

# СРПСКИ ГЛАСНИК / SERBIAN HERALD



## St. George Serbian Orthodox Church

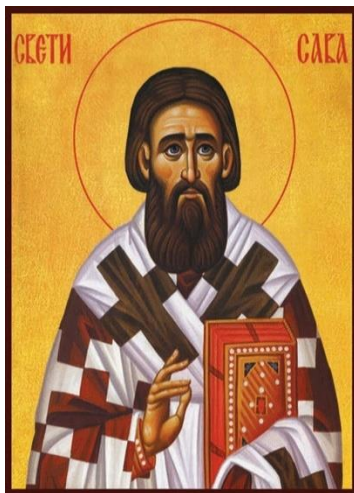
Lenexa, Kansas

New Gracanica – Midwestern America Diocese

Fr. Radomir Plavsic, Parish Priest – Свештеник Радомир Плавшић- Парох

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**Church School**

**Sveti Sava  
Celebration**

**January 30th,  
2022**

## A message from Fr. Radomir ...

Christ is in our midst!

May God's blessing abound on you and yours!

I'm writing to ask you to ponder these two questions with me:

1. What can the Church do for me? and
2. What do I need to do for the Church?

Let's see what the Church can do for *you*:

The Church is the only place on this planet that was created by **God** especially for **your** salvation. It was specifically given to you and me as a vehicle to help us on the way to eternal life.

Think of the Church this way: why try to swim across the ocean when you can take a ship? Why try to discover the Truths of God and Eternal life on your own when it's already been done by generations of saints before you? Why not just use the fruits of their labors and wisdom?

What the Church can do for you is give you first and foremost – The Body and Blood of Jesus Christ for you to have a chance of achieving eternal life (John 6:54). The rite of confession is given to you so that those cancerous cells (i.e. sins) can be removed so they don't cause you more pain and suffering. (Did you know sin causes suffering? If not – talk to me. It's a fascinating topic).

The Church has given humanity an answer to the ultimate question of death. The answer is Christ's Resurrection. No ideology, philosophy or religion has given this Divine Truth – it is only in Christ and His Church that this has been revealed.

Now that you know that the Church can give you a proven path of salvation and eternal joy, here's the answer to the second question. What *you* can do for the Church is simple.

The first thing you can do is simultaneously the simplest and the hardest for anyone: come and attend services on Sundays. That's the bare minimum. If possible, come during the week, too.

Why does your Church need you to come for services? Simple. Christ Himself gives the answer: "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them" (Mat. 18:20). In other words – your prayers combined with the prayers of other parishioners have incredible value and power. We can't do without them. I can't do without them. Your parish can't do without them. Please remember that.

The other simpler and easier things you can do for the Church is the classic: Time, Talent, or Treasure. Help your parish keep the lights on by donating, or give it your manpower to keep it functional at its best.

And finally, here are a few things we can do for ourselves and share with others on our journey onto Great lent. This was shamelessly taken from a fellow priest on Facebook. Credit goes to Fr. Aidan Keller.

1. Dairy and meat used up.
2. Thorough confession of sins made.
3. Any adaptations to the fast rules blessed by your priest in advance.
4. Reading material selected and ideally blessed by your priest in advance.
5. Plan for charitable giving in place.
6. Time arranged with employer so that the main Holy Week services and Pascha can be attended. Presanctified Liturgy should be attended on occasion at the very least; only at this service and a few others do most lay people experience the spirit of the Lenten services, which do not technically include the Sunday Liturgy.
7. Forgiveness asked of anyone you have quarreled with.
8. And above all, specific increase in prayer discipline blessed by priest in advance.

And why are you doing any or all of these things mentioned above? To achieve salvation, help others achieve salvation, and make sure we all live “a prosperous and peaceful life”.

Your priest,  
Fr. Radomir Plavsic

Христос је међу нама!

Да Бог вас и ваше благослови!

Пишем вам да вас замолим да размислите о ова два питања са мном:

1. Шта може Црква за мене учинити?
2. Шта морам ја да урадим за Цркву?

Хајде прво да видимо шта може Црква урадити за *вас*:

Црква је једино месту на свету која створена **Богом** специфично за **ваше** спасење. Дата је нама, за вас и мене као возило да нам помогне на путу спасења..

Мислите о Цркви овако: зашто да пливате преко океана кад можете бродом? Зашто да откријете на само Истине о Богу и Вечном Животу кад је већ урађено генерицијама светих пре вас? Зашта не користити плодове њиховог рада и мудрости?

Шта Црква може урадити за вас је дати вам пре свега – Тело и Крви Исуса Христа да вам помогне стећи вечни живот (Јован 6:54). Обрад Исповести дато је вама да очистите ћелије рака (т.ј. грехове) да не буду вам извори бола и страдања. (Да ли сте знали да грех изазива страдање? Ако не, хајде да попричамо. Веома је интересантна тема)

Црква је дала човечансту одговор на крајње питање смрти. Одговор је Христово Васкрсење. Ниједна идеологија, философија или религија није дала ову Божанску Истину – само је у Христу и у Његовој Цркви откривено.

Сада знате да Црква даје вам проверени пут спасења и вечне радости, ево одговор другом питању. Шта *ви* можете урадити за Цркву је једноставно.

Прву ствар је у исто време најједноставнија и најтежа за свакога; дођите на службу сваке недеље. То је минимум. Ако је могуће у току седмице такође.

Зашто Цркви треба да дођете на службе? Једноставно. Христос је Сам дао одговор: “Јер где су двојица или тројица сабрана у моје име, и ја сам тамо међу њима” (Мат 18:20). Другим речима – ваше молитве заједно са молитвима других парохијанима имају невероватну вредност и моћ. Не можемо без њих. Ја не могу без њих. Ваша парохија не може без њих. Молим вас да запамтите то.

Друге једноставне и лакше ствари које можете урадити за Цркву је ово: Време, Таленат, или Благо. Помозите вашој Парохији да се рачуни плаћају вашима прилозима, или дати вашу радну снагу да ради у најбољем реду.

Ово неколико ствари можемо урадити за себе и делити са другима на нашем путу кроз Велики Пост.

Ово је узето од брата свештеника на Фејсбуку. Заслуга припада О. Андану Келеру:

1. Појести месне и млечне производе
2. Темелита Исповест грехова.
3. Било која промена у правилу поста захтева благослов твог свештеника
4. Материјал за читање изабрано и идеално да уз благослова свештеника унапред
5. План за добротворство.
6. Унапред договорено на послу слободно време за страсну Седмицу и Васкрс. Пређосвећеној литургији треба присуствовати са времена на време у мајмање руку; само на овој служби и на неколико других лаици искусе дух великопосних служби, која не укључује недељну литургију
7. Тражити опроштај од било кога са ким се посвађао.
8. Пре свега, специфично повећање молитвене дисциплине коју је свештеник унапред благословио.

И зашто да радите било које ствари горе наведено? Да стекнете спасење, помоћи другима да стекну спасење, и да побрините да сви живимо ”успешним и мирним животом”.

Ваш свештеник  
о.Радомир Плавшић

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT ...

Dear St. George Church Community,

It gives me great pleasure to once again serve as President for the St. George Serbian Orthodox Church of Lenexa, Kansas. I want to thank everyone who was present for our Annual Assembly and participated in the very important duty of electing the officers to serve our church. In addition, I also want to thank my brother, Paul, for his leadership over the last four years to help guide us through several major events for our parish: the welcoming of our new priest Father Radomir and his family; working with the St. Michael's Church leadership in the sale of their church property and becoming part of our St. George community; and the unforeseen global pandemic that continues (although not as severe) to affects us today.

The year has started off busy as usual. The week after our Bozic celebration we hosted our Nova Godina Party after missing it the past year due to Covid restrictions. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate and we got hit with the icy snow mixture that made driving very difficult in some parts of the city. In addition, many stayed home as a precaution due to the spiking Covid numbers. Thank you to those who provided the great food and desserts for the 38 brave party goers who showed their desire to bring in the new year with our church family.

Two weeks later, we had our annual St. Sava's Day celebration. The kids did a great job with the reciting of their deklamacije and singing of our traditional Serbian songs. Thanks to Dayna Meyers and her crew for providing the traditional Spaghetti and Meatballs luncheon. As usual, it was a big hit.

February has brought in slightly warmer weather and the beginning of some of the exterior work we have been trying to accomplish. The new church doors finally arrived and the installation has begun. We hope to have them all completely installed by Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> and have a small blessing following the liturgy.

As in the past, our church continues to support many of the Orthodox missionaries who help Christians all over the world as well as here in the US. The month of February we are collecting for the IOCC "Souper Bowl" challenge to help feed the homeless. In March, we will be collecting for our Diocese to help them reach the monies needed to meet their annual budget. We hope to collect \$2,000 to send to them from our community. Since we no longer have our Diocesan luncheon, (Corn Beef and Cabbage) we need to be able to provide assistance through this collection. I hope everyone will donate what they can to meet our goal.

We will also be coming up on our Great Lent prior to our Pascha celebration. As Father has challenged everyone to prepare and take communion once a month (12 for 12), I would like to challenge all of those who have not been attending church on a regular basis to attend at least once a month. We, as a community, have counted on our faith and love for our church and each other to not let this pandemic control our lives. Come be with your church family to share in your joys and your sorrows. We are all here to help.

I also want to mention that we need to make sure to continue to support our church financially. Our operating budget is currently over \$8,000 in the negative. As everyone is well aware, the cost of everything is going up. I ask that you keep that in mind and if you are financially able, please increase your donations as well.

I wish everyone a healthy and prosperous year for 2022 and bring back a sense of normalcy in our lives.

In Christ,

*Peter Bajich*

Peter Bajich,  
Church President



**Kolo Srpskih Sestara “Sv. Petka” News**

Our Kolo was saddened to learn of the death of our dear +Sister Beverly Gerba Douglas. She served as Kolo President for many, many years and worked tirelessly for our Church, Kolo and all organizations of our Church. Vjecnaja Pamjat.

With the beginning of the new calendar year, the Kolo started its accompanying responsibilities. Dayna Meyers again prepared the meal for our Church School’s Sveti Sava celebration. Puno hvala, Dayna. The children and adults truly look forward to this luncheon and event. Many thanks also to

Mary Jean Venema for continuing her family’s tradition of bringing ice cream for the kids of all ages to enjoy and to Dijana Gagic for contributing delicious homemade Serbian cookies.

Be sure to mark your calendar for our Church Slava celebration on May 7 and 8. The Kolo prepares meals for both days. If interested in taking on responsibilities this weekend, please contact Seja Bajich.

Looking ahead to Serb Fest on June 3 and 4, it’s time to begin planning the cookies you wish to bake for us to sell. Remember, these can be stored in the Church’s kitchen freezer. There will also be opportunities in the upcoming months to help with making poviticas, pitas and other foods we serve at Serb Fest. Our Church events are most successful when everyone helps!

Sunday Coffee Hour schedule is being coordinated by Donna Bajich. Please check your schedule and sign up to host a Sunday or two or three . . .

Great Lent begins Monday, March 7, and the Kolo will again be collecting donations for Easter flowers. Please help us with this effort.

Our Kolo’s purpose is to serve our Church in every way we can. Please join our mission!

Officers: Seja Bajich, Jelena Ozegovic, Melanie Miller, Donna Lemley, Michelle Kimbell, Helen Kennon



**Church School Superintendent Report**

We have been blessed to have had church school classes since September 2021, with an average number of students of 25. A special appreciation goes to our teachers, Mira Cubric, Stephanie Mattivi, Leah Lemley and Joey Mattivi who continue to dedicate their own time planning lessons and organizing various activities for our children.

Our annual Sveti Sava Celebration was held on Sunday, January 30th, 2022, with 25 students participating and WOW, what an AWESOME Sveti Sava

Celebration!!! Congratulations to our Kumovi, who as expected, represented themselves and our Church School in an outstanding manner. What passionate speeches were giving by each of them (Anna Bajich, Nick Mattivi, Jovan Ozegovic & Pete Ozegovic). Thanks again to the Kolo for providing the delicious luncheon, our Choir for singing responses and of course Mary Jean Venema for our dessert! Please visit our church website for a photo gallery of this event.

We will continue to have church school every Sunday, so I would encourage all parents to bring their children to take advantage of this great opportunity that our church provides in learning about our Orthodox values and teachings.

Paul Bajich  
Church School Superintendent



**Greetings from St George Lodge #43!**

Hello parishioners of St. George,

Wishing you all a very safe and healthy start to 2022. We have been doing our best to stay healthy but covid struck the Lemley home. As most of you know my mother, Donna Lemley, also spent some time in the hospital, but is now home recovering nicely. Thanks be to God! I hope all who have been inflicted with this horrible virus, that God willing, you will also have a full recovery.

Unfortunately, we lost one of our members this year - our dearly departed sister, Beverly Douglas. May her Memory be Eternal. Growing up in our church Beverly was a big part of all our lives - whether it was at church, on choir trips, or when hosting Christmas parties at the Douglas home. We will miss her dearly!

As the Greatest holiday approaches, please keep our loved ones in your hearts and prayers. We will be doing the same. Let us also pray that the rest of 2022 is prosperous for us all. If you have questions about the SNF or products that are available, you can contact one of our officers listed below or search on the SNF website. That site is <https://www.snf4u.com>. Thank you all again!

Our Lodge officers for this year are:

Stephen Lemley, President (816) 599-0114  
Beverly Sobotka, Treasurer

Mary Jean Venema, Vice President  
Donna Lemley, Secretary



**ST. GEORGE CHOIR NEWS**

The SSS Saint George Choir celebrated the end of the Christmas season and year with a get together in lieu of choir practice on January 25th. Thanks to Marija Bajich, Seja Bajich-Bock, Jordan Beeves, Mira Cubric, Lisa Gribble, Lisa and Sherrie Henre, LeAnn Hinkle, Dayna and Jack Meyers, and Helen Zakula Kennon for providing the food, set up and clean up. We were especially grateful to Jelena and Joel Miller for bringing our two long-time active members John Monchil and Beverly Sobotka to participate. They were recognized with a token of appreciation for all their years of service. Jelena Miller was also acknowledged for receiving her 50-year pin this year from the Serbian Singing Federation to join John, Bev, Seja, and Bozhi Bajich in this elite club. Many more years of singing to you! What wonderful examples you all are for the rest of us.

The teenager table of Anna and Maia Bajich, Jovan Bajich, Nikola Cubric, Jackson Kimbell, and Jovan and Petar Ozegovic were joined by Dylan Meyers who seems to be taking the role of a supporting member. This is our future and we are thankful and blessed to have each of them!

We would like to acknowledge the loss of our past choir member and supporter, Beverly Douglas. The choir could always count on her help especially with baked goods and support for the Ethnic Enrichment Festival. Memory Eternal!

The Choir has several upcoming events and we'd love to have your support. The first is our annual Slava celebration on Sunday, March 27th. Our Kuma from last year, Helen Zakula Kennon, has graciously volunteered (many thanks) to chair this luncheon. Please plan to attend!

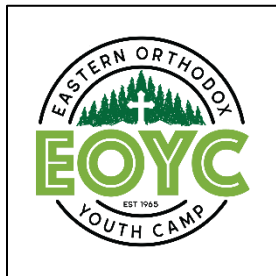
Here are other important dates:

- 1) Fish Fry on Friday, April 15th
- 2) Posno Food and Bake Sale on Sunday, April 17th
- 3) SSF Festival in Monroeville, PA May 27-29th; Bev Sobotka will be selling the raffle tickets : )
- 4) 43rd Annual Ethnic Enrichment Festival returns August 19th-21st at Swope Park
- 5) Choir travels to Aliquippa, PA Sept 16-18th for their annual fall concert
- 6) October 8-9th we will host the Choir from Boston, Massachusetts for our choir concert
- 7) October 15-16th the Choir will travel to Omaha, NE for their choir concert

As you can see, the choir has a busy year planned and we need your support and attendance at these various events. When we travel across the US and Canada to Serbian churches, we are representing our entire church community. When we host our own concert, we are showing the hospitality of our parish. Please help us to have a successful year by offering to help with your time, treasures, and talents whether buying items at the upcoming food and bake sale, working at and/or baking for the Ethnic Festival in August, attending our concert in September, and/or traveling with the choir this fall. We need your show of support and we thank you in advance.

The Choir's number one priority is, of course, singing the responses in church and we are blessed to have such a dedicated group of singers as well as our talented Director Peter Bajich. We are fortunate to have Brad Hijaz, Bozhi Bajich, and Helen Zakula Kennon who also serve in this capacity. Brad is also the President of our national organization the Serbian Singing Federation. There will be an upcoming scholarship drive for donations to the SSF. We have had several members from our own choir who have received these scholarships. Please give to this worthy cause. Thanks in advance for helping us with this opportunity.

The St. George Choir officers for 2022 are: President - Mirjana Cubric, Vice-President - Lisa Henre, Secretary - Jordan Beeves, Treasurer - Beverly Sobotka, Auditors - Brandi Bencun and Harold Kanatzar. We look forward to a year full of song, support, and helping to perpetuate our Serbian Orthodox heritage.



### **EOYC Church Camp Information**

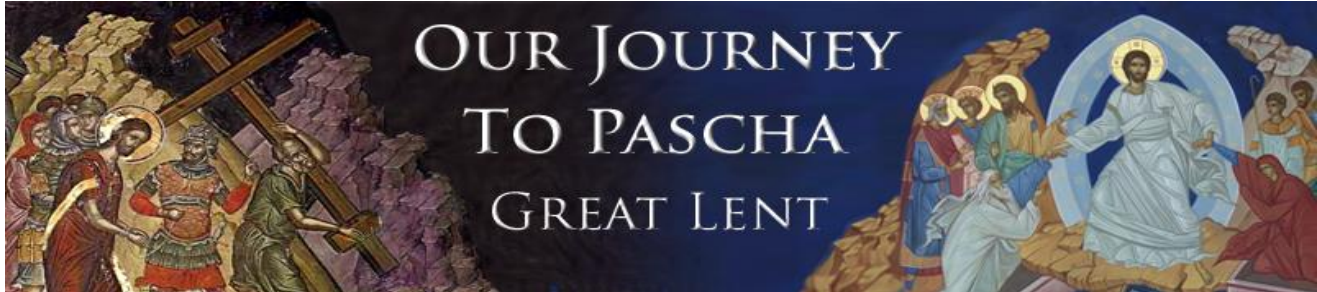
EOYC is happy to announce that we will be back to in-person camp this year at Tall Oaks. The camp week will be July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 6<sup>th</sup>.

We are still planning on having the camp dinner, it just got postponed until after the Paschal season. An official date has not yet been determined, but as soon as a new date has been decided, an announcement will be made. This is one of the biggest fundraisers for EOYC. We hope to see everyone there.



As far as camp goes, we are looking forward to seeing everyone together and urge you to send your children as campers and/or consider being a counselor.

If you are interested in being involved or have any questions, please contact Marija Bajich at mlbajich@gmail.com.



**Beginning of Great Lent ...** In the Orthodox Church, the last Sunday before Great Lent—the day on which, at Vespers, Lent is liturgically announced and inaugurated—is called Forgiveness Sunday. On the morning of that Sunday, at the Divine Liturgy, we hear the words of Christ:

“If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses...” (Mark 6:14-15).

Then after Vespers—after hearing the announcement of Lent in the Great Prokeimenon: “Turn not away Thy face from Thy child, for I am afflicted! Hear me speedily! Draw near unto my soul and deliver it!”, after making our entrance into Lenten worship, with its special melodies, with the prayer of Saint Ephraim the Syrian, with its prostrations—we ask forgiveness from each other, we perform the rite of forgiveness and reconciliation.

And as we approach each other with words of reconciliation, the choir intones the Paschal hymns, filling the church with the anticipation of Paschal joy.

What is the meaning of this rite? Why is it that the Church wants us to begin the Lenten season with forgiveness and reconciliation? These questions are in order because for too many people Lent means primarily, and almost exclusively, a change of diet, the compliance with ecclesiastical regulations concerning fasting.

They understand fasting as an end in itself, as a “good deed” required by God and carrying in itself its merit and its reward. But the Church spares no effort in revealing to us that fasting is but a means, one among many, towards a higher goal: the spiritual renewal of man, his return to God, true repentance and, therefore, true reconciliation.

The Church spares no effort in warning us against a hypocritical and pharisaic fasting, against the reduction of religion to mere external obligations. As a Lenten hymn says:

“In vain do you rejoice in not eating, O soul! For you abstain from food, but from passions you are not purified. If you persevere in sin, you will perform a useless fast!”

Now, forgiveness stands at the very center of Christian faith and of Christian life because Christianity itself is, above all, the religion of forgiveness. God forgives us, and His forgiveness is in Christ, His Son, whom He sends to us so that by sharing in His humanity we may share in His love and be truly reconciled with God.

Indeed, Christianity has no other content but love. And it is primarily the renewal of that love, a growth in it, that we seek in Great Lent, in fasting and prayer, in the entire spirit and the entire effort of that season. Thus, truly forgiveness is both the beginning of, and the proper condition for, the Lenten season.

One may ask, however: Why should I perform this rite when I have no “enemies?” Why should I ask forgiveness from people who have done nothing to me, and whom I hardly know? To ask these questions is to misunderstand the Orthodox teaching concerning forgiveness. It is true that open enmity, personal hatred, real animosity may be absent from our life, though if we experience them, it may be easier for us to repent, for these feelings openly contradict Divine commandments.

But the Church reveals to us that there are much subtler ways of offending Divine Love. These are indifference, selfishness, lack of interest in other people, of any real concern for them—in short, that wall which we usually erect around ourselves, thinking that by being “polite” and “friendly” we fulfill God’s commandments.

The rite of forgiveness is so important precisely because it makes us realize—be it only for one minute—that our entire relationship to other men is wrong, makes us experience that encounter of one child of God with another, of one person created by God with another, makes us feel that mutual “recognition” which is so terribly lacking in our cold and dehumanized world.

On that unique evening, listening to the joyful Paschal hymns we are called to make a spiritual discovery: to taste of another mode of life and relationship with people, of life whose essence is love. We can discover that always and everywhere Christ, the Divine Love Himself, stands in the midst of us, transforming our mutual alienation into brotherhood. As I advance towards the other, as the other comes to me—we begin to realize that it is Christ who brings us together by His love for both of us.

And because we make this discovery—and because this discovery is that of the Kingdom of God itself: the Kingdom of Peace and Love, of reconciliation with God and, in Him, with all that exists—we hear the hymns of that Feast, which once a year “opens to us the doors of Paradise.” We know why we shall fast and pray, what we shall seek during the long Lenten pilgrimage.

Forgiveness Sunday: the day on which we acquire the power to make our fasting—true fasting; our effort—true effort; our reconciliation with God—true reconciliation.

—Father Alexander Schmemmann

Три дара Великог поста

**Протојереј АРТЕМИЈЕ Владимиров**

Зашто се предваскрсни пост назива „Великим“? Верујем да то није толико због његовог четрдесетодневног трајања, колико због његове важности у животу Христових ученика.

Која је сврха поста као Божје заповести? Његова сврха је наше јединство са Великим и Свемогућим Богом.

**„Јер си Ти Велики и чиниш чудеса, Ти си Бог Једини (Велики).“**

Улазећи у пролећну Четрдесетницу, очекујемо да ћемо добити неопходну чудесну и благодатну помоћ нашег Спаситеља како бисмо извојевали победу над собом.

**ПРВИ ДАР** Испушитеља човеку који разумно пости је непрестана пажња ума према свему што се догађа у његовој души. Све док је хришћанин расејан, никада неће моћи да препозна сплетке злог духа или да примети дејство погубних страсти гордости, пожуде и беса.

**ДРУГИ ДАР** Господњи Његовом пажљивом ученику је срдачна молитва. Попут оштрог мача, лако одсеца све менталне изговоре и спољашња искушења, чинећи хришћане нерањивим за нападе непријатеља људског рода.

**ТРЕЋИ ДАР** Васкрслог Спаситеља је смирење и захвалност. Заиста, спознаја наше немоћи привлачи благодат у срце. И примање обилне Божје помоћи подстиче душу да се излије у непрестаном благодарењу нашем Свемогућем и Милосрдном Небеском Оцу. Примивши ове дарове из великодушне деснице Господње као награду за нашу оскудну, али искрену ревност, поведимо рачуна да их непромишљено не изгубимо, већ да их радосно положимо пред ноге Победиоца смрти на дан светлог Васкрсења Христовог и Он ће нам свима несумњиво показати несхватљиву пуноћу Његове љубави!

## Смисао прве Божије заповијести - + Митроп. Амфилохије (Радовић)

Демонска сила, дакле, удара на три основне потребе људског бића. Тако је у почетку, тако је и данас. Сва модерна цивилизација могла је да се протумачи кроз призму овог искушења првобитног, свинског. Занимљиво је да се исто такво искушење нуди и Христу у пустињи.

У четвртој глави Матејевог Евањђеља говори се како наступа велики пустињски дух – то генијално описује Достојевски – „претвори камење у хљебове, гладан си. Камење претвори у хљебове па ће читав свијет поћи за тобом.“ Нису ли модерни системи, све до система савременог потрошачког друштва, а да не гоцорим о марксизму, управо на том искушењу придобили милионе људи за собом? Хљеба и игара су нудили још и древни римски императори.

На прво искушење се чује ријеч Христова: “ Не живи човијек само о хљебу, него о свакој ријечи која излази из уста БОЖИЈИХ.“ Кроз Христову побједу искушења на коме је пала Ева, нама се открива смисао првобитне заповијести. Са сваког дрвета једи, али са дрвета познања добра и зла немој јести. Шта то значи у ствари? У чему је срж и смисао те првобитне заповијести?

Бог је дао природу, творевину, човијеку на употребу. Али није му разријешо злоупотребу творевине. Првобитна заповијест је призив човијеку да успостави правилан однос према себи, према Богу, према творевини око себе. Та заповијест стоји као провјера његове слободе, његове воље његовог става. И каже му: Употроби Творевину, али на начин који је сагласан твојој природи и твојем вјечном призивању.

Шта нуди демон Еви? Нуди јој природу у којој јесте. Каже да је она једини извор њеног живота, њеног знања, њеног познања добра и зла. Каже да није извор њеног живота и она заповијест, она ограничава њену слободу, њено биће, Бог је, наводно, ту њој поставио границе. Огромна лаж!

Дакле, каже јој: Врати се само себи, сакрићу да си ти ограничена, врати се природи, сакрићу ти да је природа, по свом устројству ограничена. Није теби храна ријеч која излази из уста Божијих, тј. та заповијест, као мјера постојања, као призив да човијек употребљава свијет и преко њега узраста и сазријева за једење савршеније хране од оне коју даје свијет и творевина.

Природа, то је „камење“. Не може човијек као биће савршеније од природе, да открије савршенство своје и да постигне пуноћу свога бића у природи која је од њега несавршенија. И ту је његов пад, пад Адама и Еве, пад сваког људског бића од Адама и Еве до данашњег дана. Чим се окрене природи, обоготвори природу, обоготвори себе самога, онда храну из природе сматра једином, а за творевину мисли да је она извор његовог знања добра и зла и најдубље његове мудрости.

Љепоту творевине око себе сматра за једину љепоту, сматра да је он пуноћа љепоте за којом чезне; да је храна из природе пуноћа хране за којом чезне; и да је знање које црпи из природе, из творевине, пуноћа знања којом он засићује себе и задобија „гордост“ живота. Однос према творевини који је освијетљен Божанском ријечју ремети се јер се потискује истина о Божанској заповијести. Она се проглашује за лаж, а ово се подмеће као истина.

Многи од Светих Отаца тврде, не без разлога, да је та првобитна Божија заповијест човијеку била заповијест поста, у ствари, позив човијеку на распеће свога ума. Свети Григорије Палама говори да је тој заповијести предукана тајна Крста Часног. Посни однос према творевини, однос је

уздржања у смислу поштовања саме творевине и у смислу трагања за нечим што је много савршеније од саме творевине.

И као што се каже код Светих Отаца, човијек је кроз свој пад погазио управо кроз заповијест – о посту. Заповијест Божију прву, у којој је свака заповијест садржана. Он се тиме отуђио од Бога, јер Божанска ријеч је управо она снага којом се човијек држи Бога. Зато и каже: „Онога тренутка кад окусиш умријећеш“.

Што значи: онога тренутка кад погазиш ту заповијест, кад се одрекнеш ријечи БОЖИЈЕ, као хране, те изворне, исконске мудрости која освјетљава твој живот и твоју судбину, ти си се отуђио од Бога, пао си у свијет, „јудол плачевну“, како каже Његош, долину туге и плача.

Тамо гдје наступа људско сљешило и гдје је људски живот „сновиђење страшно“. Онда више не знаш ни ко си ни шта си. Отиснуо си се на пучину, не знаш ни почетка ни краја пута, пипаш, трагаш, али је сваки твој труд узалудан све докле док се поново на вратиш оном свом првобитном извору.

Отуда у свим митологијама, хеленским, месопотамским, „Епу о Гилгамешу“, у митовима древне Индије, староегипатским, да не говоримо о јудео-хришћанском предању, некаква дубока потреба за повратком у неко првобитно, невино стање. Оно што владика Раде говори: “ О невини синови природе, о мудрости проста, најсјајнија!“

## Upcoming Church Services/Calendar of Events

### **FEBRUARY**

**Saturday, Feb 26, St. Simeon Nemanja the Myrrhusher of Serbia. Memorial Saturday**

Субтоа, 26 Фебруар, Св. Симеон Мироточиви -Задужнице

**Sunday, February 27, MeatFare Sunday**

Недеља, 27 Фебруар, Месопусна

### **MARCH**

**Sunday, March 6, Forgiveness/Cheese-fare Sunday** - Church School sponsored luncheon

Недеља, 6 Март, Сиропусна

**Monday, March 7, Beginning of Great Lent**

Понедељак, 7 Март, Поч. Вел. Поста

**Sunday, March 13, Triumph of Orthodoxy**

Недеља, 13 Март, Торжество Православља

**Sunday, March 20, St. Gregory Palamas** - Evening Lenten Vespers in our Church - 5 p.m.

Недеља, 20 Март, Св. Григорија Палама

**Sunday, March 27, Sunday of the Cross**

St. George Choir Slava Celebration of St. Nikolaj of Zhicha

Недеља, 27 Март, Крстопоклона

### **APRIL**

**Sunday, April 3, St. John of the Ladder**

Недеља, 3 Април, Св. Јован лествице

**Thursday, April 7, Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos**

Thursday, 7 Април, Благовести.

**Sunday, April 10, St. Mary of Egypt**

Недеља, 10 Април, Св. Марија Египћанка

**Friday, April 15, Fish Fry** Sponsored by St. George Choir, 5-8 p.m.

**Saturday, April 16, Lazarus Saturday/Vrbica**

**Sunday, April 17, Palm Sunday/Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem**

Недеља, 17 Април, Врбице

Posno Foods/Bake Sale - Sponsored by St. George Choir

**Friday, April 22, Good Friday**

Петак, 22 Април, Велики Петак

**Sunday, April 24, Pascha/Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ**

Недеља, 24 Април, Пасха Васкрс

### **MAY**

**Sunday, May 1, Thomas Sunday**

Недеља, 1 Мај, Томина

**Friday, May 6, St. George the Great Martyr/Djurdjevdan**

Петак, 6 Мај, Ђурђејдан.

**Saturday, May 7, Parish Church Slava Celebration Weekend - Vespers/Dinner/Dance**

**Sunday, May 8, Myrrhbearing Women/Parish Slava - Celebration Banquet**

Недеља, 8 Мај, Мироносице/Парохијиска Слава

**Thursday, May 12, St. Basil of Ostrog the Wonderworker**

**Sunday, May 15, Sunday of the Paralytic**

Недеља, 15 Мај, Раслабљеног

**Saturday and Sunday, May 21 & 22, St. Nicholas Church Slava Celebration, Omaha, NE**

**Sunday, May 22, Sunday of Samaritan Woman**

Недеља, 22 Мај, Самарјанке

**Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 27 - 29 - S.S.F. Choral Festival, Monroeville, PA**

**Sunday, May 29, Sunday of the Blind Man**

Недеља, 29 Мај, О Слепом

**Monday, May 30, Memorial Day - Blessing of graves at Highland Park and Mount Calvary**

### **JUNE**

**02 - Holy Ascension/Spasovdan**

**03-04 15th Annual SerbFest (Friday - Saturday)**

**12 - Pentecost/Duhovi**

**19 - Church School Recognition Day**

**20 - July 11 - Apostles' Fast**

**25 - 9th Annual St. George Bowling Tournament (Saturday)**

**26 - Parastos and Luncheon to commemorate Vidovdan - sponsored by St. George Choir**

**28 - Vidovdan/St. Prince Lazar of Serbia (Tuesday)**

**Donations to our Church can be made on our website:**

**[www.st-george-church.org](http://www.st-george-church.org), given at Church, or mailed to our address:**

**11001 Greenwood St., Lenexa, KS 66215.**

### ***Updating our Contacts:***

We are in the process of updating our communication methods to our parishioners. Please ensure that we have your correct email, home address and phone numbers.

Also, some communication is sent only in Cyrillic. If this is not your preferred method of communication, please let us know.

### ***Communication is key!***

If you are in doubt that we have your correct information, please contact:

Jelena Miller: [hbmiller5839@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hbmiller5839@sbcglobal.net)

### Memorials and Special Donations July 11, 2021 - January 30, 2022

In Loving Memory of		In Loving Memory of	
<b>Helen Feden</b>		<b>Helen Feden (Cont'd)</b>	
Mr. Jovan Bajich	\$10.00	Mr. & Mrs. Ron Pleacher	\$25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bajich	\$20.00	Ms. Beverly Sobotka	\$50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Bajich	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Alex Supica	\$100.00
Ms. Seja Bajich-Bock	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Venema	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Matt Beeves	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Worley	\$30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Rick Braun	\$50.00	Anonymous	\$7.00
Mr. Bob Caldarella	\$10.00		
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Cubric	\$25.00	<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Mr. & Mrs. Andy Gribble, III	\$250.00	<b>Peter &amp; Velma Budimlija</b>	
Dr. & Dr. Dan Gurba	\$200.00	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Cora	\$200.00
Fr. Deacon & Mrs. Joseph Henre	\$10.00		
Ms. Lisa Henre	\$10.00	<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Ms. Marie Henre	\$10.00	<b>Luka Ljubenko</b>	
Ms. Sherrie Henre	\$10.00	Mr. John Monchil	\$100.00
Ms. Connie Hijaz	\$70.00		
Mr. & Mrs. Emory Jackson	\$20.00	<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Kennon	\$40.00	<b>Marija Dodik</b>	
Ms. Donna Lemley	\$50.00	Ms. Melanie Dodik	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Lemley	\$20.00	Ms. Donna Lemley	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Bojan Lugonja	\$20.00	Mr. & Mrs. Ron Pleacher	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mattivi	\$25.00	Mr. & Mrs. Alex Supica	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Miller	\$50.00		
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Milosevic	\$20.00	<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Milosovich	\$50.00	<b>Helen Gurba</b>	
Mr. John Monchil	\$25.00	Ms. Donna Lemley	\$50.00
Ms. Marina Obradovic	\$4.00	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Mattivi	\$25.00
		Mr. & Mrs. Ron Pleacher	\$25.00

**Memorials and Special Donations July 11, 2021 - January 30, 2022-2**

<b>In Loving Memory of</b>			<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
<b>Negosava Panic</b>			<b>George Zakovich</b>	
Ms. Seja Bajich-Bock	\$50.00		Mr. Daniel Guckenheimer	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Casey	\$100.00		Mr. John Monchil	\$50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Tomica Cvetkovic	\$250.00			
Ms. Lisa Henre	\$50.00		<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Ms. Marie Henre	\$50.00		<b>Dragoslav Cvetkovic</b>	
Mr. Dragan Ilich & Ms. Mira Stevovich	\$100.00		Mr. & Mrs. Tomica Cvetkovic	\$250.00
Mr. & Mrs. Olen E. Jackson	\$20.00		Ms. Donna Lemley	\$25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Lazar Jovanovic	\$50.00		Ms. Milica Milakovich	\$250.00
Ms. Donna Lemley	\$25.00			
Ms. Milica Milakovich	\$250.00		<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Miller	\$50.00		<b>Earl Haines, Sr.</b>	
Mr. John Monchil	\$100.00		Mr. John Monchil	\$100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Pleacher	\$25.00			
Dr. Radmila Samardzija	\$25.00		<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Ms. Beverly Sobotka	\$50.00		<b>Dragi Mistic</b>	
Mr. Ron Uzelac	\$100.00		Mr. & Mrs. Mark Casey	\$100.00
			Mr. Dragan Ilich & Ms. Mira Stevovich	\$100.00
<b>In Loving Memory of</b>			Ms. Milica Milakovich	\$250.00
<b>George Bozich</b>			Ms. Beverly Sobotka	\$25.00
Mrs. Maria Bozich & Family	\$300.00			
			<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
<b>In Loving Memory of</b>			<b>Nick Pavlica</b>	
<b>Threase Pleacher</b>			Ms. Donna Lemley	\$50.00
Ms. Donna Lemley	\$50.00		Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Venema	\$100.00
<b>In Loving Memory of</b>				
<b>Emma Pleacher</b>				
Ms. Donna Lemley	\$50.00			

### Memorials and Special Donations July 11, 2021 - January 30, 2022-3

<b>In Loving Memory of</b>		<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
<b>William (Bill) Bock</b>		<b>V. Rev. &amp; Mrs. Milan Bajich</b>	
Ms. Claire Maher	\$1,000.00	Mr. & Mrs. Bob Cubric	\$150.00
<b>In Loving Memory of</b>		<b>In Loving Memory of the Deceased</b>	
<b>Richard (Dick) Gruendel, M.D.</b>		<b>Radojevich/Vukas Family Members</b>	
Mrs. Patti Haines	\$35.00	Mrs. Nancy Gratton	\$100.00
Earl Jr., Courtney, and Brook Haines			
Ms. Connie Hijaz	\$100.00	<b>In Loving Memory of</b>	
Ms. Donna Lemley	\$100.00	<b>George &amp; Andree Budimlija</b>	
The Pleacher and Mattivi Families	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Joey Budimlija	\$300.00
Dr. Radmila Samardzija	\$50.00		
<b>In Honor of the 40th Birthday of</b>		<b>In Honor of the 40th Birthday of</b>	
<b>Brandi Bencun and Brad Hijaz</b>		<b>Brandi Bencun and Brad Hijaz (Cont'd)</b>	
Paul & Tijana Aines	\$100.00	Chris & Rima Gurba	\$150.00
Bozhi & Alexis Bajich	\$41.00	Dan & Carol Gurba	\$400.00
Paul & Shauna Bajich	\$100.00	Connie Hijaz	\$200.00
Pete & Donna Bajich	\$50.00	Pat & LeAnn Hinkle	\$100.00
Seja Bajich	\$100.00	Harold Kanatzar	\$40.00
Slavisa & Milja Bencun	\$50.00	Slobodan Kanatzar & Maggie Barnett	\$100.00
Zoran & Mitra Bencun	\$30.00	Johnny Kandah	\$100.00
Rick & Lynne Braun	\$100.00	Marija Kotlaja	\$100.00
Michael & Nancy Cora	\$80.00	Donna, Stephen & Leah Lemley	\$100.00
Bob & Miryana Cubric	\$80.00	Michael & Stephanie Mattivi	\$100.00
Dragan Draca	\$100.00	Joel & Jelena Miller	\$80.00
Nikola & Dijana Gagic	\$50.00	Melanie Miller	\$100.00
Stevo & Biljana Gagic	\$40.00	Mark & Pattie Milosovich	\$100.00
Andy & Lisa Gribble	\$200.00	Paul Milosovich	\$100.00



**Memorials and Special Donations July 11, 2021 - January 30, 2022-4**

<b>In Honor of the 40th Birthday of</b>		<b>In Honor of the Birthday of</b>	
<b>Brandi Bencun and Brad Hijaz (Cont'd)</b>		<b>Nancy Cora</b>	
John Monchil	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Ron Pleacher	\$63.00
Ron & Mary Pleacher	\$140.00		
Beverly Sobotka	\$50.00	<b>In Honor of the Baptism of</b>	
Nick & Jen Supica	\$50.00	<b>Petar Bencun</b>	
Ljubomir & Tihana Tadic	\$100.00	Mr. & Mrs. Slavisa Bencun	\$100.00
Jeff & Mary Jean Venema	\$200.00		
Anonymous	\$110.00	<b>In Honor of the 50th Anniversary</b>	
		<b>for the Health &amp; Welfare of</b>	
<b>For the Health &amp; Salvation of Our</b>		<b>Mary &amp; Terry Cheyney</b>	
<b>Brothers, Sisters, Children &amp; Grandchildren</b>		Ms. Seja Bajich-Bock	\$50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Milorad Samardzija	\$150.00	Mr. & Mrs. Bob Cubric	\$50.00

**SUNDAYS OF GREAT LENT**

Great Lent ends on Palm Sunday, the Entrance of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Following Palm Sunday, Holy Week begins. It is a week of strict fasting and deep thinking about the events that precede Pascha, the Resurrection of our Lord.

**First Sunday**

**Triumph of Orthodoxy**



On this Sunday in 842, the heresy of iconoclasm that contradicted the Orthodox Faith was defeated.

**Second Sunday**

**Saint Gregory Palamas**



Through his writings, this Saint gives every Christian the opportunity to be enlightened with the light of Mount Tabor.

**Third Sunday**

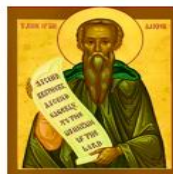
**Adoration of the Cross**



On this Sunday, the Cross is carried out of the Sanctuary as a reminder to us of Christ's suffering at the Cross and of our call to be brave in the trials of our lives.

**Fourth Sunday**

**Venerable John the Ladder**



This Sunday honors the 7th century saint, the author of The Ladder, where he describes the levels of spirituality.



**Fifth Sunday**

**Venerable Mary of Egypt**



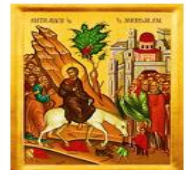
The life of St. Mary of Egypt is an example to us of God's mercy to sinners, seen through her sins and conversion.

On the preceding Wednesday, the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete is served during Vespers.



**Sixth Sunday**

**The Entry of the Lord into Jerusalem - Palm Sunday**



The day before this feast is called Lazarus Saturday, in honor of the time Christ rose Lazarus from the dead after Lazarus was in his tomb for three days. This event reminds Christians about our inevitable resurrection from the dead by Christ.

On this Sunday, Christ's glorious Entrance into Jerusalem is remembered. The citizens of Jerusalem came to meet Him and welcomed Him with palm branches saying, "Hosanna, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

After this Sunday, Holy Week begins, and after Holy Week is Pascha, the Resurrection of Christ.