

## 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 Services

#### **Monday, May 12- St. Basil of Ostrog**

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 am

#### **Sunday, May 18**

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

### WISDOM OF THE HOLY FATHERS

“Notice the great humility of the paralytic. He did not make any excuse for his long suffering or his inability to enter the water. He lay there, waiting for the healing grace of God. Christ did not wait for him to call out, but, seeing him lying there in such a state, Christ took the initiative and healed him. The Lord shows us that even when we do not have the strength to seek Him, He comes to us in His mercy.”

**+St. John Chrysostom**

“The paralytic’s inability to move to the waters reminds us of the difficulty we have in coming to God on our own. But Christ, seeing our helplessness, extends His hand of healing to us, not waiting for us to make the first move but taking the initiative to restore us to life. This shows the depth of His love and mercy.”

**+St. Gregory the Great**

## 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

**May 11, 2025**

### **Sunday of the Paralytic**

Epistle Reading: Acts 9:32-42

Gospel Reading: John 5:1-15

### Liturgical Message

On the fourth Sunday after Pascha, the Church remembers the healing of the Paralytic at the pool of Bethesda. For thirty-eight years, this man lay without strength, unable to enter the water when it was stirred for healing. But Christ, the true Physician of our souls and bodies, came to him not with water, but with His word: “Rise, take up your bed and walk.” This miracle reminds us that when all human help fails, the Lord Himself draws near with healing and hope.

The paralytic’s healing also reveals the power of Christ’s mercy and the importance of perseverance. Though others passed him by, though he had every reason to give up, the man remained by the pool, hoping for healing. In our own lives, we may sometimes feel stuck, spiritually paralyzed by fear, sin, or despair. Yet Christ never forgets us. He comes to raise us up, not only physically but spiritually, calling us to stand and walk in newness of life.

Reflecting on this Gospel, we are reminded that true healing begins when we encounter Christ and respond to His call. Just as He told the paralytic to rise, He now speaks to each of us, inviting us to leave behind what holds us down and to walk in faith. Let us not wait passively for the "waters to be stirred," but actively turn to Christ, who is always near, always ready to lift us with His love.

## St. Basil of Ostrog



He was born in the village of Popovo Selo in Herzegovina to devout yet straightforward parents. From a young age, he was filled with love for the Church of God, and as he grew older, he went to the Trebinje Monastery of the Dormition of the Theotokos and received the monastic tonsure. As a monk, he soon became well-known for his serious and rare ascetic life. He undertook one struggle after another, each more difficult than the last.

Later, he was chosen and consecrated as Bishop of Zahumlje and Skenderija, contrary to his own will. As a hierarch, he initially lived in the Monastery of Tvrdoš and, from there, like a good shepherd, he strengthened his flock in the Orthodox faith, guarding it from the cruelty of the Turks and the cunning of the Latins (Roman Catholics). However, when enemies pressed him heavily and the Turks destroyed Tvrdoš, Basil moved to Ostrog, where he lived a life of great asceticism, protecting his flock with continuous and fervent prayers.

He peacefully fell asleep in the Lord in the 17th century, leaving behind his entire and healing relics, which remain incorrupt and wonderworking to this day.

### Miracles and Veneration

Since his repose, **countless miracles** have been attributed to St. Basil's intercessions—healings, conversions, and deliverances from danger. People of **all faiths and backgrounds**—Orthodox, Catholic, Muslim, and others—make pilgrimages to Ostrog to venerate his relics.

St. Basil of Ostrog is remembered not only for his holy life and miracles but also for his **humility, patience in suffering, and unshakable faith in Christ**. He is regarded as a protector and intercessor, particularly for those who are sick or in need of help.

## MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT

Davor Gusak of Chicago, IL, and  
Stacey Kratky of Chicago, IL, will be  
married at our church on Saturday,  
May 31, 2025



St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in East Chicago will  
celebrate its Church Slava today.

Everyone is welcome!



Lily of the Valley  
Children's Festival

NATIVITY OF  
THE THEOTOKOS MONASTERY

Saturday, May 17, 2025 - 10 am - 6 pm  
132787 Early Rd  
New Carlisle, IN 46552

For more information and to register, please email  
the.monastery@motherofgod210@gmail.com

The Nativity of the Theotokos Serbian Orthodox Monastery in New Carlisle, IN, will host its annual **Djurdjevak Festival – Lily of the Valley Fest** on **Saturday, May 17, 2025, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.**

Since 2016, this event has brought together children and families from the greater Chicago area for a day of prayer, educational workshops, sports, and fellowship in a beautiful monastery setting.

The festival supports the monastery and encourages friendships among our Serbian Orthodox youth. We are grateful to the clergy, volunteers, and especially Abbess Makrina and her sisters for welcoming and teaching our children with love, faith, and Christian service.