food, have a drink and good conversation.

As always, a huge thank you to our partners the Saint George Curtal Club. They are always offering to help and offer ideas for future events and how we can make those events even better. We are always open to suggestions and ALL are welcome to come and enjoy.

We would also like to give a thank you Zakk Kocoj with all of his contributions to our luncheons and how well he has been taking care of the bar.

Pete (kum) Petkovich , Mike Cora , Don Grubisich, Stephine Shimek and Zakk Kocoj

Respectfully

Milorad Stamenkovich, President ASSC.

#### Kolo Srpskih Sestara News

I hope the slower pace of summer is allowing you time for relaxation and reflection. On that note, let's take a moment to reflect on what has taken place and to look forward to what is in store.

Thanks to all the Kolo members who donated flowers for Palm Sunday and Pascha: Annette O'Leary and Susan Roach, flower fund donations from Gina Lukin in memory of her brother +Vlada and from Josephine Orlovich. If I missed anyone, my apologies!

The Cevap Luncheon on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, chaired once again by Helen Malinovich, was a great success. Thanks go out to Helen M, Tana Petrich, Millie O'Leary, Roseanne Angelovich, Annette O'Leary, Steve Malinovich, Kirk Stapinski, Mike Stamenkovich, Mike Cora, Nadine Paukstys for food prep and grilling. Special thanks to Helen and Nick for donating **ALL** the cevaps. Additional thanks to Millie Rowe, Steve Malinovich, Nick and Michelle Honiotes, and Josephine Orlovich for their financial contributions. The event made a profit of \$1,276 for the day. Great job! And once again, if I missed anyone, my apologies.

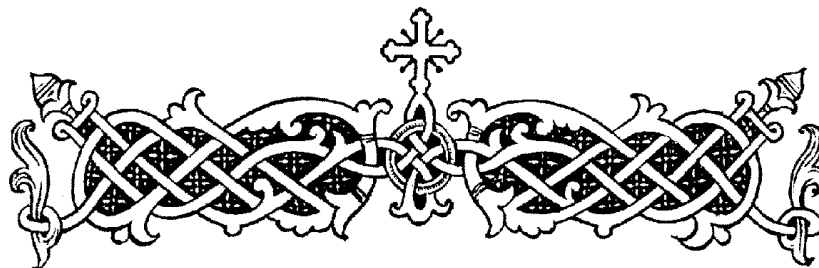
The Kolo Slava will take place on August 25. At the end of liturgy, we will have a parastos for deceased Kolo members and the blessing of Slava bread. After that, everyone is invited to join us in the lower level of the church for an informal posno potluck luncheon. Kathy Petkovich and Protinica are coordinating this event. Please join us in celebrating our Kolo members, past and present.

SerbFest is rapidly approaching, and we are hoping to offer our bakery customers plenty of homemade, authentic, ethnic deserts, something the people ask for every year. Donations are welcome, of course. Our Kolo is doing something new this year, thanks to Protinica, Tana Petrich. A group of Kolo members are going to gather for a "bake-in" in the church hall to make strudel; if you'd like to participate, contact Protinica or Tana.

Our parish will host the 3Kolo Lifeline event this year on September 8. Danielle Serdar and Helen Malinovich will be coordinating the luncheon. Although the bakery items will be provided by members of all three Kolos, if you would like to contribute some delicious desserts, please let

Danielle or Helen know. Basket donations are also requested for the raffle. Most importantly, please join us for this very important fundraiser that provides for those in need in Serbia.

Wishing you all a peaceful and blessed summer – stay safe!



## **Forcing Yourself to Pray: Can a Christian Not Want to Pray?**

[ARCHPRIEST VLADIMIR PUCHKOV](#) | 16 AUGUST 2020

Please don't frown. I am well aware of how people in the Church tend to talk about prayer. I know that prayer is for the soul what food or air is for the body. I also know that you cannot love someone and not want to talk with them at the same time. But still. Is there any priest who could name 5-10 of his parishioners who would not tell him at a confession that they omit prayers or skip them altogether? Well, we priests also have to admit that we aren't always the example of incessant prayer that we ought to be, are we? While the traditional prayer rule before the Liturgy is more or less a permanent phenomenon in a priest's life, are we equally zealous when we pray at home after a hard day of work? Or, for example, when we finally get all our kids to sleep (especially if they are small or if there are more than two of them) how long can we pray until we fall asleep?

So if we priests, whose activity is fully dependent on prayer, sometimes are too busy or exhausted and sleepy, what can we say about lay people, many of whom have to combine two or more jobs, who work long shifts, who are torn apart between small kids and elderly parents, who cannot catch their breath in the never-ending maelstrom of household chores, workload, their children's homework and pastimes, working in the fields, illnesses and a whole lot of other problems that occur out of the blue? Is

every one of those poor people who have to get up early or are completely worn out at the end of the day really eager to pray and enjoys the opportunity to read the designated prayer rule? Certainly not everyone and certainly not always.

There isn't anything surprising or blameworthy about it. That's just the way life is nowadays. Yet, I'd like to draw the line where fatigue ends and laziness begins: a border that separates moderation from neglect.

First of all, trivial though it may sound, the prayer rule, that is, the required prayer to God after waking up and before falling asleep is a must. It is necessary first of all because it is our experience of communication with God. Let us be honest: Our prayer life is mainly not distinguished by its abundance or fruitfulness. That is why the experience of praying, even if for ten or fifteen minutes at a time, is incredibly valuable for us, and that's not an overstatement. Secondly, the prayer rule disciplines us. There is an almost magic word which often brings about positive changes and makes us better humans. This word is I "must". This word is a demanding, motivating, and disciplining one. Our mentality leads us to be open to all things that are good and kind. At the same time, we are unbelievably passive and inert. As soon as there appears a factor that spurs us to action, as soon as we hear the word "must", we start to act. More often than not, we stretch ourselves and coerce ourselves to do so. But it almost never fails to be effective.



You most certainly need to want to pray if you are to have a proper and good prayer. Can this desire to pray just appear on its own? Well, it can. It can appear on its own once or twice a year for ten minutes. I don't think I have to ask you whether this prayerful experience is useful or not because it is obvious. That is why in the cases when you like praying but do it seldom, self-coercion might save the day. When a person keeps praying regularly, day after day, regardless of his will, he develops the habit of praying without even noticing it. Of course he will pray without enthusiasm more than once or twice while developing this habit. He will be tempted to do something else instead of prayer over and over again. He will have to admit to himself, shamefully or proudly, that he does not want to pray at all more than once.

Why does this kind of prayer matter, you may ask. It is inattentive, insincere, and formalistic... Yes, it is. Also, it is full of overcoming oneself: one's unwillingness, laziness, and neglect. It is teeming with a decisive denial of relaxation, sloth, and weakness. Yes, this kind of prayer is infinitely far from the ideal. It lacks sincerity, attention, and faith. It is motivated by obligation not love of God. There is the words "I must" instead of "I believe and I confess" in the soul of the praying person. That's on the one hand. Meanwhile, on the other hand, this kind of prayer is a veritable ascetic endeavor. One's tenaciousness in doing it gradually leads to one's mastering it. Morning and evening prayers become the norm. Yes, I dislike praying yet. I cannot say that I want to pray

but I also cannot already live without prayer. I need it. Efforts to observe the rule are superseded by efforts to prevent loss of focus and to pray consciously and attentively without any extraneous thoughts. More time will pass, and the desire to pray will come. It will not be the impulsive, momentary "I want to pray," but the constant need to pray, based on the attitude to prayer as a necessity, without which one cannot live or breathe. Of course, our busyness, our endless problems, sicknesses, ill-behaved children, and vegetable gardens are not going anywhere. We will never be free from fatigue, exhaustion, and the bustle of life. But the prayer rule is meant to be both useful and doable. It is clear that a small rule that is regularly observed is better and more effective than the large one that is read from time to time.

Nevertheless, even with a feasible rule, it is not superfluous to determine a certain critical limit, below which the level of prayer life will not sink, whether you are tired, busy or ill. Let there be three, two, or even one prayer, but at least it will be recited in due time without omissions and in spite of everything. For the rest of the time the extent of the rule will be normal and customary, but there will also be an option for unusual circumstances.

In this case the rule will fulfill its main function, which is to ensure the continuity of prayer life. This is the basis for the acquisition of pure, attentive prayer experience, driven by desire and faith.



### **Conservative vs. Liberal Clergy?**

A well-known and esteemed American priest recently spoke on the topic of the use of appropriate terminology for describing Orthodox clergy, both priests and bishops. Since many issues from secular society present themselves in the life of the Church, it has also become common to use secular labels (all too familiar in political discourse) to describe views expressed by the clergy. This priest was pointing out, quite wisely, that while it is certainly appropriate and

necessary for the Church and Her clergy to speak to many political issues which face Orthodox faithful, the political labels of “conservative” and “liberal” do not in fact have any meaning in the Orthodox Church.

Here is the reason:

Any priest or bishop who expresses the teaching of the Church, as it is outlined in the Scriptures, the Canons, the Church Fathers, and all of Holy Tradition, is not “conservative” – he is simply Orthodox, following the traditions of the Church.

Any priest or bishop who does otherwise is not Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who teaches that “God created them male and female” (Genesis 5:2), that the gender and sex of the body correspond to that of the soul is not “conservative” – he is simply Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who writes articles or speaks at conferences advocating for various aspects of the LGBT agenda is not “liberal” – he is simply not Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who affirms the unity of all races through the Body and Blood of Christ in the Church, that there is a single Orthodox Church regardless of nation, in which all share Communion within the Canonical order is not “conservative” – he is simply Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who pits one nation against another, who advocates for racialist politics or advances the idea that the concept of race is fundamental to human identity is not a “liberal” – he is simply not Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who advocates that human life begins at conception, exhorts his faithful to work to preserve life in the womb, to donate their time and their money to helping mothers and their children who are at risk of abortion, and to vote for candidates who oppose abortion in law is not a “conservative” – he is simply Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who supports the killing of unborn children in the womb, either overtly or with veiled terms, or who launches an assault on the Image of God through deceptive language about “respecting the autonomy of women”, which confuses the faithful and allows the Lord’s innocent ones to stumble unwittingly into grievous sins – these are not “liberal” clergy or bishops – they are simply not Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who affirms and teaches that all sexual sins including same-sex attraction arose from the Fall and require struggle and repentance is not “conservative” – he is simply Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who goes to the trouble of traveling hundreds or thousands of miles to attend a conference to brainstorm ways in which the Orthodox Church might be “enlightened” to the “new psychology” of contemporary sexuality is not “liberal” – he is simply not Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who draws his teaching for moral, medical, psychological, and family decisions strictly from the Holy Tradition of the Church – the Scriptures and the Holy Fathers – is not “conservative”: he is simply Orthodox.

Any priest or bishop who gives weight in teaching on these areas to the “enlightened” teachings of the human intellect, believing them to be much more progressed than the Holy Tradition of the Scriptures and the Church Fathers is not “liberal” – he is simply not Orthodox.

The wise priest who made this important distinction has done all our clergy and faithful a great service. We might use these terms – “liberal” and “conservative” – in our informal

conversations, but this Father is correct: there are not “parties” within the Church, only those who hold the Mind of the Church, the Mind of the Fathers, and those who would attack it, and try to redefine it – because they are outside it.

Inevitably, every Orthodox Christian will come across such people. Some of them will even be wearing cassocks. If and when you do, the best strategy might be to turn and run from their churches and their schools, and to warn others to do the same.

## **Prophet Elias: the Second Forerunner**

On July 20 or August 2, the Orthodox Church celebrates the Feast of Prophet Elias. The account of his life is found in the two books of Kings in the Old Testament; 900 years before the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. He was of the Levite Tribe from Tishba of Gilead, beyond the Jordan River.

From his youth, Elias (Elijah) settled in the wilderness, clothed in a mantle of sheepskin and wore a leather belt, characteristic of an ascetic. When John the Baptist began his ministry, many believed Elijah had returned

since John was very similar to Elijah.

*John was clothed with camel's hair and with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts with wild honey (Mk 1:6). Jesus taught that John fulfilled the prophecy of the return of Elijah. He [John] is Elijah who is to come (Mt 11:14). Indeed, Elijah is coming first and restores all things. And how is it written concerning the Son of Man, that He must suffer many things and be treated with contempt? "But I say to you that Elijah has also come, and they did to him whatever they wished, as it is written of him (Lk 9:12-13)." Jesus was referring to John the Baptist.*

There were times where Jesus referred to Elijah specifically: *But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land; but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha*

*the prophet, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian (Lk 4: 25-27).*

During the reign of the Israel King Ahab, the Jews abandoned the true God and instead turned to the worship of pagan idols. Ahab's wife Jezebel, urged her husband to build a temple dedicated to the pagan god Baal. As punishment, Elijah turned to God in prayer and beseeched Him that no rain would fall.

For three and a half years there was drought and famine throughout the whole land. However, there was a widow and her family who found favor before God. So God sent Elijah to that family to feed them. At Elijah's request the widow took her last measure of flour and whatever remaining oil she had and baked a bread.

By Elijah's prayer to God, both the flour and oil multiplied to feed them indefinitely. This miracle is just like the one Jesus did when He fed the four thousand with only seven loaves and few little fish, leaving seven whole baskets of fragments that were left (Mt 15:32-38). In Mark's Gospel it was feeding the five thousand with five loaves and two fish, leaving twelve baskets full of fragments (Mk 6:30-44). Both Luke and John's Gospel are the same as Mark in regards to the numbers. We commemorate this miracle at every artoclasia (αρτοκλασία) usually at a vespers service or at the end of a liturgy.

Elijah also raised the son of the widow back to life. Elijah told Ahab to gather all the people to Mount Carmel and also all the priests of Baal. Elijah proposed that two altars be built but remain unlit. Elijah would pray to the true God for it to be lit while the other side can pray to the pagan god Baal. Whichever sacrifice was first to burn, the workings of that god would be

acknowledged as the true God. The believers of Baal called upon him all day but nothing happened. Then, Elijah built his altar with twelve stones, signifying the twelve tribes of Israel and ordered that both the wood and the sacrifice be soaked with water.

Elijah called on God to send fire down and so the fire came down from heaven and consumed the wood, sacrifice and the water that was in the ditch. In addition, the fire absorbed the stones and the soil. By Elijah's prayer, the heavens opened and began to soak the earth after a three and a half year drought. King Ahab realized his error, in believing in a false god and repented for his sin. His wife, however, did not repent and wanted to have Elijah killed. God did not allow this to happen.

Instead, God sent an angel to strengthen him with food and he was commanded to go on a long journey. So after forty days and forty nights he arrived at Mount Horeb and stayed in a cave. The Lord later commanded Elijah to bring his disciple Elisha into prophetic service. Later with Elisha in his company, Elijah by the power of God, divided the Jordan River so that the two would pass. This of course is reminiscent to Moses parting the Red Sea so that the Jews could escape from the Egyptians.

*One day, a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire and the fire separated them one from the other; and Elijah was taken up into heaven by a whirlwind. Then Elisha saw it and cried aloud, "Father, o father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" He saw Elijah no more, and he took of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces. Then he raised Elijah's mantle, which fell from Elijah and upon Elisha, and Elisha returned and stood on the bank of the River Jordan. He took Elijah's mantle which had fallen upon him and struck the water, but it did not divide. Then he said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah himself?" And he struck the water again, and it divided this way and that. So Elisha crossed over. When the sons of the prophets in Jericho met him and saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him*

*and bowed to the ground before him (4 Kingdoms 2: 11-16).*

Elijah did not have an actual physical death. The other person who also did not have a physical death was Enoch, son of Jared. *Thus Enoch was well-pleasing to God, and was not found for God translated him (Gn 5:24).* According to the Tradition of the Orthodox Church, both Enoch and Elijah are to be the Second Forerunners of Christ when He returns in all His Glory to judge the living and the dead at the dreadful Day of Judgment. It is believed that they both will preach in the last days and will face their physical death by the Antichrist who will reign on earth before the Second Coming of Christ.

*And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophecy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified (Revelations 11 3:3, 6 &7).*

The common opinion of the Church Fathers is that the two witnesses are Enoch and Elijah. The description in the Book of Revelations mentions the power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls. This sounds very familiar to when Elijah prayed to God to not send down rain for three and a half years.

*The angel incarnate and the Prophets' pedestal, the second forerunner of the coming of Christ, Elias the glorious, sent down to Elisha the divine grace from heaven. He drives away diseases and he cleanses lepers. Therefore he pours out healings to those who honor him (Festal Apolytikion).*

A Blessed Feast to all, especially those who bear the name Elias!

**2024 St George Day**

**\$600.00**

Michael & Nancy Cora

**\$500.00**

Roseanne Angelovich  
Steve Malinovich

**\$400.00**

Nadine O'Leary & Josh Potts

**\$200.00**

Pete & Kathy Petkovich  
Gayle Shimek

**\$160.00**

Don and Diane Grubisich

**\$150.00**

Danielle Serdar

**\$100.00**

Anonymous  
Millie O'Leary  
Josphine Orlovich  
Velibor Sajic

**\$80.00**

Kirk Stapinski

**\$75.00**

Annette O'Leary  
Dan & Nada Zubic Family

**\$60.00**

Fr Alek Bugarin & Family

Millie & Phil Rowe

**\$50.00**

Radovan & Darlene Jovanovich  
Steva & Draginja Lukin  
Anonymous  
Radan Pljevaljcic  
David Schumann  
Olga Schumann  
Steven & Lauren Wojcik & Family

**\$40.00**

The Kourkoumelis Family

**\$30.00**

Pat Mancke

**\$25.00**

Jack & Chris Book, Jr  
Gene Denonovich & Dawn Huss  
Anka Laketa  
Tana Petrich

**\$20.00**

Dragan Ivancevic  
Bob Orlovich  
Milinka Pavlovic  
Nikola Radojkovic

**\$6.00**

Goran Markovic

**\$5.00**

Nadine Paukstys

**Memorials, Parastos and Donations  
April 28, 2024 - July14, 2024**

**+Gabriel Carreno Sr**

\$50 given by Roseanne Angelovich  
\$50 given by Millie O'Leary  
\$25 given by Jack and Dollie Book  
\$25 given by Dan and Vicki Dorsey

**+Ely Grubisich**

\$600 given by John Skoryi

**+Donald Laketa**

\$100 given by Susan Kljaich  
\$50 given by Annette O'Leary

\$50 given by Danielle Serder  
\$25 given by Bato and Ljubi Hayden  
\$25 given by Rennie and Roger Trizna

**+V Rev Nedeljko Lunich**

\$10,000 given by John and Bonnie Dauer  
\$200 given by The Konjevich Family  
\$100 given by Anka Laketa  
\$100 given by The Tripologos Family  
\$100 given by Danica Vukovic

**+Joseph Orlovich, Jr**

\$100 given by Roseanne Angelovich  
\$100 given by Nick and Helen Malinovich  
\$100 given by Susan Kljaich  
\$100 given by David Laketa  
\$50 given by Annette O'Leary  
\$50 given by Phil and Millie Rowe  
\$50 given by Danielle Serder  
\$40 given by Dr. Ginger Christian & Associates  
\$25 given by Sherry Orlovich-Falasz  
\$25 given by Rennie and Roger Trizina  
\$25 given by Barbara Phelan  
\$20 given by Edythe Miller

**In Honor and Memory of the Grubisich Family**

\$100 given by Donald Konjevich

**Parastos Donations**

\$10 given by Josephine Orlovich for +Joseph Orlovich  
\$10 given by Anka Laketa for +Donald Laketa

**The Health, Prayers and Salvation**

\$200 given by Emma Mrdja for her Newly Baptized 6 month old daughter Novka Mrdja-Johnson  
\$20 given by Jovanka Rastovic for the Rastovic Family  
\$10 given by Anka Laketa for Ben Somerville  
\$5 given by The Stamenkovich Family for Gayle Shimek

**Prayers for Safe Travels**

\$20 given by Radovan and Darlene Jovanovich

**Nativity of the Mother of God Serbian Orthodox Monastery, New Carlisle Indiana**

\$1,000 given by St George Circle of Serbian Sisters  
\$500 given by Tom and Susan Roach  
\$100 given by Josephine Orlovich

### **Corrections to the Paschal Edition of The Serb**

A donation of \$10,000 in Memory of +V Rev. Nedeljko Lunich given by John and Bonnie Dauer was not included in the last edition of The Serb.

A donation of \$100 in Memory of +V Rev. Nedeljko Lunich given by Anka Laketa was not included in the last edition of The Serb

Mildred O'Leary was omitted from the list of Stewards for the 2023 Fiscal year. She should have been listed under the \$1,000 - \$1,999 category

Memorials, Health & Salvation, Slava and Parastos received as of July 14, 2024. If there are any corrections, please contact the financial secretary, Tana Petrich at [tjpetrich@gmail.com](mailto:tjpetrich@gmail.com). Corrections will appear in the next edition of The Serb.

### **Pomens - May 12, 2024 - July14, 2024**

#### **May 12, 2024**

- +Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic
- +Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family
- +Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan
- +Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Tracy Bianco
- +Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Olga Schumann
- +Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Jack and Dollie Book
- +Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Debra Schumann
- +Mara Cvjetkovic, given by Dusan Cvjetkovic
- +Cedomir, +Danica, +Vlado, +Nevena Blaogovic, given by Milenka Cvjetkovic
- +Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family
- +Arthur Schumann, +Peter and Helen Kesich, +V. Rev Nedeljko Lunich and +Ely Grubisich, given by David Schumann
- +Arthur Schumann, +Peter and Helen Kesich, +V. Rev Nedeljko Lunich and +Ely Grubisich and Mildred Skory, given by Olga Schumann
- +Don Laketa, given by Jack and Anne Book
- +Don Laketa, given by Radavon and Darlene Jovanovich
- +Draga Vuicich, +Stoja Prica and +Mary Jovanovich, given by Radovan and Darlene Jovanovich
- +Rada Albu and +V Rev Nedeljko Lunich given by Radoica and Dan Kilgore
- +Rada Albu and +V Rev Nedeljko Lunich given by Katy Albu
- +Donald Laketa and +Nicholas Ostoich, given by Genevieve Ostoich
- +Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Wil and Kathy Harper and Family
- +Anka Orlovich and +Judy Lockwood, given by Pat Mancke and Family
- +Donna Moses, given by Matt Moses
- +Dragica Susich and +Mary Laketa, given by Anka Laketa and Family

#### **May 19, 2024**

- +Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic
- +Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family

+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Tracy Bianco  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Olga Schumann  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Jack and Dollie Book  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Debra Schumann  
+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family  
+Arthur Schumann, given by David Schumann  
+Don Laketa, given by Jack and Anne Book  
+V. Rev Nedeljko Lunich, +Joseph Orlovich and +Sophie Anderson, given by Josephine Orlovich  
+Rada Albu and +V Rev Nedeljko Lunich given by Radoica and Dan Kilgore  
+Rada Albu, given by Katy Albu  
+Donald Laketa, given by Fr Alek Bugarin and Family  
+Zivotije and +Zorka Pavlovic, given by Milinka Pavlovic  
+ Ann Orlovich, +Judy Lockwood and +Ely Grubisich, given by Pat Mancke and Family  
+Donald Laketa, given by Fr Aleksandar and Family  
+George +Ann and +Delores Malinovich, +Michael O'Leary and +Michael Kljaich, given by Nadine O'Leary and Josh Potts  
+George +Ann and +Delores Malinovich, +Michael O'Leary and +Michael Kljaich, given by Annette O'Leary  
+George +Ann and +Delores Malinovich, +Michael O'Leary and +Michael Sr, +Joseph, +Hazel and +Nicholas Kljaich, +Gabriel Carreno, +Michael O'Leary, +George, +Ann and +Delores Malinovich,, +Joseph Orlovich Jr, +V Rev Nedeljko Luncih, +Millie Skoryi, +Ely Grubisich, +Judy Lockwood and +Don Laketa given by Susan Kljaich and Francis Juarez

#### **May 26, 2024**

+Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic  
+Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family  
+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Tracy Bianco  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Olga Schumann  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Jack and Dollie Book  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Debra Schumann  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Wil and Kathy Harper and Family  
+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family  
+Zivotije and +Zorka Pavlovic, given by Milinka Pavlovic  
+Donald Laketa, given by Dr. Howard Grundy  
+Donald Laketa, given by Anka Laketa and Family  
+Eli, +Anne Orlovich, +Robert, +Mildred, +George and +Rose Radeka, +Judy and +Jeffrey Lockwood, +Kimball Mancke and +Donald Laketa, given by Robert Orlovich  
+Ely, +Mary and +Ronald Grubisich and +Millie Skoryi, given by Pete Grubisich  
+Sean Barrett, given by Will and Kathy Harper

#### **June 2, 2024**

+Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic  
+Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family  
+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Olga Schumann  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Jack and Dollie Book  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Debra Schumann  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Wil and Kathy Harper and Family



+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family

**June 9, 2024**

+Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic  
+Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family  
+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Wil and Kathy Harper and Family  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Debra Schumann  
+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family  
+Sean Barrett, given by Will and Kathy Harper  
+Donald Laketa, given by Millie O'Leary  
+Donald Laketa, given by Nadine O'Leary and Josh Potts  
+Donald Laketa, given by Annette O'Leary

**June 16, 2024**

+Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic  
+Vlada, +Milorad and +Ruzica Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family  
+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Debra Schumann  
+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family  
+Nikola Vuicich, +Djuro Jovanovich and +Jovo Prica, given by Radovan and Darlene Jovanovich  
+Peter Sr and +Trifko Laketa, +Pavao Susich, given by Anka Laketa and Family  
+Arthur Schumann, +V Rev Nedeljko Lunich and +Bertha Radakovich, given by Olga Schumann  
+John O'Brien, +George and +Paul Shimek, +Milan Jakovljevic, +Rade Ostoich and +Vaso Petkovich, given by the Shimek and Jakovljevic Families

**June 23, 2024 - No Pomens**

**June 30, 2024**

+Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic  
+Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family  
+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family  
+Nicole Kundrat and +Dan Arangovich, given by Radovan and Darlene Jovanovich  
+Donna Moses, given by Ron Moses and Family

**July 7, 2024**

+Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic  
+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family  
+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family

**July 14, 2024**

+Dimitrije Sajic, given by Velibor and Jelena Sajic  
+Steve Pyevich, given by Pamela Duncan  
+Vlada Dmitrov, given by Steva Lukin Family  
+Joseph Orlovich Jr, given by Nicolette Stanton  
+Milorad Arsenovic given by Rajko, Arsenovic Family  
+Smiljana Grundy and +Sofija Komadina Peters, given by Dr. Howard Grundy  
+V Rev Nedeljko Lunich, +Kimball Mancke and +Judy Lockwood, given by Pat Mancke and Family

+V Rev Nedeljko Lunich given by Josephine Orlovich  
+Arthur Schumann, given by Olga Schumann

Pomens received as of July 14, 2024. If there are any corrections, please contact the financial secretary, Tana Petrich at [tjpetrich@gmail.com](mailto:tjpetrich@gmail.com). Corrections will appear in the next edition of The Serb. No pomens were given on April 26 and May 5, 2024

+Very Reverend Nedeljko Lunich	Steve Malinovich
Memorials and Flowers	Konjevich Family (Christina)
FLOWERS:	Danielle Serdar
Susan Kljaich Juarez Family	\$150.00
Nick and Liz Grubisich	Maggie Enich Family
Serbian Chetniks, Cleveland Ohio	\$100.00
Nick and Helen Malinovich (St. George Church Flowers)	Steve and Eileen Pyevich
Pero Blagojevich Family (Altar flowers)	Nadine O'Leary and Josh Potts
Dorsey Family (Altar flowers)	Roger and Reenie Trizna
Enich Family	\$100.00
SNF Lodge #97, Joliet	Donald Konjevich
Dara Krasic & Malesevic Family	Anka Laketa
Danica Vukovic & Adams Family	Ryan and Mirjana Dorsey Family
Starcevich, Lesnicki & Brkich Family	Joey and Erin Eric Family
Monetary Donatons to St. George Church	Roddie and Darlene Jovanovich
\$10,000.00 John and Bonnie Dauer Family	Millie O'Leary
\$500.00 SNF Lodge #97, Joliet	Dan Pyevich
Michael and Nancy Cora Family	Yvonne John
Phil and Millie Rowe \$300.00 Nick and Helen Malinovich	Roseanne Angelovich
\$250.00	Genevieve Ostoich
Starcevich, Lesnicki and Brkich Family	Donald Konjevich
\$200.00	Tana Petrich and Alan Miller
Ernie, Mary Ann and Seth Pinne	\$50.00
Karen Zaloudek	Fr. Aleks Bugarin Family
	Negovanovic Family

Vera Keep  
Gabriella Lunich and Trey Longnecker  
Aleksandra Lunich  
Rex and Denise Denkmann  
\$40.00  
Dan and Nada Zubic  
\$30.00  
Jovanka Rastovic  
\$25.00 Barb and Ed Phelan  
George and Debbie Shimek  
\$20.00  
Mike and Betty Pyevich  
Sladjan and Jasmina Vasic Family  
Mary Teberg and Barb Anderson  
\$10.00  
Natalie Radakovich  
+Fr. Ned Memorial Scholarship Fund  
\$1000.00 Josephine Orlovich  
\$500.00 Danica Vukovich and Adams  
Family  
\$300.00 Anonymous  
\$250.00 William and Martha Seemann  
\$200.00 Dr. Alex and Marysue Grabavoy  
\$152.00 Cukic Family  
\$123.00 Paula Waller  
\$120.00 Brian Pyevich & Family, Nancy  
Pyevich  
\$100.00 Susan Kljaich Dara Krasic and  
Malesevic Family Michelle Efatoski &  
Family Arsenovic Family David Laketa  
Gayle Shimek Stephanie and Nenad  
Jakovljevic Stojanovic Family Annette

O'Leary +Sam Konjevich and Kavvadas  
Family  
\$96.00 David Schumann  
\$50.00 Edythe Miller Goljic Family Paul  
and Nancy Laketa Family David and Olga  
Deschamps Lawrence Taylor Family Steva  
and Draginja Lukin David and Bosa Goodale  
\$40.00 Nikola Radojkovic Sreckovic Family  
\$25.00 Nadine and Vytas Paukstys Don  
Blood Family Lauren and Steven Wojcik  
POMENS \$100.00 The Roach Family  
\$20.00 Kirk and Jackie Stapinski MITA  
TOPALOVICH CHOIR  
\$250.00 Alex and Sam Starcevich Family  
\$100.00 Sue Condon

\$50.00 Radovan and Darlene Jovanovich

Please note additional donations will be  
printed in the next issue of the SERB. Thank  
you for your understanding.

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### **Dates to Remember:**

**Dormition Fast from August 14 to 28**

**August 19 – Transfiguration**

**August 25 – Kolo slava**

**August 28 – Dormition of Theotokos**

**September 8 – Beginning of church  
school and Lifeline 3Kolo Fundraiser**

**September 11 – Beheading of St  
John the Baptist – posno day**

**September 21 – Nativity of the  
Theotokos**

**September 27 – Exaltation of the  
Holy Cross- posno day**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**SUNDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 8th**

***Lifeline 3Kolo  
Fundraiser***

Join us for the annual Lifeline 3Kolo Fundraiser sponsored by St. George, Lansing Knjeginja, and Lansing Church Kolos. Together, we support those in Serbia who are most in need of humanitarian aid.

**Event Highlights:**

- Great Food
- Scrumptious Bakery Goods
- Raffles for Cash and Wonderful Prizes
- And More!

**Schedule:**

- 12:00 PM: Appetizers
- 1:00 PM: Luncheon

Don't miss out on the fun and the opportunity to contribute to a great cause!

**For further details, please contact:**

Danielle Serdar at 630-709-7437  
or  
Helen Malinovich at 312-914-6053

**Location:**

St George Social Center, 310  
Stryker Ave, Joliet

**Your support makes a  
difference!**