

### 40 Divine Liturgies

For the forty days of the Nativity Fast (Advent), we are serving forty consecutive Divine Liturgies at St. George's. This will be the fourth year that we are doing this. Liturgies will begin at 9 a.m. with vespers everyday at 5 p.m.

If there are any names you would like to give (to be said by the priest during these Liturgies) for the health of your loved ones and/or to commemorate any beloved Orthodox who have reposed, please write Fr. Kristijan (via postal mail, email or text) with your request. Put "Attn: Fr. Kristijan" for postal mail.

### St. Spyridon's Day (December 25th)

Many Americans celebrate December 25th as their Christmas, but for us, Serbian Americans and Orthodox Christians on the Julian ("old") calendar, it is affectionately known as St. Spyridon's Day.

St. Spyridon was a contemporary of St. Nicholas. Not only was he a bishop, but also a simple shepherd and farmer, who tilled the land and was known for his great acts of mercy like St. Nicholas.

He was an exceedingly humble man. Once, he, as bishop, was personally invited by the emperor to the imperial court. When he came to the gate, the soldier-guard on duty, looking at St. Spyridon's poor attire, took him for a beggar, and slapped him across the face for trying to enter. In response, the meek St. Spyridon turned to him his other cheek without saying a word!

On Sunday, December 24th—the eve of the feast—there will be Great Vespers with the 5 Breads at 5 p.m. and on Monday—Divine Liturgy at 9 a.m.



### Nativity Fast & Preparing for Communion

We are now in the Nativity Fast consisting of the forty days before Christmas. Please try to fast at least one week, during this opportune time

### Nativity Fast & Communion cont'd.

set up by the Church, before receiving Communion before Nativity.

If one is going to fast for only one week, then please follow this rule, which is an *unofficial* rule, dispensed out of regard for people's weakness: 1) refrain from meat and dairy products (while having fish, vegetables, fruits and oils) on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and 2) fast more strictly—by refraining from fish and oils—on Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

If one is strong enough to fast the entire forty days, please fast according to this *official* rule of our Church: 1) Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays: one can have fruits and vegetables with oil (no fish during these days); 2) on Wednesdays and Fridays: one can have fruits and vegetables *without* oil (still no fish on these days); 3) and on Saturdays and Sundays: one can have fruits and vegetables *with* oil, and fish is allowed.

Fish is also allowed on all red-letter feast-days, for example, the Entrance of the Mother of God (Dec. 4<sup>th</sup>) and on St. Nicholas' Day (Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>), as well as the "black-letter" feastday of the Conception by St. Anna of the Theotokos (December 22<sup>nd</sup>).

-Fr. Kristijan



### Confession During Nativity Fast

The practice of confession before Communion is just as important as fasting in our preparation for Holy Communion. Confessions will be heard starting at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Please be in church early, no later than 9:45 a.m., so that we can preserve church order and start the service on time. Additional opportunities for confessions will be before and after Divine Liturgy everyday of the week during the Fast, as well as before and after Saturday evening vespers services. If one cannot make it for these times, please contact me to make an appointment.

-Fr. Kristijan

### You're On Board

We would like to congratulate the following newly elected 2018 church board members!

President Dixon Bastie

1st Vice President Lori Ulvi

2nd Vice President Mark Ulvi

Financial Officer Tammy Bastie

Treasurer Andy Nygren

Secretary (open)

Member-at-large Mike Zigich

Member-at-large Sam Misceovich

Member-at-large Brian Knezevich

### Executive Board Financial Disclosure

In early December 2017 the Board withdrew \$10,000 from an Investment Fund to pay current and upcoming bills.

Since Oct. 2017 a total of \$27,000 has been withdrawn. Of that amount, \$20,000 was withdrawn to pay bills and \$7,000 was used to reimburse the Building Fund.

### Appeal

Happy Holiday,

'Tis the time to count our blessings and perhaps think of giving. Our Kolo found the stamina, time and desire to have a Povitica sale. The cost of the ingredients was very high. We could use a little help to defray the cost. Projects like this keep our Serbian heritage alive. We're very proud and happy to teach our skills to our young Serbian gals. Time for us old *babas* to retire! Want to help? Please send checks to St. George Sister Circle at 1216-104<sup>th</sup> Ave. W., Duluth, MN

Season's Blessings,

85 year-old Baba

P.S. Thanks for your generosity!!

### Snowblower Bids

The Board is now taking bids on our never-used TORO 8 horse-power, 26-inch wide, electric-start gasoline snow blower, selling in stores at over \$1,000. Starting bid is \$600. Sold in "as in condition," which is essentially new. It has been recently started and it works just fine.

Submit bids to Steve Lubovich by phone: 218

### Snowblower Bids cont'd.

-722-4224 or email: bslubovich@q.com. The winner will be notified on January 15, 2018. For snowblower details please contact Mike Zigich at 218-391-9239.

### Health Donations

Happy birthday & good health wishes for Adele Colich, Carol Griak and Steve Balach from Janice Nelson

### Christmas Flowers Donation

Dan and Tamara Belich (*in memory of †Nick and †Millie Belich*)  
Steve and Barbara Lubovich  
Mike and Mitzi Zigich

### Sveta Petka Donation

Mike Jaros

### Choir Annual Meeting

The Choir will hold its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 10th, at 6 p.m. All members are kindly asked to attend.

### Poinsettia Donation Appeal

People in the past have expressed a wish to purchase flowers in their name and/or for their loved ones for the Nativity season. If you would like to make a donation, please earmark it with the words "Flower Donation."

Every year, by your generous donation, we have more and more flowers. Let's make this Nativity the most yet!

### Calendar Reminders

**THIS ENTIRE MONTH, DIVINE LITURGY EVERY WEEKDAY AND SATURDAY AT 9 A.M.** (see other side for details)

**Vespers everyday at 5 p.m. (except on Thursdays at 6:30)**

**Sat. Dec. 23**—Vespers at 5 p.m.

**Sun. Dec. 24**—(Serbian Mothers' Day)-Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m; Great Vespers at 5 p.m.

**Mon. Dec. 25**—**St. Spyridon's Day**—Divine Liturgy at 9 a.m.

**Sat. Dec. 30**—Vespers at 5 p.m.

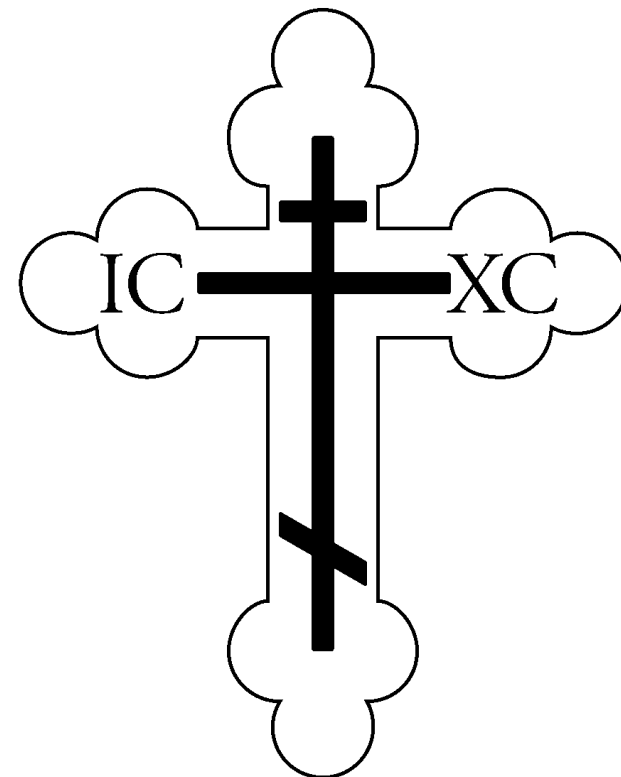
**Sun. Dec. 31**—(Serbian Fathers' Day)-Divine Liturgy at 10 a.m.

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Duluth, MN

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church  
1216 104th Ave. West  
Duluth, MN 55808

Address Service Requested

## ST. GEORGE'S BULLETIN



December 16-31<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
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stgeorgeduluthchurch.com

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