

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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**Visit of the Miracle
working and Healing
Hawaiian Iveron Icon of
the Mother of God.**

October 24, 2022

An Akathist was served
before the Icon with all
faithful in attendance
receiving a paper copy of
the Icon and Holy Myrrh
that streams from it.

**Most Holy Theotokos
Save Us!**



A message from Fr. Radomir ...

Christ is in our midst!

I'm writing to you because I need your help. This time, relying on your friends isn't going to help.

One day in the early 2000s I picked up a major newspaper. The front page was dedicated to the color of Elian Gonzales's eyes... It was August, and, apparently, back in those long-gone days, summer meant that not much was going on in the world. Oh, how the times have changed...

We live in a very different world today. We've been through a global pandemic, economic upheaval, soaring gas and food prices, and today we're on the verge of World War III.

Why is this happening? Why are innocent people suffering? And are we and our family immune because we live in America?

To find the answer, you only need to look to the Bible.

Because as the Bible teaches us, wars and disasters strike because of our sins (Genesis, Exodus, Judges etc)...

Why? Because mankind doesn't learn when times are good. When life is easy, when we are rich, when nothing bothers us, we forget about God, we forget about the Bible, and we forget about the Church.

But then bad things happen and help us remember what we had been taught in childhood: to honor the Sabbath day (i.e., dedicate Sundays to God), tithe, keep the fast, confess our sins and correct our passions, and do good to somebody else.

But that's not how it's supposed to be. We're supposed to do all these things all the time – so as to prevent bad things that our direct action or word causes.

Because otherwise, we become a cancer on the face of the earth. And cancer spreads.

All the times you read in the Bible that God destroyed a city or a whole nation, it was because their sins were threatening the life and future of others. He applied chemo treatment to save the rest ...

That's why in Serbia people say that the only thing you really need to be scared of is sin. Because sin brings sickness, death, and war – not necessarily to the sinner, but to those around him. Because we're all interconnected as one Body of Christ. So if I sin – you suffer. And if you sin – I suffer.

But this doesn't mean you can't do anything about this...

Remember the conversation Abraham had with God in chapter 18 of Genesis. God told Abraham that He was planning to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. What did Abraham do? Did he say: "Sure, go ahead?"

No. He said: "Please, Lord, may I ask that if you find 50 holy men, you spare the city?"
And then he kept begging God for mercy, until they reached 10 holy men per city.

That's what I want you to think about today. The fact that our city – and any city in the world – is still standing, it's because there are 10 righteous people here. Maybe even in our parish. Maybe it's you. Or maybe you're only benefitting from the prayers of others ...

We live in very uncertain and scary times. The only certainty today is God and His Church. And God clearly says in the Bible, that you do have the power to stay His hand. But for that you need to take this very seriously.

You need to be in church on Sunday. Because your family, your city, your state, your parish – all of us.. We need you to pray. And to pray seriously.

Not just a muttered Lordhavemercy. The time for that is gone. Today, you need to pray with your whole heart and your whole soul.

Because all of us need your prayers now. And maybe God will stay His hand.

In any case, with God, you can't lose. So I hope to see a long line for confession in the next few weeks. And please pray for repentance, peace, and salvation.

In Christ,
-Fr. Radomir. November 2022

Христос је међу нама!

Пишем вам јер ми је потребна ваша помоћ. Овог пута, рачунати на своје пријатеље неће помоћи.

Једног дана почетком 2000-их узео сам у руке неке извесне новине. Насловна страна је била посвећена боји очију Елијана Гонзалеса... Био је август, а, очигледно, у тим давно прошлим данима, лето је значило да у свету много се није дешавало. Јој, како су се времена променила...

Данас живимо у сасвим другачијем свету. Прошли смо кроз глобалну пандемију, економски преокрет, растуће цене гаса и хране, а данас смо на ивици Трећег светског рата.

Зашто се ово дешава? Зашто страдају невини људи? И да ли смо ми и наше породице имуни зато што живимо у Америци?

Да бисте пронашли одговор, потребно је само да погледате у Библију.

Јер као што нас Библија учи, ратови и катастрофе погађају наше грехе (Постања, Исхода, Судије итд)...

Зашто? Зато што се човечанство олени када су добра времена. Када је живот лак, када смо богати, када нам ништа не смета, заборављамо на Бога, заборављамо на Библију, и заборављамо на Цркву.

Али онда се дешавају лоше ствари и помажу нам да се сетимо онога што су нас учили у детињству: да поштујемо суботњи дан (тј. да недељу посветимо Богу), дајемо десетку, да држимо пост, да признамо своје грехе и да савладамо своје страсти и да чинимо добро некоме друго.

Али то није како би требало да буде. Све ове ствари треба да радимо све време - како бисмо спречили те лоше ствари која наше непосредна дела и речи изазивају.

Јер у супротном постајемо рак на лицу земље. И тај рак се шири.

Сваки пут када читате у Библији да је Бог уништио град или читаву нацију, то је било зато што су њихови греси угрожавали живот и будућност других. Применио је хемотерапију да спаси остале...

Зато у Србији кажу да је једино чега треба да се плашите греха. Јер грех доноси болест, смрт и рат – не нужно грешнику, већ онима око њега. Зато што смо сви међусобно повезани као једно Тело Христово. Па ако ја грешим – ти патиш. А ако грешиш – ја патим.

Али то не значи да не можете ништа да урадите поводом овога...

Сетите се разговора који је Авраам водио са Богом у 18. Поглављу Књиге Постања. Бог је рекао Авраму да планира да уништи Содому и Гомору. Шта је Авраам урадио? Да ли је рекао: "Наравно, само напред?"

Не. Рекао је: „Молим те, Господе, ако нађеш 50 светих људи, да ли ћеш поштедиш град?“

А онда је молио Бога за милост, све док нису стигли до 10 светих људи у граду.

То је оно о чему желим да данас размишљате. Чињеница да наш град – и било који град на свету – још увек стоји, то је зато што овде има 10 праведника. Можда чак и у нашој парохији. Можда сте то ви. Или можда добијате успех и милост због молитава других...

Живимо у веома несигурним и страшним временима. Једина сигурност данас су Бог и Његова Црква. И Бог јасно каже у Библији, да ви имате моћ да преговарате са Богом. Али за то морате ово схватити веома озбиљно.

Недељом морате бити у цркви. Јер ваша породица, ваш град, ваша држава, ваша парохија – сви ми.. Треbate нам да се молите. И да се молите озбиљно.

Не само промрљани *Господиномилију*. Време за то је прошло. Данас се треба молити свим срцем и свом душом.

Јер свима су нам сада потребне ваше молитве. И можда ће Бог помиловати нас уместо казнити.

У сваком случају, са Богом, нема пораза. Зато се надам да ћу видети дуг ред за исповест у наредних неколико недеља. И молим вас да се молити за покајање, мир и спасење.

У Христу
О.Радомир, Новембар 2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT ...

Dear St. George Church Community,

The year has flown by as we only have two months left in 2022. It has definitely been a year to remember as we have tried to get back to normalcy after the almost two years of restrictions due to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

We have seen a pretty consistent attendance in church all year. We have welcomed several new members and had many visitors as well. Hopefully this will continue and our numbers grow even larger as time goes on.

It was nice to see the support for our Choir's annual concert hosted in mid-October with guests coming from Boston and of course Omaha to participate. The Saturday crowd was well attended, but Sunday's could have been better. In any case, many great comments were given regarding our facilities and especially the hospitality that we provided and are known for. Let's continue to be such a welcoming and supportive church community!

Our facility and reputation will again be called on for the Kolo's annual bazaar to be held as usual the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving. If you have not volunteered to help on that day, please do so as it requires everyone's participation to make it a success. There is plenty of work going on now in preparation of the food and pastries. Reach out to Lisa Gribble or Seja Bajich Bock to volunteer.

Soon after that, we will have our Annual Church Assembly, where all members in good standing should attend to hear the progress of the last year as well as the plans for the upcoming year. The number of attendees has increased over the last couple of years. It would be great if we could get at least 75% of the membership to attend.

This is also a good time to begin evaluating your donations to the church as well as our other organizations. Providing donations prior to December 31st will allow you to receive a tax benefit as well as help the church meet its financial responsibilities. In addition, as usual, we will be collecting funds for our families who might need some additional assistance, especially throughout the holidays. So, be as generous as you can.

I want to personally thank Father Radomir and Deacon Joseph for all of the services they hold both on Sundays and during the week. It was great to have Deacon Joseph serving again after his surgery.

I also want to thank the Choir and Kolo for all of the work they do as well. The choir traveled to both Aliquippa, PA and Omaha, NE to participate in their fall concerts. The dedication of coming to practice every week and learning the songs by heart is not an easy feat, but it is noticed by all of the other choirs. The choir also sang for the vesper service for the traveling Hawaiian Iveron icon of the Mother of God. They provided a very spiritual celebration that was felt by all of those in attendance. It even brought out a response from one of our own members on how proud they were of our choir as they sang the whole time everyone venerated the icon.

The Kolo continues to support our church every week with the coffee hour and luncheons they provide. They celebrated their Slava a couple of weeks earlier and it was evident that a sisterhood is definitely growing among them.

Until the next issue, please have a happy and safe holiday season and make sure your attendance and support for our church continues.

In Christ,

Peter Bajich

Peter Bajich, Church President



KOLO SRPSKIH SESTARA “SV. PETKA” ...

Thanks to all who helped celebrate our Kolo Slava, Sveta Petka, on Sunday, October 23. **Dayna Meyers** honored us by accepting to be our 2022 Kuma. She is a very active member of our Kolo, having served in the past as president and as secretary. When volunteers are needed, she answers the call. Thank you, Kuma Dayna, and your family for giving time to our Kolo and Church! God Bless You! And, many thanks to our 2021 **Kuma Jovanka Jovanovic** for serving over the past year.

In addition, many thanks to our talented Sister **Jovanka**

Jovanovic for her efforts to pass on some Serbian cooking traditions. She scheduled three days this year to teach us to make Slavski Kolach and stuffed peppers. Participants were either an active cook or an observer. We are so grateful she is willing to help us and does so in such a fun and patient manner. Puno Hvala, Jovanka! Hopefully, we will have many more opportunities to learn together in the kitchen.



Kolo Slava, October 23, 2022

The BAZAAR is quickly approaching – **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19**. (It's *always* scheduled the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving!) Bakers can bring their cookies to store in the Church kitchen freezer prior to the Bazaar. Many thanks to those who helped prepare strudels and poviticas that will be sold at the Bazaar. Making on-line pre-order purchases is still available, so don't delay! Lisa Gribble is coordinating the Bazaar, so please let her know if you have questions, or if she can put you in contact with those scheduling workers for their areas.

Special note: The Kolo Annual Assembly is scheduled for **Sunday, December 11**. Members, please plan to attend!

In closing, remember that the Kolo truly appreciates the assistance we receive from our St. George Church Community. Puno Hvala!



ST. GEORGE CHOIR ...

It has been another whirlwind these past couple months for the SSS St. George Choir!

On behalf of the Choir we would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's Ethnic Enrichment Festival as well as our own annual fall concert huge successes. It is only with the support of our parish that we are able to continue to flourish both financially and spiritually.

Although there were only six members of the Desanka Maksimovic Choir from Boston, MA who traveled to KC, they certainly proved its quality not quantity that matter. We all enjoyed hearing their beautiful responses in church as well as their performance at the choir concert. Also, we thoroughly enjoyed listening to our friends and Kumovi of the SSS St. Nicholas Choir from Omaha, NE. What love and support they showed in joining us to make the week-end complete. Thanks also to the

Bajich Brothers “plus” for providing our entertainment. What a warm feeling to see everyone dancing and singing together, young and old. Can’t beat it!

It seemed we had a record crowd from our parish who joined us especially for Saturday night’s festivities. After the concert Aleks Milosevic commented how proud he was of our choir. It doesn’t get much better than that! We enjoyed a scrumptious dinner under the direction of Seja Bajich and her crew and the delicious stuffed peppers under Jovanka Jovanovic’s watchful eyes. Helen Zakula Kennon took charge of Sunday’s wonderful banquet and we appreciate all of her helpers as well. (Photos are from the Saturday Concert).



Desanka Maksimovic Serbian Choir, Boston



S.S.S. St. Nicholas Choir, Omaha

The following week-end we headed north to Omaha, NE to support our closest sister parish in their annual choir concert. Reconnecting with them as well as the members of the Holy Trinity Cathedral Choir of Pittsburgh, PA was a real treat. It was again a beautiful week-end of song, music, church, faith and family.

The Choir traveled to Aliquippa, PA to be the guests for their concert as well as representing our parish. It was a mini festival as there were five choirs who performed, one of which included the delegates of the SSF Convention which was directed by our own Brad Hijaz. He was also re-elected to serve in his role as the President of the SSF.

Way to go Brad! Our delegates were Brandi Bencun and first-timer, Harold Kanatzar. Brandi is also on the SSF Audit Committee. Shout out to all the Bajich-Coso clan who came out to support us as well. Family, church, faith, and music are a lifelong treasure.

Lastly the Choir is planning to travel to DesMoines, IA to support them in their Slava celebration of St. Demetrius and sing responses for the Hierarchical Liturgy, as Bishop Longin will be attending. What a spiritual uplifting and inspirational service this will be. Their hospitality in this small but faithful parish is unbelievable.

On Sunday, October 30, we held a fundraiser for a portable refrigerator that can be used in our booth at the Ethnic Enrichment Festival that is held every August. We surpassed our goal of \$1,200. Many, many thanks to everyone who donated! We appreciate your continued support!



S.S.S. St. George Choir, Kansas City

We are on a hiatus from Tuesday night practices until December however continue in our number one duty of singing responses in Church. It was truly a blessing to participate in the Akathist Service to the Holy Virgin Mary and viewing the beautiful Miracle Icon. Everyone who attended felt the spiritual bond and enjoyed its beauty and reverence. We are blessed with the opportunities we have, especially as a member of the SSS St. George Choir.

**Donations to our Church can be made on our website:
www.st-george-church.org, given at Church, or mailed to our address:
 11001 Greenwood St., Lenexa, KS 66215.**



CHURCH SCHOOL ...

Starting August 28th, we have been blessed to have had church school classes with an average number of 25 students every week. 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 Fall Festival, graciously hosted by the Gribble Family, was held on Saturday, October 29th. A great time was had by all. Please visit our church’s website to view pictures of this event. Upcoming events include the decoration of the badnjak, Christmas carols, and our annual Sveti Slava celebration on January 29th, 2023.



Both photos Fall Festival fun hosted by the Gribble Family!



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. For those of you who would still like to register your children, please let me know.

As always, thanks to our Kolo for their continued support.
 Paul Bajich
 Church School Superintendent

Communication is key!

In order to be more efficient in our communication, the Church acquired new software to house all contact information for our parishioners, friends and visitors. Please help us to ensure we have your most up-to-date contact information, specifically:

- Home address, email address, and phone number.

You can provide any updates to: info@st-george-church.org. If you do not have email, please provide information to Father Radomir or Jelena Miller.



NEW HALL MANAGER, BRAD HIJAZ ...

I am pleased to greet you as the newly appointed Hall Manager! I want to thank the Church Board for entrusting me with this important responsibility. Also, I thank Pete Bajich for serving in this capacity previously.

It is important for our church members to know that our St. George Cultural Center is available for rent for all types of celebratory events ... weddings, graduations, birthday parties, baptism celebrations ...etc! Rentals can be specialized to use of the “small bar side”, “large hall” or “entire hall” rentals. Please contact me to reserve the hall for your next celebration! ... email: brad.hijaz6@gmail.com.

Additionally, unfortunately, it is important to inform the parish of recent misuses of the hall. Our church had to incur the unnecessary expense of \$2,700.00 to replace the handicap automatic door opener on the breezeway glass door. The damage was caused by unattended children playing with the opening device. Parents...PLEASE...pay closer attention to your children and correct this type of behavior. By doing so we can avoid these types of high extra costs which affect our church budget. Lastly, there has been an increase in cups, plates, cans, and trash left outside on the patio/playground area. We are getting into the winter months so this will now decrease, but parents please tell your children to bring back inside and dispose of all trash properly. By doing so you will help keep our facilities and grounds nice for all to enjoy!

TAMBURITZANS FROM PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA ...

will perform their live variety show on Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 3pm. The show will take place at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School.



This year's ensemble includes Milan Bajich. Milan is the son of Bozhi and Alexis Bajich, of the Saint George Serbian Orthodox Church community. He's a member of SSS St George Church choir, a former EOYC Camper and a 2020 Graduate of Shawnee Mission South High School. He's in his 3rd year at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA, majoring in Marketing.

Tickets can be purchased online here: <https://www.thetamburitzans.org/events/tickets>

Tamburitzans



**Come see The Tamburitzans at
Shawnee Mission Northwest
High School in Kansas City, KS**

11.20.2022 - 3PM
12701 W. 67th St.,
Shawnee, KS
66216

Your favorite traditions return to stage, including Croatian, Serbian, Ukrainian, Bulgarian, Greek and more along with all the instruments, costumes and intricate steps you've come to love from America's Favorite Folk Ensemble.

Buy Tickets Now

To purchase tickets scan the QR Code
or visit our website: thetamburitzans.org



Church Memorials and Special Donations

In Loving Memory of		In Loving Memory of	
Miroslav & Stella Tomich		Proto Bozidar & Protinica Tijana Bajich	
Proto Slobodan & Protinica Ann Zivadinovich		Slobodan & Borislav Bajich	
Mr. & Mrs. Milorad Samardzija	\$50.00	Mr. & Mrs. Milorad Samardzija	\$50.00
In Loving Memory of		In Loving Memory of	
Mary Chichura		Nikola & Pera Coso	
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Miller	\$20.00	Mr. & Mrs. Milorad Samardzija	\$50.00
In Loving Memory of			
Carol Monaco			
Ms. Donna Lemley	\$50.00		
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Miller	\$25.00		
Mr. & Mrs. Ron Pleacher	\$25.00		
In Honor of the Birthday and For the Health and Salvation of			
Mary Pleacher			
Mr. & Mrs. Ratko Cubric	\$80.00		



NOTE: NATIVITY FAST (Advent) begins Monday, November 28 and runs to Christmas, Saturday, January 7, 2023