

A Message from St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church

# ПОРУКА



**Summer 2019**

**PORUKA**  
**Volume XXXVII**  
**Number 3**

**St. Sava**  
**Serbian Orthodox Church**

4436 E. McKinley St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85008  
602.275.7360 (office)

**Church Office Hours**  
Monday-Friday 9am-2pm

**V. Rev. Father Dragomir**  
**Tuba, Parish Priest**  
Cell: 480-737-6807  
Fr.dragomir@yahoo.com

**Worship Services**  
Sunday 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

**Rastko Bookstore**  
Open Sunday after Divine Liturgy  
in the Cultural Center

**Church Website**  
[www.stsava.com](http://www.stsava.com)

**Church Office Email**  
[stsavaphx@gmail.com](mailto:stsavaphx@gmail.com)

**Current Church Board**

**President**  
Alex Beric

**1st Vice President**  
Ljubo Gordic

**2nd Vice President**  
Dmeter Dragovich

**Financial Secretary**  
Goran Culibrk

**Treasurer**  
Donna Vudrag

**Recording Secretary**  
Dejan Knezevic

**What's Inside**

Message from Father Dragomir..... 3

**Celebrated Feast Days**

Holy Transfiguration.....4

Beheading of St. John the Baptist.....4

The Exaltation of the Precious Life-giving Cross.....5

Stewardship.....8

Message from our Church Board President.....11

**Inside our Parish**

Kolo .....13

St. Sava Seniors.....14

Choir.....15

From the kitchen of.....17

Upcoming Events .....18

Порука О. Драгомира.....24

**Празници од Значаја**

Пребражење Господа Бога Исуса Христа .....25

Усековање главе св. Јована Крститеља.....25

Крстовдан.....26





## A MESSAGE FROM FATHER DRAGOMIR

“Others toiled, and into their rewards  
you have entered” (Jn. 4:38)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Blessed is the Lord who bestows innumerable Heavenly gifts on all His children. At first look we all seem different, with different gifts and abilities. But the important truth is that we are all baptized in One Spirit, in One, Holy, and Apostolic Church. In which differences are transcended, where we are united, where we are all free and make up the Church. We are all children of God, and each of us sums up the Church, sums up the whole in miniature. This is the life, the faith, and the gift of Orthodoxy, this is the language it speaks.

Outside the Church we are all taught to seek equality. But in Church equality does not mean leveling - that is disaster, a process which is unnatural for all. Equality within the Church means that each person finds his own rhythm. That he delights in his life. Then he enters into eternity in soul and body even from today, by living not for himself but for Him who died and rose again for our sake and for his brothers.

As we enter the Church through Baptism we are being interwoven, built in, and make up the fabric of the Church. We gave a promise to be living, inclusive, productive, progressive, that is to take active part of the Christ's Church and never be passive. When we are passive we choose to separate from God and His Church. Separated from God, we fall into corruption and death: death overcame us and reigned over us. Passive is estranged, unproductive, dead like. As we strive to attain salvation by nurturing our soul by fighting off temptations and sins, taking care of our spiritual life, we are also called to take an active part in the ministries of the Church, to be active in Parish life. Those two go hand in hand. We cannot say that we care about our spiritual life and in the same time separate ourselves from the Church community.

We are called to give to our community of our own, that is from our own gifts according to our own God-given abilities. St. Apostle Peter instructs us: “As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God...let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified...” (1Pet. 4:10-11) St. Ignatius in his Letter to Polycarp writes, “Toil together one with another, struggle together, run together, suffer together, lie down together, rise up together, as God's stewards and assessors and ministers.”

So may our Lord grant that we all hear His clear calling and continue to strive to work, to struggle, to build in unity our St. Sava Parish, each equally giving 100%.

Yours in Christ,  
Fr. Dragomir

## CELEBRATED FEAST DAYS

### Holy Transfiguration~August 19th



In the third year of His preaching, the Lord Jesus often spoke to His disciples of His approaching passion but at the same time of His glory following His suffering on the Cross. So that His impending passion would not totally weaken His disciples and that no one would fall away from Him, He, the All-wise, wanted to partially show them His divine glory before His passion. For that reason, He took Peter, James and John with Him and, with them, went out at night to Mt. Tabor and there was transfigured before them: “And His face shone as the sun and His garments became white as snow” (St. Matthew 17:2). There appeared along side Him, Moses and Elijah, the great Old Testament prophets. And, seeing this, His disciples were amazed. Peter said: “Lord, it is good for us to be here: if You will, let us make here three tabernacles; one for You, one for Moses and one for Elijah” (St. Matthew 17:4). While Peter still spoke, Moses and Elijah departed and a bright cloud overshadowed the Lord and His disciples and there came a voice from the cloud saying: “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear Him” (St. Matthew 17:5). Hearing the voice, the disciples fell to the ground on their faces as though dead and remained that way, lying in fear, until the Lord came near to them and said: “Arise and be not afraid” (St. Matthew 17:7). Why did the Lord take only three disciples on Tabor and not all? Because Judas was not worthy to behold the divine glory of the Teacher, Whom he will betray and the Lord did not want to leave him [Judas] alone at the foot of the mountain so that the betrayer would not, by that, justify his betrayal. Why was our Lord transfigured on a mountain and not in a valley? So as to teach us two virtues: love of labor and godly-thoughts. For, climbing to the heights required labor and height represents the heights of our thoughts, i.e., godly-thoughts. Why was our Lord transfigured at night? Because, the night rather than the day is more suitable for prayer and godly-thoughts and because the night, by its darkness, conceals all the beauty of the earth and reveals the beauty of the starry heavens. Why did Moses and Elijah appear? In order to destroy the error of the Jews, as though Christ is one of the prophets; Elijah or Jeremiah or some other that is why He appears as a King above the prophets and that is why Moses and Elijah appear as His servants. Until then, our Lord manifested His divine power many times to the disciples but, on Mt. Tabor, He manifested His divine nature. This vision of His Divinity and the hearing of the heavenly witness about Him as the Son of God, should serve the disciples in the days of the Lord’s passion, in strengthening of an unwavering faith in Him and His final victory.

### Beheading of St. John the Baptist~September 11th



Herod Antipas, son of the elder Herod, who was the slayer of the children of Bethlehem at the time of the birth of the Lord Jesus, was ruler of Galilee at the time when John the Baptist was preaching. This Herod was married to the daughter of Aretas, an Arabian prince. But Herod, an evil sprout of an evil root, put away his lawful wife and unlawfully took unto himself Herodias as his concubine, the wife of his brother Philip, who was still living. John the Baptist stood up against this lawlessness and strongly denounced Herod who then cast John into prison. At the time of a banquet in his court in Sebastia in Galilee Salome, the daughter of Herodias and Philip, danced before the guests. The drunken Herod was so taken by this dance that he promised Salome that he would give her whatever she asked of him, even though it be half of his kingdom. Being persuaded by her mother, Salome asked for the head of John the Baptist. Herod gave the order and John was beheaded in prison and his head brought to him on a platter. John’s disciples took the body of their teacher by night and honorably buried it and Herodias pierced the tongue of John with a needle in many places and buried the head in an unclean place. What later happened to John the Baptist’s head can be read on February 24. However, God’s punishment quickly befell this group of evil doers. Prince Aretas, in order to cleanse his daughter’s honor, attacked Herod with his army and defeated him. The defeated Herod was sentenced by the Roman Caesar, Caligula, to exile at first to Gaul and later to Spain. As exiles, Herod and Herodias lived in poverty and humiliation until the earth opened up and swallowed them. Salome died an evil death on the Sikaris (Sula) river. The death of St. John occurred before the Pascha [Passover] but its celebration on August 29 was established because, on that day, a church which had been built over his grave in Sebastia by Emperor Constantine and Empress Helena was consecrated. In this church the relics of John’s disciples, Eliseus and Audius, were also placed.



### *The Exaltation of the Precious Life-giving Cross* *September 27th*

#### HYMN OF PRAISE The Honorable Cross

Save, O God, Thy people!  
Save, O Lord-  
By Thine Honorable Cross, Thou dost  
shine upon us,  
By the Cross, Thou dost lead us!  
The Cross is power and a sign;  
The Cross is salvation.

Save, O God, the Patriarch  
And the Assembly of Serbian Bishops;  
Grant them strength to serve  
Thine Honorable Cross!  
The Cross is power and a sign;  
The Cross is salvation.

Save, O God, all those  
Who are in authority;  
May the Most-holy Cross protect them  
From dark destruction!  
The Cross is power and a sign;  
The Cross is salvation.

Save, O God, all people  
Who pray to Thee.  
By Thy Cross, may they quickly over-  
come  
Every difficulty.  
The Cross is power and a sign;  
The Cross is salvation!



Two events in connection with the Honorable Cross of Christ are commemorated on this day: first, the finding of the Honorable Cross on Golgotha and second, the return of the Honorable Cross from Persia to Jerusalem. Visiting the Holy Land, the holy Empress Helena decided to find the Honorable Cross of Christ. An old Jewish man named Judah was the only one who knew where the Cross was located, and, constrained by the empress, he revealed that the Cross was buried under the temple of Venus that Emperor Hadrian had built on Golgotha. The empress ordered that this idolatrous temple be razed and, having dug deep below it, found three crosses. While the empress pondered on how to recognize which of these was the Cross of Christ, a funeral procession passed by. Patriarch Macarius told them to place the crosses, one by one, on the dead man. When they placed the first and second cross on the dead man, the dead man lay unchanged. When they placed the third cross on him, the dead man came back to life. By this they knew that this was the Precious and Life-giving Cross of Christ. They then placed the Cross on a sick woman, and she became well. The patriarch elevated the Cross for all the people to see, and the people sang with tears: "Lord, have mercy!" Empress Helena had a silver case made and set the Honorable Cross in it. Later, the Persian Emperor Chozroes conquered Jerusalem, enslaved many people, and took the Lord's Cross to Persia. The Cross remained in Persia for fourteen years. In the year 628 the Greek Emperor Heraclius defeated Chozroes and, with much ceremony, returned the Cross to Jerusalem. As he entered the city Emperor Heraclius carried the Cross on his back, but suddenly was unable to take another step. Patriarch Zacharias saw an angel preventing the emperor from bearing the Cross on the same path that the Lord had walked barefoot and humiliated. The patriarch communicated this vision to the emperor. The emperor removed his raiment and, in ragged attire and barefoot, took up the Cross, carried it to Golgotha, and placed it in the Church of the Resurrection, to the joy and consolation of the whole Christian world.

## Prayer

What are the things you do daily without thinking twice? We brush our teeth, we put on clothes, and we never leave the house to begin our day without a pair of shoes on our feet to equip us for the road ahead. In the same way, we can strive to see prayer as an essential part of our day, for the benefits are greater than fresh breath or comfortable feet! Let us teach our children to start small, with an icon of Christ and just five minutes, but strive for consistency. The goal is to remember, thank and glorify God each and every day by coming to meet Him face to face. By doing this, we grow to rely on Christ and He becomes the center of our lives. Remember, when we pray, we open the communication between us and God in a very personal way. There's no one who knows us better than our Lord. He is with us each step of the way, and He knows exactly what we need. The Blessed Elder, IERONYMOS of Aegina +1966 encourages us in his writings "Do not leave off prayer. No matter how tired you are, you can pray for half an hour. Feed your body as if you were going to live a hundred years, but feed your soul as if she were going to die tomorrow." In the Orthodox Church, we learn how to pray from the Saints who are illumined by God and who share in His glory. When we use their prayers that were written and passed on to us, we become like them and follow them into union with God. Certainly, we can also speak from the heart, but to rely on the words of the Saints for help is the most accurate way of reaching our Lord – for not every ship that sets sail reaches its destination.



## Sign of the Cross

Right hand - bring thumb, index, and middle finger to a point, symbolizing the Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), keep the remaining two fingers pressed together touching the palm which represents the human and divine natures of Jesus Christ. For Orthodox believers making the sign of the cross is an important aspect, indeed physical act of belief. Why? Making the sign of the cross is an ancient practice used by all apostolic churches. It is the "prayer of the hand", an action that mystically participates in the reality of the Life-Giving Cross of the Savior. By making use of the sign, ancient Christians declared their faithfulness to Christ, worked miracles, healed diseases and cast out demons. The Roman Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity – prior to the decisive Battle of Milvian Bridge- after he saw the sign of the cross in the heavens and God telling him to: "go forth and conquer in this sign". Constantine was the first Roman leader to convert to Christianity thus, making it the dominant state religion. When? Orthodox believers make the sign of the cross upon entering or leaving a church, at the start and end of personal prayer, when passing the main altar (which represents Christ), whenever all three persons of the Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – are addressed, when approaching an icon, and at each petition in a litany (when the priest prays for the church hierarchy, the faithful, the sick, those in power such as the government etc...), with a particular intention being prayed for or with a saint being named. How? The sign of the Cross is made by touching the right hand (formed as in the photograph) first to the forehead and saying "In the name of the Father", then the chest and saying "and of the Son", then bringing the hand to the right shoulder and saying "and of the Holy Spirit", before finally bringing it across to the left shoulder and saying "Amen".



# Why Are Vigil Lamps Lit before Icons?



*The rich symbolism of Holy Icons is a language which is written throughout the life of the Church: in her Scripture, her hymns, her prayers, church architecture, the images themselves. And also in her practices, such as practice of lighting oil vigil lamps before Icons. Here is St. Nikolai of Ohrid's answer to the question: [Why are vigil lamps lit before icons?](#)*

**First** – because our faith is light. Christ said: *I am the light of the world*(John 8:12). The light of the vigil lamp reminds us of that light by which Christ illumines our souls.

**Second** – in order to remind us of the radiant character of the saint before whose icon we light the vigil lamp, for saints are called sons of light (John 12:36; Luke 16:8).

**Third** – in order to serve as a reproach to us for our dark deeds, for our evil thoughts and desires, and in order to call us to the path of evangelical light; and so that we would more zealously try to fulfill the commandments of the Saviour: *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works”* (Matthew 5:16).

**Fourth** – so that the vigil lamp would be our small sacrifice to God, Who gave Himself completely as a sacrifice for us, and as a small sign of our great gratitude and radiant love for Him from Whom we ask in prayer for life, and health, and salvation and everything that only boundless heavenly love can bestow.

**Fifth** – so that terror would strike the evil powers who sometimes assail us even at the time of prayer and lead away our thoughts from the Creator. The evil powers love the darkness and tremble at every light, especially at that which belongs to God and to those who please Him.

**Sixth** – so that this light would rouse us to selflessness. Just as the oil and wick burn in the vigil lamp, submissive to our will, so let our souls also burn with the flame of love in all our sufferings, always being submissive to God's will.

**Seventh** – in order to teach us that just as a vigil lamp cannot be lit without our hand, so too, our heart, our inward vigil lamp, cannot be lit without the holy fire of God's grace, even if it were to be filled with all the virtues. All these virtues of ours, after all, like combustible material, but the fire which ignites them proceeds from God.

**Eighth** – in order to remind us that before anything else the Creator of the world created light, and after that everything else in order: And God said, let there be light: and there was light (Genesis 1:3). And it must be so also at the beginning of our spiritual life, so that before anything else the light of Christ's truth would shine within us. From this light of Christ's truth subsequently every good deed is created, springs up and grows in us.

*May the Light of Christ illumine you as well!*



# STEWARDS of the Faith

*All Things Are Possible to the One Who Believes in Christ*

Orthodox Christian Stewardship is a way of life, which acknowledges accountability, reverence, and responsibility before God. A primary goal of Stewardship is to promote spiritual growth and strengthen faith. Becoming a Steward begins when we believe in God, to whom we give our love, loyalty and trust and act on those beliefs. As Stewards, we affirm that every aspect of our lives comes as a gift from Him. Stewardship calls on the faithful to cheerfully offer back to God a portion of the gifts with which they have been blessed.

An Orthodox Christian Steward is an active participant in the life of the Church. The parish encourages all who accept the Orthodox Faith to become practicing Stewards. Each year the Steward is expected to carefully review his or her personal circumstances and make a commitment of Time, Talent, and Treasure to support the Parish and her Ministries, which in turn support the National Ministries of our Archdiocese, Metropolises, and institutions.

Effective Stewardship ministry is not a single event or project. Rather, it is going out to our people wherever they are in their walk with Christ, listening to their concerns, helping them to realize their importance as branches of the True Vine and encouraging them to offer their gifts in His service.

*If you have any questions regarding Stewardship, please feel free to talk to Dmeter Dragovich or Donna Vudrag.*

## SERVICE FEES

Just a reminder that the new fees/taxes for special services performed by our Church are as follows:

<u>Service</u>	<u>Steward</u>	<u>Non-Steward</u>
<b>Baptism</b>	Donation	Donation
<b>Wedding</b>	Donation	\$600.00
<b>Funeral</b>	Donation	\$600.00
<b>Parastos</b>	Donation	Donation

*To be considered a Steward in good-standing you must be a Steward for at least 6 months and continue to satisfy your commitment of time, talent & treasure. 2019 cards can be found at the Tutor's Desk , on our website (stsava.com) and in the Church Office. Thank you for your support!*





## 2019

# HOUSE OF STEWARDS

David Acamovic  
\*Vera Avramovic  
\*Ann Baich  
Alex Beric  
\*Maria Brnovich  
Mark Brnovich  
Dejan Bunjevic  
Dusan Cekarmis  
Gordana Cekarmis  
Paul Djurismic  
Dmeter Dragovich  
Milutin Drakulovic  
Novica Gluscevic  
Ljubo Gordic  
Snezana Gordic  
MaryLynn Gudovic  
Nicholas Gudovic  
Tanja Gudovic  
Ruzica Jaksic  
Nebojsa Jevdosic  
Jovan Kangrga  
\*Marti Kasovac  
Stephen Keller  
Srdjan Kleut  
Milan Kesic  
Nick Kesic  
Daniel Knezevic  
Dejan Knezevic  
Denise Knezevic  
Pauline Komnenich  
Joe Kosanovich  
\*Nada Krstic  
Tatjana Lamonte  
Dusan Lazarevic  
Kata Malobabic-Zlojutro  
Donna Marjanovich  
Ilija Markovic  
Milorad Markovic  
\*Uros Markovic  
\*Natalie Marusich  
Dragomir Mikalacki

Miodrag Milovanovic  
Jelena Momich  
Stevan Mrksic  
Miomir Nikich  
Debbie Nikolic  
Dragan Nikolic  
Dona Okuka  
Yvonne Orlich  
\*Sofia Pavich  
Rajko Pilipovic  
Dusanka Price  
Daniel Pyevich  
Sophia Qendro  
Kosta Radakovic  
Mira Radakovich  
\*Slavka Radjevic  
Dorothy Rybicki  
John Sefferovich  
\*Emily Sertich  
Milan Simovich  
Branko Srejac  
Nancy Srejac  
Dusan Stanisic  
Katarina Stanisic  
Mihajlo Stojanovic  
Zdravko Sulaver  
Chris Susnjer  
Dusanka Tkacenko  
Natasha Tomecak  
\*Fr. Janko Trbovic  
\*Fr. Dragomir Tuba  
Protinica Kristina Tuba  
Zoran Umicevic  
Danica Vavan  
Lepa Vavan  
Olgica Vojnovic  
Donna Vudrag  
George Vudrag  
Nick Vudrag  
Mirjana Vujic  
Dubravka Vukcevic

Violet Vukotich  
Vera Whitted

\*Denotes honorary member

As of 6/21/19



# SERBFEST 2019

SerbFest planning is well underway. Our Co-Chairs are seeking everyone's assistance within the next few months as we prepare for our Church's biggest fundraiser. Our volunteers will be asked to help with food prep, set up, baking, and anything that needs to be done prior to SerbFest Weekend. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Co-Chairs:

***Joe Kosanovich (219) 512-6649 or Dmeter Dragovich (816) 223-6502.***

---



## SNF Midwinter Golf Tournament

**Save the Date: February 19-23, 2020**

Our parishioners, Paul Djuriscic and Alex Beric, have volunteered to co-chair next year's Mid-Winter Golf Tournament. Don't be surprised if they ask you to volunteer and don't be afraid to do so. This is the second biggest fundraiser after SerbFest and is crucial to the growth of our Parish.

We are looking forward to a well-attended event with a new host venue this year, Papago Golf Course. It was recently refurbished and is the new home of ASU's golf teams and just a few miles from St. Sava.

The next golf meeting will be Friday, September 20, 2019 at 7:00 pm, in the cultural Center Library. If you'd like to come help plan/organize or just want to learn a little more, please feel free to come to this meeting.

***Both of these FUNDRAISERS are a great opportunity to fulfill your Stewardship with your TIME, TALENT, & TREASURES***

## **A Message from our Newly Elected Church Board President, Alex Beric**

Dear Friends, Pomaže Bog!

For those who don't know me, I'm the English guy that people seem to like for no reason that anyone can understand or even try to explain. Like a lot of the Parish, I'm new to the valley, having only been here for 15 years, the first 10 or so being less-than-stellar in terms of participating, volunteering, or contributing to the community.

That all changed when our daughter Jelena decided she wanted to dance folklore while watching her cousins perform in Winona, Canada a few years ago. We came to St. Sava the following Friday and signed up for folklore.

By the end of that first year, I was on the Gavriilo Princip board and enjoying working with great parents, friends and most importantly, the children, who make the parish what it is; not just in the future, but right now.

Fast forward a little, I joined the Church-School board as a Member at Large serving for a year before volunteering to take over the reins following the excellent leadership of Milan Kesic, struggling every day to live up to the high standards set by Milan and all who have taken on this responsibility from the founding of St. Sava.

Your board is working diligently to maintain the spiritual, physical and financial health of our Parish, Church and facilities. There are many mundane day-to-day things to take care of but there are as many rewarding improvements we are making and will continue to make. Shortly, we will be deploying an improved website, including detail of board activities, meetings, decisions, repairs/improvements made and/or scheduled, and a punch list of items that will allow everyone to complete their Stewardship hours in the most productive way.

It was also my great pleasure to recently attend the triennial Church 'Sabor' in Chicago (St. Sava, Libertyville, Illinois and New Gracanica Monastery, Third Lake, Illinois) along with Proto Dragomir, Donna Vudrag and Zrdavko Sulaver along with 230 priests, Church-School representatives and their Graces, Bishops Maxim, Longin and Irinej and am also looking forward to representing St. Sava in San Gabriel, California at the fast approaching Diocesan Days this coming Labor Day weekend.

Any questions, suggestions, or feedback would be greatly appreciated by the entire board.

Yours in Christ,

Alex Beric,  
Church Board President



### **Just a Reminder**

St. Sava will be closed on Saturday, August 31st and Sunday, September 1st for Diocesan Days in San Gabriel, California.

### **Are you planning on attending the Diocese Days weekend celebration???**

If you are, please let Father Dragomir or Donna Vudrag know so that they can provide you with all of the information that you will need.

### **Sunday School**

First Day of Sunday School is Sunday, September 15th.

### **Prayer Requests**

Prayer forms are available at the Tutor's desk for those of you that would like a 40-day altar prayer for either in memory of someone or for your health or the health of someone. All you need to do is fill it out and give it to one of our Tutors to give to Father Dragomir.

### **Religious Items**

Gold Orthodox Crosses (in two different sizes) are now available for purchase along with other religious items at the Tutor's Desk.

### **Sunday lunches and Coffee Hour**

A few of our Auxiliaries are taking a break from hosting Sunday's coffee hour during the summer months. So we are reaching out to see if any of you would be able to host a Sunday coffee hour. This hour is enjoyed by many that attend Liturgy and look forward to socializing and visiting with friends. For some, this is the one thing they look forward to all week. The next available Sunday that needs sponsoring is August 18th. If you are interested, please call Meri in the Church office at 602-275-7360. Thank you!

### **Weekly Emails**

If you aren't already on our email list, be sure to sign up so that you can get the latest and greatest from our Parish. Just email the church office at [stsavaphx@gmail.com](mailto:stsavaphx@gmail.com) with your request to be added to the mailing list or you can subscribe directly on our website at [stsava.com](http://stsava.com).

***Circle of Serbian Sisters-Kolo Srpskih Sestara***



***MESSAGE FROM THE KOLO PRESIDENT***

FAITH is trusting in a power greater than yourself and knowing that whatever happens, this power will carry you through anything. IT IS BELIEVING IN YOURSELF AND HAVING THE COURAGE TO STAND UP FOR WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN!

Dear Sisters,

Hope you are staying cool while enjoying your summer!

Our next KOLO meeting, following a summer recess, will be held Sunday September 15, 2019. All Sisters please make sure to attend as we will be making plans for our KOLO Slava which is September 21<sup>st</sup>, “Mala Gospojina” and we will celebrate it on Sunday, September 22, 2019. Honored Kuma/Domacica Slave is our dear KOLO member, Mary Lynn Gudovic. KOLO Sisters cordially invite all parishioners and friends for this celebration of their Slava. Everyone will be warmly welcomed and served according to the good old Serbian tradition. ***WE WHOLEHEARTEDLY GREET YOU AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU FOR THE CELEBRATION OF OUR SLAVA!***

*Poema “Crveno slovo SRBIJA Sime Golubovica - Srećan je ko ume da voli”*

*Velika je to Zemlja, veliki su njeni ljudi! Sto ih manjim kazuju, to su oni veci, sto ih nesrećnijim cine, to srećniji bivaju iz inata, sto siromasniji hlebom – to bogatiji DUHOM!!! Snazne su srpske ruke, veliko je srpsko srce! Velika je dusa! Velika je KUĆA SRBIJA! Velika je VERA I velika je onaj u koga veruju. I ako tragaš za srećom, put KUĆE moje, put ZEMLJE moje krene – glasno lamentuje auto rove Poeme, da glasnije ne može niti treba, niti može biti! Citam misli/reci autora, vraćam im se ponovo I ponavljam u sebi: Veliki je covek koji VERUJE, bogat je covek koji VOLI srećan je covek koji ZNA da sve to otelotvora I kaže nam kako da nam život bude BOLJI!*

Respectfully yours,

Dee Price, Kolo President



## INSIDE OUR PARISH



### *St. Sava Seniors*

The St. Sava Seniors are a very active and enthusiastic group full of exciting activities and are always planning fun things to do.

Members ages 50 and up are always welcome and encouraged to join. Currently there are 70 members and membership is only \$20.00.

Our next outing is a guided tour to the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM). MIM is located in Phoenix and it takes you on a journey around the world, deep into the heart of human creativity. MIM displays more than 6800 musical instruments and objects from every corner of the globe. The cost for this guided tour will be \$20.00 a person. We do not have a date set as of yet, but please keep an eye out in future emails and Sunday bulletins for more info or you can even call Vera Whitted at (602) 696-6277. You **do not** need to be a Senior member to go on this outing with us. Everyone is invited to join the fun.

As you all know we are on a summer break from our Sunday hosted lunches and monthly meetings. We will resume with both of them in September. The next scheduled lunch and meeting is set for Sunday, September 29, 2019. Don't worry if you can't stay for lunch. We can always pack it up for you to take home and enjoy in our grab and go boxes.

Wishing everyone a safe and cool summer!

Vera Whitted,  
Secretary





### *Stevan Hristich Choir News*

Hello Everyone,

We hope you all are having a great summer. This past Memorial Day weekend, we attended the Serbian Singing Federation's (SSF) choir festival in Milwaukee. We were one of 14 choirs (all the way from Phoenix to Boston) to attend and take part in this festive weekend. We all had a great time! Also this year our very own Mike & Marilyn Marusich received their SSF 50 year pins. Congrats to the both of you!

Our next event will be our Annual Golf outing. It will be held October 5th at Papago Golf Course. Golfer registration and hole sponsorship information will be coming soon so be sure to keep an eye out in weekly emails and Sunday bulletins.

As always, we welcome anyone who would like to sing with us up in the Choir lot. We are always happy to have new and old faces join us.

The Stevan Hristich Choir



***Congratulations***  
*to Mike and Marilyn Marusich*  
*on their SSF 50 year pins!*



On Sunday, June 9th, our Kolo Sisters surprised one of our very special Kolo Members, **Mrs. Ann Baich** for her 93rd Birthday!



On Sunday, July 28th, another surprise for our very dear Kolo Sister, **Ms. Sophie Pavich** for her 95th birthday. Her special day was celebrated with family, friends, & fellow parishioners with none other than a Green Bay Packers theme.

We **ALL** know her love for the Packers & the game!

***May God Bless both of you with many many more!***

*(Two BIG birthdays celebrated here at St. Sava...hope it's something in the air here)*

*From the kitchen of*  
**Nadia Milosevic**

## Stuffed Peppers



### Ingredients:

5-6 round red peppers or green (I prefer the red, yellow and orange)  
1 1/2 pounds ground beef  
1 large onion diced  
1 box Rice Pilaf Rice a Roni  
1 16 oz. can of tomato sauce  
1 Tsp. Pepper  
1 Tsp. Salt  
1 Tbsp. Garlic granules  
1 Tbsp. Paprika  
(on seasonings, more or less as you prefer)

### Directions:

Sauté onions in 2-3 tablespoons oil until translucent, add ground beef, fry until browned. Remove from heat and add entire box of rice pilaf, rice a roni plus the seasoning package with all other seasonings. Mix. Let cool for 15 minutes.

Stuff peppers. I add a sliced piece of potato on top to keep the mixture from falling out of the potato.

Add peppers in a roaster or slow cooker. Fill the roaster or slow cooker almost to the top of the pepper with the canned tomato sauce and water. To keep peppers from falling over I add peeled potatoes to secure them to stand upright. You can quarter, 1/2 them or keep them whole. If you add potatoes, you need to season the tomato/water mixture. Salt, pepper to taste for the potatoes.

Bake 2 hours at 375 or slow cooker for 6-8 hours.

*I have been making these for my family for over 40 years. They love them!*

**PRIJATNO!!!**

ST. SAVA KOLO SISTERS PRESENT



# MARTINI NIGHT FUNDRAISER

ST. SAVA CHURCH 4436 E MCKINLEY STREET PHOENIX, AZ 85008

---

Our annual Tea Party Fundraiser has turned into Martini Night.

Enjoy an evening of live music while indulging on a variety of innovative, sweet & savory hors d'oeuvres.

Participate in our Martini Contest, or come & vote for your favorite cocktail.

There will be a Prize for the winning Martini.

**\$25 ENTRANCE**

**4:30PM TO 8:00PM**

---

## SATURDAY AUGUST 10TH

---

MUSIC BY: DR. PEDJA & SCOTT NOWAK

Register to be a part of the Martini Contest  
For more information on how to register contact:  
Branka Andjelkovic at 602.677.7272





A Most Unique Event

Celebrating the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
of the autocephaly of the Serbian Orthodox Church

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2019**

Come experience this once in a lifetime event!

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019**

Welcome Reception, Lunch, Clergy Seminar

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 2019**

Divine Liturgy, Consecration of the Mosaics and Iconography, Lunch,  
Program, Diocesan Assembly, Evening Festivities and Youth Performances,  
Concert of the Famous "Legende" Group from Belgrade, Serbia

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 01, 2019**

Divine Liturgy, Banquet and Program

**SPECIAL INVITED GUESTS:**

**HIS HOLINESS, IRINEJ, SERBIAN PATRIARCH**

**MATIJA BECKOVIC**

**RULING HIERARCHS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN THE U.S.A**

**CHURCH AND CIVIL DIGINTARIES**

Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church  
1640 South San Gabriel Boulevard, San Gabriel, California 91776



## St. Sava Circle of Serbian Sisters Slava Celebration

The Nativity of our Most Holy Lady  
the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin  
Mary, Mala Gospojina

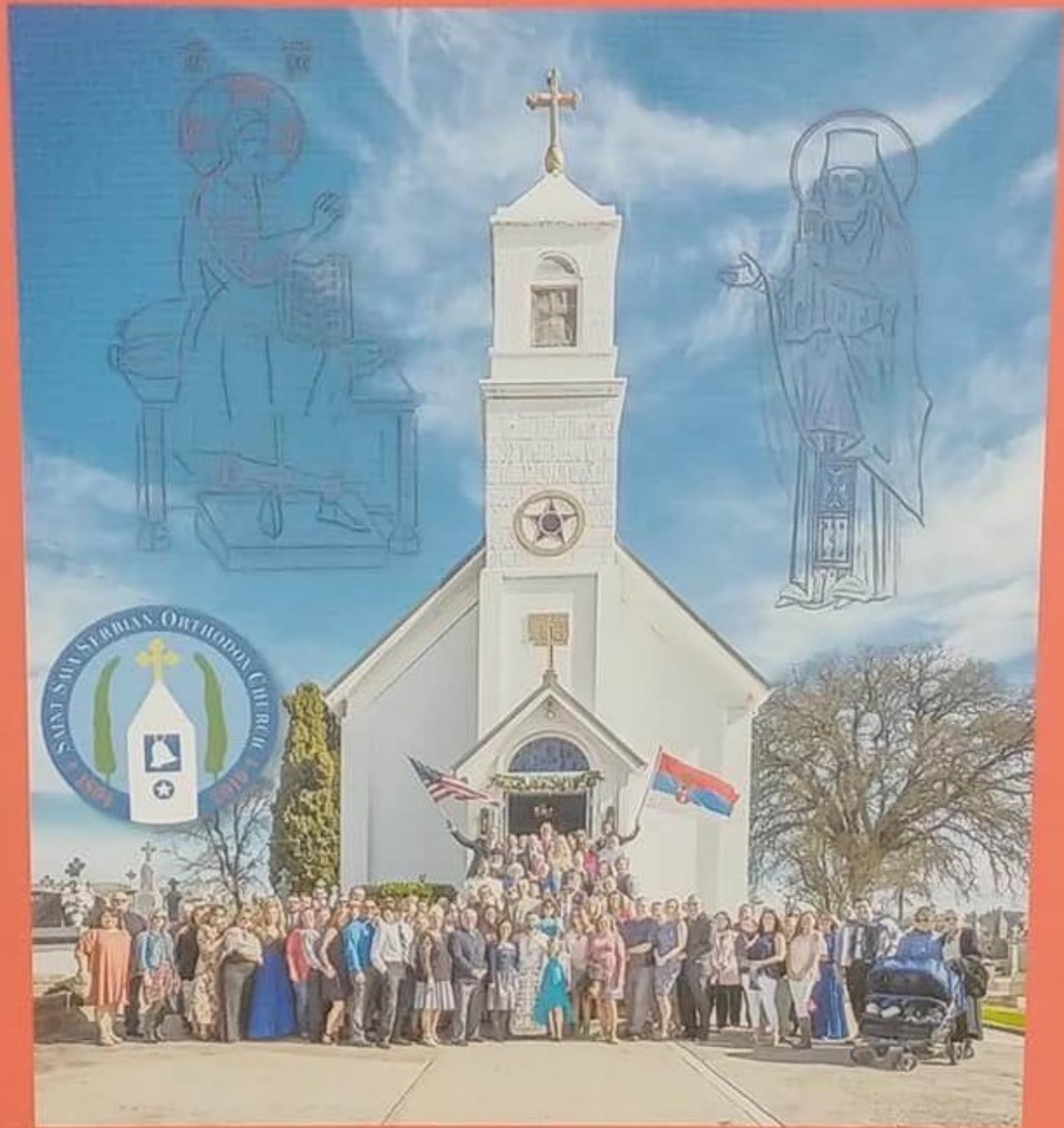
**Sunday, September 22, 2019**

- Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am
- Parastos for deceased Kolo Members
- Blessing of Slavski Kolach
- Banquet to follow
- Kuma for Slava-MaryLynn Gudovic

***All are WELCOME!***



**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**OCTOBER 18-20, 2019**



**ST. SAVA JACKSON**  
**125 YEAR CELEBRATION**

**Serbian cuisine, pastries & refreshments  
Folklore dancing, festive music, kids zone  
and much more!**

# **SERBFEST**

## **Phoenix 2019**



**Saturday, Nov 2nd  
11am - 10pm**

**Sunday, Nov 3rd  
12pm - 8pm**

**St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church  
4436 E McKinley St, Phoenix, AZ 85008**



We have begun our preparations for **SerbFest 2019**. Your **SerbFest** committee members are busy making arrangements to ensure we have another successful SerbFest.

Every year, many members of our Serbian community generously donate their time and labor to help make this weekend a huge success. The money we make on this weekend is used to offset a large portion of our Church operating expenses.

In addition to the time and energy our parishioners volunteer for on this weekend, we also ask for monetary donations/sponsorships to help pay for food and supplies that must be ordered in advance. Our sponsorship goal for **SerbFest 2019** is \$20,000.

Your support is needed to reach this goal. Please indicate how much you would like to contribute and make checks payable to St. Sava SerbFest. You can either mail or drop off your contribution to the church office.

Please contact Dajana Zlaticanin for more details:

[Zlaticanin.dajana@gmail.com](mailto:Zlaticanin.dajana@gmail.com) or (602) 999-5562

\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_ \$1,000 \_\_\_ \$2,500 \_\_\_ Other

If you would like to sponsor a food booth or a specific item, please speak with Dajana.

Thank you in advance for your generous contribution.

*SerbFest Committee*





## Порука О. Драгомира-

”Други су се трудили, а ви сте у труд  
њихов ушли” (Јов. 4,38)

Драга браћо и сестре,

Нек је благословен Господ који даје изобилне Небеске дарове свој Својој деци. На први поглед сви смо различити, са различитим даровима и могућностима. Али истина је да смо крштени у истог Духа, у Једну, Свету, и Апостолску Цркву. У Њему су све разлике превазиђене, ту смо сви уједињени, ту смо сви слободни и заједнички чинимо Цркву. Сви смо деца Божија, и свако од нас сумира Цркву, сумира цело у малом. То је живот, то је вера, и дар Православља, то је језик који говори.

Изван Цркве смо учени да тражимо једнакост. Али у Цркви једнакост не значи поравњање – то је катастрофа, то је процес који не долази природно. Једнакост у Цркви значи да свака особа нађе свој ритам. Да ужива у животу. Да душом и телом уђе у вечност још од данас, не живећи за себе већ за Њега који је умро и васкрсао за нас и Његову браћу.

Кад ступамо у Цркву кроз Крштење ми смо исплетени, тј. узидани у Цркву, и чинимо њену структуру. Обећавамо да ћемо бити живи, укључени, продуктивни, прогресивни, то јест да ћемо бити активни део Христове Цркве а никад пасивни. Кад смо пасивни бирамо да будемо одвојимо од Бога и Његове Цркве. Одвојени од Бога, идемо у пропаст и смрт; тад смрт овлада нама и царује над нама. Пасивност је зато застрањење, непродуктивност и смрт. И док покушавамо да задобијемо спасење негујући нашу душу борбом против искушења и греха, и водећи рачуна о духовном животу, позвани смо у исто време да активно учествујемо у мисији Цркве, да будемо активни у животу наше Парохије. Ово двоје иде заједно. Не можемо рећи да се бринемо о нашем духовном животу а да смо у исто време одвојени од Црквене заједнице.

Позвани смо да дамо нашој заједници од оног што је наше, то јест од наших дарова по нама Богом даним могућностима. Св. Апостол Павле нам саветује: ”Сваки као што је примио благодатни дар, њиме служите једни другима, као добри управитељи разноврсне благодати Божије... нека служи као по моћи коју Бог даје; да се у свему слави Бог...” (1 Пет. 4, 10-11) Св. Игњатије у његовој посланици Поликарпу пише: ”Радите заједно једни са другима, борите се заједно, трчите заједно, састрадавајте заједно, лезите заједно, устаните заједно, као Божији управитељи и служитељи.”

Нека нам Господ подари да сви чујемо Његов јасни позив да радимо заједно, да се боримо заједно, да у јединству изграђујемо нашу Парохију Св. Саве, сваки од нас једнако дајући своје 100%.

Ваш у Христу,  
о. Драгомир

### Преображење Господа Бога и Спаса нашег Исуса Христа 19. август



Треће године Своје проповеди на земљи Господ Исус чешће говораше ученицима Својим о блиском страдању Своме, но уједно и о слави Својој после страдања на крсту. Да не би предстојеће страдање Његово сасвим раслабило ученике те да не би отпали од Њега, Он Премудри, хтеде им пре страдања показати делимично славу Своју божанску. Зато узевши собом Петра, Јакова и Јована изиђе с њима ноћу на гору Тавор, и ту се преобрази пред њима. И засја се лице његово као сунце а хаљине његове посташе свијетле као снијег. И појавише се покрај Њега Мојсеј и Илија, велики старозаветни пророци. И видеше ученици и удивше се. И рече Петар: Господе, добро нам је овде бити; ако хоћеш да начинимо овде три сјенице (колибе): Теби једну, а Мојсију једну, а једну Илији. Но док још Петар говорише, удаљише се Мојсеј и Илија, и сјајан облак окружи Господа и ученике, и дође глас из облака; ово је син мој љубазни, који је по мојој вољи; њега послушајте. Чувши овај глас ученици падоше на земљу као мртви и осташе тако лежећи у страху докле им Господ не приђе и не рече им: устаните и не бојте се (Мат. 17). Зашто Господ узео само тројицу ученика на Тавор а не све? Јер Јуда не беше достојан да види божанску славу Учитеља, кога ће он издати а њега самог Господ не хте оставити под гором, да не би тиме издајник правдао своје издајство. Зашто се преобрази на гори а не у долини. Да би нас научио двома врлинама: трудољубљу и богомислију. Јер пењање на висину захтева труд, а висина представља висину мисли наших, т.ј. богомислије. Зашто се преобрази ноћу? Јер је ноћ подеснија за молитву и богомислије него дан, и јер ноћ закрива тамом сву земаљску красоту а открива красоту звезданог неба. Зашто се појавише Мојсеј и Илија? Да се разбије заблуда јеврејска, као да је Христос неки од пророка, Илија, Јеремија или неки други-зато се Он јавља као Цар над пророцима, и зато се Мојсеј и Илија јављају као слуге Његове. Дотле је Господ много пута показао ученицима божанску моћ Своју, а на Тавору им је показао божанску природу Своју. То виђење Божанства Његовог и слишање небеског сведочанства о Њему као Сину Божјем требало је да послужи ученицима у дане страдања Господњег на укрепљење непоколебљиве вере у Њега и Његову крајњу победу.

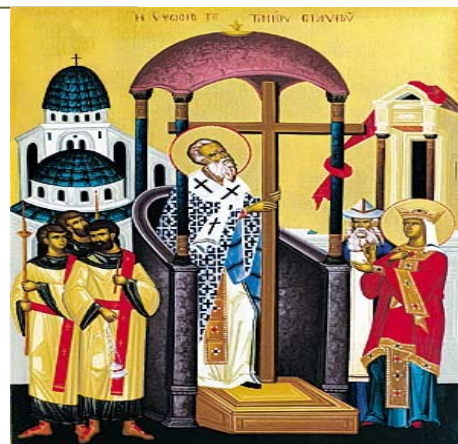
### Усековање главе св. Јована Крститеља 11. септембар



Ирод Антипа, син старог Ирода, убице младенаца Витлејемских у време рођења Господа Исуса, беше господар Галилеје у време проповеди Јована Крститеља, Беше тај Ирод жењен ћерком некога арабског кнеза Арете. Но Ирод, зли изданац од злога корена, отера своју закониту жену и незаконито узео себи за сожителницу Иродијаду, жену свога брата Филипа, који беше још у животу. Против овог безакоња уста Јован Крститељ и силно изобличи Ирода. Ирод га баци у тамницу. За време једнога пира у свом двору у Севастији Галилејској играше пред гостима Саломија, ћерка Иродијадине и Филипова. И пијани Ирод, занесен том игром, обећа играцици дати што год буде од њега искала, ма то било и половина царства. Наговорена од своје мајке Саломије заиска главу Јована Крститеља. Ирод нареди те Јована посекоше у тамници и донеше главу његову на тањир. Ученици Јованови ноћу узеше тело свога учитеља и чесно сахранише, а Иродијада избоде иглом језик Јованов, па главу закопа на неко нечисто место. Шта је даље било с главом Јовановом може се читати под 24 фебруаром. Али убрзо постиже Божја казна ову групу злотвора. Кнез Арета, да опере част своје ћерке, удари с војском на Ирода и потуче га до ноге. Поражени Ирод би осуђен од кесара римског калигуле на прогонство најпре у Галију а по том у Шпанију. Као изгнанци Ирод и Иродијада живеше у беди и понижењу, док се земља не отвори и не прогута их. А Саломија погибе злом смрћу на реци Сикорису (Сули). Смрт св. Јована догодила се пред Пасху, а празновање 29 августа установљено је због тога што је тога дана освећена црква, коју подигоше на гробу његовом у Севастији цар Константин и царица Јелена. У ту цркву положене су и мошти ученика Јованових: Јелисеја и Авдије.

## *Воздвижење Часног Крста-Крстовдан*

*27. септембар*



Спаси, Боже, људе своје,  
Спаси Господи,  
Крстом часним Ти нам  
светли,  
Крстом на води!  
Крст је сила и знамење,  
Крст је спасење.  
Спаси, Боже Патријарха  
И Владика српских збор  
Дај му снаге да послужи  
Твом Крсту часном!  
Крст је сила и знамење,  
Крст је спасење.  
Спаси, Боже и све оне  
Што су на власти,  
Крст пресвети нек их чува  
Црне пропасти!  
Крст је сила и знамење.  
Крст је спасење.  
Спаси, Боже и сав народ  
Што Ти се моли.  
Нека Крстом свакој муци  
Брзо одоли!  
Крст је сила и знамење,  
Крст је спасење.

Овога дана празнују се два догађаја у вези са часним Крстом Христовим: прво проналазак часног Крста на Голготи, и друго повратак часног Крста из Персије опет у Јерусалим. Обилазећи Свету Земљу св. царица Јелена намисли да потражи часни Крст Христов. Неки старац Јеврејин, по имену Јуда, једини знаде место где се Крст нахођаше, па присиљен од царице изјави, да је Крст закопан под храмом Венериним, кога подиже на Голготи цар Адријан. Царица нареди, те порушише тај идолски храм, па копајући у дубину нађоше три крста. Док царица беше у недоумици, како да распозна Крст Христов, пролажаше мимо тога места пратња са мртвацем. Тада патријарх Макарије рече, да међу на мртваца редом један по један крст. Када метнуше први и други крст, мртвац лежахше непромењено. А када ставише на њ трећи крст, мртвац оживе. По томе познаше, да је то часни и животворни Крст Христов. Метнуше га по том и на једну болесну жену, и жена оздрави. Тада патријарх уздиже крст, да га сав народ види, а народ са сузама певаше: Господе помилуј! Царица Јелена направи ковчег од сребра и положи у њ часни Крст. Доцније цар Хозрој освојивши Јерусалим, одведе многи народ у ропство и однесе Крст Господњи у Персију. У Персији Крст је лежао 14 година. 628. год. цар грчки Ираклије победи Хозроја и са славом поврати Крст у Јерусалим. Ушавши у град цар Ираклије ношаше Крст на својим леђима. Но на једанпут стаде цар и не могаше ни корака крочити. Патријарх Захарија виде ангела, који спречаваше цару да у раскошном царском оделу иде под Крстом и то по оном путу по коме је Господ, бос и понижен, ходио. То виђење објави патријарх цару. Тада се цар свуче, па у бедној одећи и босоног узне Крст, изнесе га на Голготу, и положи у храм Васкрсења, на радост и утеху целог хришћанског света.



## ***GARDEN OF ST. SAVA***

**Preplanning is one of the most important things you can do for your family!**

*Always Plan Ahead; It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark."  
-Richard Cushing*

**Cemetery spaces are still available!**



*Please contact the Church Office at  
602.275.7360  
for further information*

**St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church**  
**4436 E. McKinley St.**  
**Phoenix, Arizona 85008**  
**[www.stsava.com](http://www.stsava.com)**

**Address Service Requested**

**NON PROFIT ORG.**  
**U.S. POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
**PHOENIX, ARIZONA**  
**PERMIT NO. 1861**

