GENERAL SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Feast-Day Liturgy at 9:00am

Sunday Liturgy at 10:00am

Vespers Service on Saturdays: 5:00pm

Vespers Service on the eve of a Feast-Day: 5:00pm

Schedule of Upcoming Church Services

• Sunday, February 11 Divine Liturgy at 10:00am

Wisdom of the Holy Fathers

A man becomes spiritual insofar as he lives a spiritual life. He begins to see God in all things, to see His power and might in every manifestation. Always and everywhere he sees himself abiding in God and dependent on God for all things.

But insofar as a man lives a bodily life, so much he does he do bodily things;

He doesn't see God in anything, even in the the most wondrous manifestations of His Divine power. In all things he sees body, material, everywhere and always - "God is not before his eyes." (Ps. 35:2) +St. John of Kronstadt

ST. GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

*905 E. Joliet Street*Schererville, IN 46375*

Parish Priest: V. Rev. Radovan Jakovljevic

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February 4, 2024 *31tst Sunday after Pentecost* Epistle Reading: 1 Tim. 1:15-17 Gospel Reading: Luke 18:35-43

Liturgical Message

The Lord performed this wayside miracle of the blind man so that even His passage along a road would yield a profitable teaching for His disciples and for us: that we should in all things, at all times, and in every place do what is beneficial and never be idle. The blind man believed that Jesus was the awaited Messiah; having been raised among the Jews, it is certain that he knew that the Christ would be of the seed of David. Therefore he cries out with a great voice, *Son of David, have mercy on me.* His words *have mercy on me* show that he understood Jesus to be divine and not merely a man.

Marvel at his staunch confession: although rebuked by many, he did not keep silent, but cried out all the more, urged on by the fervent zeal within him. Therefore Jesus summons him as one who is truly worthy to approach Him, and asks him, *What wilt thou that I shall do unto thee*? He asks the question, not in ignorance of what the blind man wanted, but so that it would not appear to the others who were present that the Lord gave something different from what the man wanted. Otherwise, some might have said that the Lord, in a vainglorious show of power, healed the mans blindness when the man had only been begging for alms.

Envy might well have inspired some to slander the Lord with such foolishness as this. Therefore the Lord asked the blind man what he wanted, and when He heard that he wanted his sight, He gave him his sight. See the absence of vainglory"the Lord says, "Thy faith hath made thee whole. For you have believed with faith that I am the Son of David, the Christ, Who is now revealed, and you have shown such zeal that you did not keep silent even when rebuked." We may learn from this that when we ask with faith, God does not give something other than what we ask for, but the very same thing. **+Blessed Theophylact of Ochrid**

The Feast of the Three Hierarchs

February 12

During the eleventh century, disputes raged in Constantinople about which of the three hierarchs was the greatest. Some preferred Saint Basil the Great (January 1). Others honored Saint Gregory the Theologian (January 25). A third group exalted Saint John Chrysostom (November 13).



Dissension among Christians

increased. Some called themselves Basilians, others referred to themselves as Gregorians, and others as Johnites.

By the will of God, the three hierarchs appeared to Saint John, the Bishop of Euchaita in the year 1084 and said that they were equal before God. "There are no divisions among us, and no opposition to one another."

They ordered that the disputes should stop and that their common commemoration should be celebrated on a single day. Bishop John chose January 30 for their joint Feast, thus ending the controversy and restoring peace.

SAVE THE DATE

