

## 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

#### Saturday, June 21

Vespers at 5:00 pm

#### Sunday, June 22

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am

### WISDOM OF THE HOLY FATHERS

A man went into the forest to choose a tree from which to make roof beams. And he saw two trees, one beside the other. One was smooth and tall, but had rotted away inside, and the other was rough on the outside and ugly, but its core was healthy. The man sighed and said to himself, "What use is this tree to me if it is rotten inside and useless for beams?"

The other, which is rough and ugly, is at least healthy on the inside, and so, if I put a bit more effort into it, I can use it for roof beams for my house." And, without thinking any more about it, he chose that tree.

So will God choose between two men for His house, and will not decide the one who appears outwardly righteous, but the one whose heart is filled with God's healthy righteousness.

+ St. Nikolai Velimirovich

## 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

**June 15, 2025**

### First Sunday after Pentecost

Epistle Reading: Heb. 11:33-12,2

Gospel Reading: Matt. 10:32-33; 19,27-30

### Liturgical Message

Whosoever therefore shall confess in Me before men, him will I confess also before My Father Who is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny Me before men, him will I also deny before My Father Who is in heaven.

He exhorts them to bear witness even unto martyrdom. For belief only within one's soul does not suffice; He desires also the belief confessed with the tongue. He did not say, "Whosoever shall confess Me," but in me, that is, in My strength.

For he who confesses does so aided by the grace which is from above. But as for him who denies, Christ did not say "in Me," but whosoever shall deny Me, showing that he refuses because he does not have the aid from above. Therefore, everyone who confesses that Christ is God will find Christ giving confession of him to the Father, that he is a faithful servant. But those who deny will hear the words, "I do not know you."

+Blessed Theophylact of Ochrid

## The Apostolic Fast



The Apostolic Fast in honor of Saints Peter and Paul is one of the four major fasting seasons in the Orthodox Church. It begins on the Monday after All Saints Sunday and concludes on July 12, the feast day of the Holy Apostles. This fast

serves as a period of spiritual preparation, reflecting on the sacrifices and struggles of the Holy Apostles who spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Through fasting, we deepen our connection with the spirit of repentance, humility, and unwavering commitment to Christ.

Fasting during this period helps us cultivate inner discipline and redirect our focus from worldly concerns to spiritual growth. Just as the Apostles set aside everything to follow Christ, we too are called to set aside certain foods, habits, and distractions to follow Christ more fully. By limiting our physical comforts, we make more room for prayer, Scripture reading, and acts of charity—practices that nourish our souls and deepen our relationship with God.

The Apostolic Fast also reminds us that the mission of the Church—to bring the light of Christ to the world—depends on our holiness and repentance. As Christ Himself said, “This kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting” (Matthew 17:21). The Apostles fasted before undertaking important missions (Acts 13:2–3), and we follow their example, knowing that the grace of God flows more abundantly when we approach Him with a contrite and purified heart.

Ultimately, the Fast of Saints Peter and Paul teaches us the value of sacrifice and the power of faith. It is not merely about changing our diet, but about changing our hearts. As we commemorate the lives of these two pillars of the Church, we are invited to renew our apostolic calling—to be faithful witnesses of Christ in our homes, communities, and parishes.



## **DRAZINDAN** **Sunday, July 20, 2025**

Divine Liturgy and Parastos

at 10:00 am

Banquet and Program

at 1:00 pm

### **St. George Church-Schererville**

#### **Summer Church Clean-Up & Work Day!**

Join us for a day of fellowship, fresh air, and service!

 **Date:** Saturday, June 21

 **Time:** 8:00am-3:00pm

 **Location:** Church Grounds

We're calling all parishioners—young and old—to help us beautify and care for our church property. Tasks will include weeding, trimming, planting, cleaning, organizing, minor repairs, and other similar tasks. Come ready to work and make a difference!

**Please bring** gloves, garden tools, rakes, brooms, and any supplies you think might be helpful. Water and light refreshments will be provided. Many hands make light work!

Questions? Contact the church office at 219-322-3355