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

Saturday, March 1

• Vespers at 5:00 pm

Sunday, March 2

• Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

WISDOM OF THE HOLY FATHERS

When you have been insulted, cursed, or persecuted by someone, do not think of what has happened to you, but of what will come from it, and you will see that your insulter has become the cause of many benefits to you, not only in this age, but in that which is to come.

(St. Mark the Ascetic, Homilies, 1.114)

Do not desire to hear about the misfortunes of those who oppose you. Those who listen to such speech later reap the fruits of their evil intention. (St. Mark the Ascetic, Homilies, 2.173)

ST. GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

Parish Priest: V. Rev. Radovan Jakovljevic

Office: 219/322-3355; Fr Radovan's Cell: 847/219-2969; Home: 219-515-2589

February 23, 2025 Meat-fare Sunday Epistle Reading: 1 Cor. 8: 8-9:2 Gospel Reading: Matt. 25: 31-46

Liturgical Message

In Matthew 25:31-46, Christ reveals the final judgment, where He will separate the righteous from the unrighteous, like a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. The standard of this judgment is love—specifically, love expressed through acts of mercy and kindness. Jesus teaches that whatever we do for the "least of these," we do for Him. Feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and visiting the sick and imprisoned are good deeds and encounters with Christ Himself. This passage reminds us that true faith is not just about belief but about living out God's love through service to others.

This passage is a call for Orthodox Christians to embody Christ's love through concrete actions. Our salvation is not based on legalistic rulefollowing but on whether we have shown mercy as God has shown mercy to us. The Church provides many ways to live out this calling—through charitable works, hospitality, and caring for the suffering. The lives of the saints, who dedicated themselves to serving others, illustrate this truth. Every person we meet, especially those in need, is an icon of Christ, and our response to them reflects our love for Him.

Ultimately, this passage challenges us to examine our hearts. Are we truly living as disciples of Christ, or are we neglecting His presence in the suffering around us? The Orthodox Christian life is a transformation journey, in which acts of love shape us into the likeness of Christ. We prepare for the final judgment not by fear, but by striving daily to love as He loves. By serving others, we prepare to hear the words of our Lord: "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matt. 25:34).

TODAY: Gibanica Day Fellowship at HOSTG

Wine and Cheese Tasting Event with Live Music Friday, February 28, 2025

Please RSVP by February 23 at 219-865-9411



Schedule of Services During The First Week of Great Lent 2025

Monday, March 3

Great Compline and Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew at 5:00 pm

Tuesday, March 4

Great Compline and Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew at 5:00 pm

• Wednesday, March 5 Presanctified Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am Great Compline and Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew at 5:00 pm

• Thursday, March 6 Great Compline and Reading of the Canon of St. Andrew at 5:00 pm

• Friday, March 7 Presanctified Divine Liturgy at 5:00 pm

• Saturday, March 8-Theodor's Saturday Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am Vespers at 5:00 pm

• Sunday, March 9-Sunday of Orthodoxy Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

BIBLE STUDY SPRING SESSION BEGINS Monday, March 10, 2025, at 7:00 pm