



HOLY TRINITY

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.stlserbianchurch.org

January 2026

Пут Крста - Вести Цркве Свете Тројице
The Way of the Cross-News of the Church of the Holy Trinity



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Sunday School Director:
Kris Chkautovich

Stewardship Committee Chair:
Nick Dopuch

Cemetery Manager:
Dragan Acamovic

Church Hall Manager:
Zoran Kurtuma

Welcome to our monthly newsletter, where you'll find reflections to nourish your spirit, important community updates, and highlights of upcoming events. Each section is designed to help you stay connected with the life of our parish and deepen your walk with Christ.

Below, you'll see a brief overview of each section in this issue along with the page number where you can find it.

Sveti Sava Banquet invite (p.2)- Reservations required

Stewardship Enrollment (p. 4) Renew your annual stewardship commitment online

Spomenka's Corner/Home Blessings (p. 5)- Parish News

Saint of the Month (p. 6)- Saint Dositej of Zagreb

Свети (стр. 7): Свети Доситеј Загребачки и Љубљански

Fish Fest (p. 8)- Sign up to work at Fish Fest

Young Adult Group (p. 8)- Join our classes after Divine Liturgy

Three Month Calendar (pg. 9-11): Schedule of Liturgy and Services

**Christ is
Born!
Glorify
Him!**



St. Sava Banquet & Program
Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox
Church

Sunday, January 25, 2026

10 am Divine Liturgy

Banquet & Children's Program
after Divine Liturgy

We are honored to have Boban &
Dragana Simovic's family as this year's
Kumovi!

RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED

Contact Kris by 1/14 @ 314.574.4827

Free-will donations are appreciated and needed!



2026 FOCUS Sunday Suppers

Holy Trinity will sponsor three Focus Sunday suppers in 2026 for which we will provide and serve food to our neighbors. Those dates are established as follows:

February 15th

June 21st

November 22nd



As usual, Kolo will prepare the food, but we need volunteers to transport the food, plate the food, serve the guests, distribute non-perishable food items from the food pantry and welcome guests for sign-in as they arrive.

Remember that Focus is an important ministry of our local parish and of Orthodoxy in America. You may conveniently sign-up online:

<https://tinyurl.com/FocusSuppers2026>.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at ndopuch@prodigy.net.

In Christ,
Nick Dopuch

Hristos se Rodi!

from your Holy Trinity Sunday School



Stewardship 2026 Open Enrollment



The 2026 Holy Trinity Stewardship open enrollment period has started. Holy Trinity parishioners are requested to make their 2026 stewardship commitment, financially and in time and talents, to the church during this period. By now, you have received a stewardship card in the mail. If you do not have a stewardship card or misplaced it, you can find stewardship cards in the narthex of the church or on the church bulletin board in the hall.

In addition, you may also complete your stewardship commitment online at <https://forms.gle/vFc2jt8BUMHmiRGz5>.

As a reminder, your stewardship commitment does not automatically renew itself from one year to the next. Simply writing the word "stewardship" on a donation envelope or personal check without submitting the form does not constitute stewardship.

The deadline to participate in the 2026 Holy Trinity stewardship program is March 1st, at which point the open enrollment period ends. I encourage all parishioners to participate in this important ministry of Holy Trinity.

In Christ,
Nick Dopuch, Stewardship Chairperson

MESSAGE FROM THE CHURCH BOARD PRESIDENT

Peace of God! Christ is Born!

The preparations for our Bozic celebration are underway. We are grateful to the Tomic Family for their help in providing the Badnjak for Christmas.

We all look forward to celebrating this special day as we acknowledge the Nativity of our Savior.

On Sunday, January 4th after Divine Liturgy, we are asking for everyone's help to assemble the branches with straw and ribbons. It should only take a little over an hour with enough people volunteering. The individual Badnjaks will be distributed to the parishioners after 6pm Vespers on Badnje Vece.

You will notice some changes in the Newsletter this month. Included is a three-month calendar to keep everyone informed, in advance, of all future events. This should serve as an aid for planning and preparing for any help that is needed. One of our biggest and most popular events, being Fish Fest, is just around the corner.

We look forward to the New Year and all its possibilities and blessings!

In Christ
Michael Vujnich

SPOMENKA'S CORNER

WELCOME 2026 SRETNA NOVI GODINA! HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

COFFEE HOUR: Thanks again to all that have been sponsoring coffee hour this month and this year! Just a reminder that the sign-up sheet has moved up to the bulletin board by the bar....interesting place for it! Reminder to sponsors; you must set up and clean up after coffee hour; coffee will be provided by the church.

Thanks to the following sponsors:

Dec 7 – Tanya & Vanja Matkovich, in memory of their dear mother Bratislava;

Dec 14 – annual meeting;

Dec 21 – Sveti Nikola Sunday school celebration / Kolo Bake Sale;

Dec 28 – Vero & Kathy Chkautovich, in honor of Fr. Radomir's 90th birthday. Thank you all so much for your support!

THANKS: to a parishioner who wants to remain anonymous for donating 4 cases of apples used for making apple strudel for the Fish Fry. Also, many thanks to Calvin & Chrissy of Michel Funeral Home for once again sponsoring and donating our church calendars for 2026.

FOCUS: We are still supporting Focus; at this time they are in need of hygiene products. Cash donations can be made directly to Nick Dopuch.

NOTES: We still have a couple silver crosses (1 ¾") on a 22" chain for sale; price is \$125 each. See Sharon if interested.

HOME BLESSINGS



Dear Parishioners,

It is once again the time of year when we bless our homes with Holy water. Just as we celebrate Theophany ever year, your priest comes to your home every year and brings blessing of the Holy Spirit on you and your home by the sprinkling of the Holy water. The blessings of our homes are the re-dedication of our family and household to Christ.

Please call Fr. Vladimir on his cell 515.809.6309 if you would like your home blessed.

Драга Браћо и Сестре

Ово је време године када се освећује вода у нашим домовима.

Назовите мој мобилни тел. 515.809.6309 да закажете освећење воде.

Да би вода, служила за освећење и очишћење оних који је пију или се кропе њоме, свештеник овим светим чином призива на воду Божији благослов, те вода добија силу која служи на исцељење душе и тела, на одагнање видљивих и невидљивих непријатеља, на освећење и очишћење ствари и предмета за људску употребу; једном речју, на велику духовну корист оних који верују и са поверењем је употребљавају.

Бог благословио,

о. Владимир



Saint Dositej of Zagreb and Ljubljana – Confessor of the Faith and Shepherd of Love

Saint Dositej of Zagreb and Ljubljana belongs among those hierarchs of the Serbian Orthodox Church who offered their entire lives to Christ and to their neighbors, not through words alone, but through cross-bearing suffering and quiet, steadfast witness to the faith.

He was born in 1877 in Serbia as Dragutin Vasić, into a pious Serbian family. From an early age he showed a deep inclination toward the spiritual life, prayer, and learning. He was tonsured a monk at the Holy Monastery of Hilandar on Mount Athos, where he received the monastic name Dositej, modeling himself on the Athonite Fathers in humility, obedience, and prayer. Mount Athos left a profound mark on him, shaping him into a monk of inner stillness and broad-hearted love.

He received his theological education in Russia and Western Europe, which at that time was both rare and valuable. Yet despite his great learning, he was known above all for his meekness, compassion, and pastoral sensitivity. He was not a man of harsh words, but of quiet and powerful testimony to the truth.

He was consecrated bishop in 1913 and appointed Bishop of Niš. There he distinguished himself as an archpastor close to the people, diligent in liturgical life, and deeply concerned for the spiritual and social needs of the faithful. He showed particular care for the poor, war orphans, and those who suffered during the Balkan Wars and the First World War.

After the First World War, he was appointed the first Bishop of Zagreb, later also of Ljubljana, in the newly formed Kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes. His mission in Zagreb was exceptionally difficult: a small Orthodox community, strong national and religious tensions, and frequent hostility. Nevertheless, Saint Dositej did not respond with severity, but with love and dialogue, striving to ensure that Orthodox believers lived peacefully, with dignity and in a truly Christian spirit.

Contemporary witnesses testify that he was respected even beyond the boundaries of his flock, as a man of peace and genuine Christian character. His doors were open to all—regardless of faith or nationality. The most difficult period of his life came during the Second World War, after the establishment of the so-called Independent State of Croatia. He was arrested by the Ustaša authorities, humiliated, and brutally tortured. He endured severe physical and psychological abuse, which permanently damaged his health. Even in those moments, he uttered no words of hatred and never renounced his faith or his episcopal ministry. After various interventions, he was transferred to Belgrade, but by then he was gravely ill and exhausted. He reposed in the Lord in 1945, quietly and peacefully, as a true Confessor of the Faith, whose body was broken, but whose spirit remained unshaken.

The Serbian Orthodox Church canonized him in 1998, recognizing in him a true witness of Christ's suffering and love. His feast day is celebrated on January 13 (December 31 according to the Old Calendar).

Saint Dositej of Zagreb remains a living example of a hierarch who, in times of hatred, bore witness to love; in times of violence, to meekness; and in times of persecution, to unwavering faithfulness to Christ until the end. His life and suffering continue to call us not merely to speak of faith, but to live it as a sacrifice of love.

Priest Vladimir Terzic



Свети Доситеј Загребачки и Љубљански – исповедник вере и пастир љубави

Свети Доситеј Загребачки и Љубљански припада реду оних архијереја Српске Православне Цркве који су свој живот у потпуности принели Христу и ближњима, не речима, него крсним страдањем и тихим, али постојаним сведочењем вере.

Рођен је 1877. године у Србији као Драгутин Васић, у побожној српској породици. Од ране младости показао је склоност ка духовном животу, молитви и учењу. Замонашио се у светогорском манастиру Хиландару, где је примио монашко име Доситеј, угледајући се на светогорске оце по смирењу, послушању и молитвеном подвигу. Света Гора је на њега оставила дубок траг, обликујући га као монаха широке душе и дубоке унутрашње тишине.

Богословско образовање стицао је у Русији и западној Европи, што је за оно време било ретко и драгоцено. Ипак, и поред велике учености, одликовао се пре свега кротошћу, човекољубљем и пастирском осетљивошћу. Није био човек оштрих речи, већ тихог а снажног сведочења истине.

За епископа је хиротонисан 1913. године и постављен за епископа Нишког. У Нишу се истакао као архипастир који је био близак народу, ревностан у богослужењу, али и брижан за социјалне и духовне потребе верних. Посебно је бринуо о сиромашнима, ратним сирочадима и страдалницима балканских и Првог светског рата.

Након Првог светског рата постављен је за првог епископа Загребачког, а касније и Љубљанског, у новоформираној Краљевини СХС. Његова мисија у Загребу била је изузетно тешка: малобројна православна заједница, националне и верске тензије, неповерење и често отворено непријатељство. Ипак, Свети Доситеј није одговарао оштрином, већ љубављу и дијалогом, трудећи се да православни верници живе мирно, достојанствено и хришћански.

Сведочанства савременика говоре да је био поштован и ван граница своје пастве, као човек мира и истинског хришћанског духа. Његова врата била су отворена свима – без обзира на веру и народност. Најтежи период његовог живота наступио је током Другог светског рата, после успостављања Независне Државе Хрватске. Усташке власти су га ухапсиле, понижавале и тешко мучиле. Био је изложен физичком и психичком злостављању, што је оставило трајне последице по његово здравље. Ни у тим тренуцима није изговорио реч мржње, нити се одрекао своје вере и архијерејске службе.

Након интервенција и притисака, пребачен је у Београд, али је већ био тешко болестан и изнемогао. Упокојио се 1945. године, тихо и смирено, као исповедник вере, чије је тело било сломљено, али дух остао непоколебив.

Српска Православна Црква га је канонизовала 1998. године, препознавши у њему истинског сведока Христовог страдања и љубави. Његов спомен се празнује 13. јануара (31. децембра по старом календару).

Свети Доситеј Загребачки остаје живи пример архијереја који је у временима мржње сведочио љубав, у временима насиља – кротост, а у временима прогона – верност Христу до краја. Његов живот и страдање позивају и нас да веру не сведемо на речи, већ да је живимо као жртву љубави.

FISH FEST 2026

The 2026 Holy Trinity Friday Fish Fests will commence February 20th and continue every Friday through April 3rd. Like last year, we will be offering customers dine-in and carry-out options. We expect to be busy during these seven Fridays and will need much help. The annual Fish Fest is a critical fund-raising event for Holy Trinity; therefore, your participation is important.



Volunteer opportunities are available during this period for the following shifts:

Food preparation:

Thursdays: 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Fridays: 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Fish Fest event:

4:30 pm to 8:30 pm.

You may conveniently volunteer online to select the scheduled slots for which you wish to volunteer: <https://tinyurl.com/FishFest2026>.

Young Adults Class

HOLY TRINITY



**SERBIAN ORTHODOX
YOUNG ADULTS**

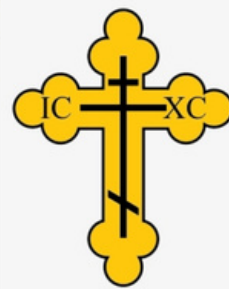
A new Young Adults Catechism class began meeting every other Sunday after Divine Liturgy, offering our Orthodox young adults and recent young inquirers an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the Orthodox faith and their life in the Church. Nik Chkautovich, with the guidance and support of Father Vladimir, will help participants navigate the unique challenges of being Orthodox during the early stages of adulthood, while providing a setting to learn, ask questions, and grow in their knowledge and love of our Orthodox faith.

Contact Nik at 314.406.4382 if you would like to join the class.

HOLY TRINITY SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

2026 Calendar/Календар

January / Јануар



January 4th- Sunday

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 6th- Tuesday, Nativity Eve/ Бадњи дан

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

6 pm- Vespers/Вечерње 6:45 pm- Blessing of the Badnjak/ Вечерње Богослужење

January 7th - Wednesday, Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ/Божих

9 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 8th - Thursday, Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God / Сабор Пресвете Богородице

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 9th - Friday, First Martyr St. Steven/Свети првомученик Стефан

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 11th - Sunday

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 14th - Wednesday, The Circumcision of our Lord/Обрезање Господње

No Liturgy at Holy Trinity-We will be celebrating the Patronal Feast of St. Basil at 9 am at the St. Basil the Great Orthodox Church- Kirkwood, MO.

January 16th - Friday Serbian New Year's Celebration in the Church Hall

January 18th - Sunday, Holy Cross Day/Крстовдан

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 19th - Monday, Theophany /Богојављење – Велико Освећење воде

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 20th - Tuesday, St. John the Baptist / Свети Јован Крститељ

9 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

January 25th- Sunday

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

12 pm- St. Sava Banquet and Children's Program (Reservations required)

January 27th – Tuesday, St. Sava the first Archbishop of Serbia / Свети Сава први Архиепископ Српски

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија



HOLY TRINITY SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

2026 Calendar/Календар

February / Фебруар



February 1st- Sunday

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

February 7th - Saturday 5 pm- Vespers/Вечерње

February 8th - Sunday

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

February 12th – Thursday, Synaxis of the Three Holy Hierarchs/Света Три Јерарха

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

February 14th – Saturday, Memorial Saturday/Задужнице

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

February 15th – Sunday, The Meeting of our Lord in the Temple/Сретење Господње

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

Focus Sunday Supper / Holy Trinity to prepare meals. Meals to be served at St. Michaels

February 20th- Friday, Fish Fest 5 - 8 pm

February 22nd – Sunday, Cheesefare Sunday / Недеља сир

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

February 23rd – Monday, GREAT LENT BEGINS!/ПОЧЕТАК ВЕЛИКОГ ПОСТА!

February 25th - Wednesday

6 pm- Presanctified Liturgy/Пређеосвећена Литургиј

7 pm- Catechism for Adults/Веронаука за одрасле

February 27th – Friday, Fish Fest 5 - 8 pm

February 28th – Saturday, St. Theodore Saturday/Теодорова Субота

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија



HOLY TRINITY SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

2026 Calendar/Календар

March/Марта

March 1st - Sunday, Sunday of Orthodoxy/Недеља Православља

10 am- Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

March 4th - Wednesday

6 pm- Presanctified Liturgy/Пређеосвећена Литургиј

7 pm- Catechism for Adults/Веронаука за одрасле

March 6th – Friday, Fish Fest 5 – 8 pm

March 8th – Sunday

10 am Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

March 11th - Wednesday

6 pm- Presanctified Liturgy/Пређеосвећена Литургиј

7 pm- Catechism for Adults/Веронаука за одрасле

March 13th – Friday, Fish Fest 5 – 8 pm

March 15th – Sunday

10 am Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

March 18th - Wednesday

6 pm- Presanctified Liturgy/Пређеосвећена Литургиј

7 pm- Catechism for Adults/Веронаука за одрасле

March 20th – Friday, Fish Fest 5 – 8 pm

March 22nd – Sunday

10 am Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

March 25th - Wednesday

6 pm- Presanctified Liturgy/Пређеосвећена Литургиј

7 pm- Catechism for Adults/Веронаука за одрасле

March 27th – Friday, Fish Fest 5 – 8 pm

March 29th – Sunday

10 am Divine Liturgy/Света Литургија

