A Message from St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church

ПОРУКА



PORUKA

Christ is Born! Indeed He is Born!

Христос Се Роди! Ваистину Се Роди!

January 2020

PORUKA Volume XXXVIII Number 1

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: 480-727-6807

Cell: 480-737-6807 Fr.dragomir@yahoo.com

Worship Services
Sunday 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Rastko BookstoreOpen Sunday after Divine Liturgy
in the Cultural Center

Church Website www.stsava.com

Church Office Email 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/Порука O. Dragomira.....



A MESSAGE FROM FATHER DRAGOMIR

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us..."
(St. John 1:14)



"И Логос постаде тело и настани се међу нама..." (Јн 1, 14)

Dear Pious Stewards, Parishioners and Friends of St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church,

The Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ is an event which divides our human history into two parts: that which happened prior to His Birth, which we understand as the preparation of people for the arrival of the Savior, and the period after His Birth, the period in which we now live. This for us Christians is the central, key and most important event of the history of the world, and its meaning absolutely establishes the Christian way of life and the Christian perspective on the world. The message of peace, brotherly love, understanding has changed the lives of all people on Earth bringing prosperity and a New Era.

Since that event in Bethlehem so long ago, everything in human life is new. The new man is born of the Holy Spirit for salvation and eternal life. And so, God Himself through the Incarnation, and then our faith, elevates mankind, that is, every person, to the highest possible honor – to be a child of God.

How could we then not rejoice? Let us join all of creation in dancing and leaping for joy at this feast, and may this joy carry us into the new year renewed spiritually for the holy labors that lay ahead of us.

With prayers and best wishes for a feast filled with God's grace and that a new year abound with both heavenly and earthly blessings, we greet you with our traditional greeting:

Peace of God, Christ is Born!Fr. Dragomir, Protinica Kristina and Family

Богољубивим Старатељима, Парохијанима и Пријатељима Српске Православне Цркве Св Саве.

Рођење Господа нашега Исуса Христа је догађај који људску историју дели на два дела, на оно што се дешавало пре Његовог Рођења, а што разумемо као припрему људи за Спаситељев долазак, и на време после Његовог Рођења, у коме и ми живимо. Ово је за хришћане централни, кључни, најважнији догађај светске историје и његов смисао у апсолутној мери утемељује хришћански начин живота и хришћански поглед на свет. Порука мира, братске љубави разумевања је изменила животе свих људи на земљи доневши просперитет и Нову Еру.

Од тог давног витлејемског догађаја све је у човековом животу ново. Рађа се нови човек од Духа Светога, за спасење и вечни живот. И тако, Сам Бог кроз Оваплоћење, а затим и наша вера, уздиже човека, и то сваког човека, на највеће могуће достојанство — да буде дете Божије.

Како онда а да не славимо? Придружимо се свој творевини у радости на овај Празник, и нека нас ова радост носи у нову годину духовно освежене и спремне на нове духовне подухвате који су пред нама.

Са молитвама и најлепшим жељама за празник испуњен Божанским добрима и да Нова Година изобилује небеским и земаљским благословом, поздрављамо Вас нашим традиционалним поздравом:

Мир Божији, Христос се Роди! Прото Драгомир, Протиница Кристина са породицом

The Nativity of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ!

January 7th



But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son (Galatians 4:4) to save the human race. And when nine months were fulfilled from the Annunciation, when the Archangel Gabriel had appeared to the Most-holy Virgin in Nazareth, saying, Rejoice, thou that art highly favored ... behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a Son (Luke 1:28, 31), at that time there went forth a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the people of the Roman Empire should be taxed

In accordance with this decree, everyone had to go to his own town and be registered. That is why the right-eous Joseph came with the Most-holy Virgin to Bethlehem, the city of David, for they were both of the royal lineage of David. Since many people descended on this small town for the census, Joseph and Mary were unable to find lodging in any house, and they sought shelter in a cave, which shepherds used as a sheepfold.

In this cave-on the night between Saturday and Sunday, on the 25th of December-the Most-holy Virgin gave birth to the Savior of the world, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Giving birth to Him without pain just as He was conceived without sin by the Holy Spirit and not by man, she herself wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, worshiped Him as God, and laid Him in a manger. Then the righteous Joseph drew near and worshiped Him as the Divine Fruit of the Virgin's womb. Then the shepherds came in from the fields, directed by an angel of God, and worshiped Him as the Messiah and Savior.

The shepherds heard a multitude of God's angels singing: *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men* (Luke 2:14). At that time three wise men arrived from the east, led by a wondrous star, bearing their gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh. They worshiped Him as the King of kings, and offered Him their gifts (Matthew 2).

Thus entered the world He whose coming was foretold by the prophets, and who was born in the same manner in which it had been prophesied: of a Most-holy Virgin, in the town of Bethlehem, of the lineage of David according to the flesh, at the time when there was no king in Jerusalem of the lineage of Judah, but rather when Herod, a foreigner, was reigning.

Finally, after many types and prefiguring, messengers and heralds, prophets and righteous men, wise men and kings, He appeared, the Lord of the world and King of kings, to perform the work of salvation of mankind, which could not be performed by His servants.

SYNAXIS OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER, THEOTOKOS

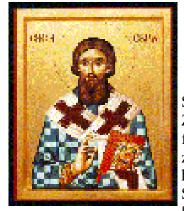
January 8



On the second day of the Nativity, the Christian Church gives glory and thanksgiving to the Most-holy Theotokos, who gave birth to our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ. This feast is called "the Synaxis" because on this day all of the faithful gather to glorify her, the Most-holy Theotokos, and to solemnly and universally celebrate a feast in her honor. In Ohrid, it has been the tradition from ancient times that, on the eve of the second day of Nativity, Vespers has been celebrated only in the Church of the Most-holy Theotokos called the Chieftain [Èelnica]. All the clergy with the people gather together to glorify the Most-pure Mother of God.



January 27



Sava was born in 1169 A.D. He was the son of Stephen [Stefan] Nemanja the Grand Zupan of the Serbs. As a young man, Sava yearned for the spiritual life for which he fled to the Holy Mountain [Mt. Athos] where he was tonsured a monk and with rare zeal lived according to the ascetical rule. Stefan Nemanja followed the example of his son and came to the Holy Mountain where he was tonsured a monk and died as Simeon, the monk. Sava obtained the independence of the Serbian Church from the [Byzantine] emperor and patriarch and became the first Archbishop of the Serbs.

Together with his father, he built the Monastery Hilendar and, after that, many other monasteries, churches and schools throughout the Serbian lands. On two occasions, he made a pilgrimage to the sacred places in the Holy Land. He restored peace between his two brothers who were estranged because of a struggle for power. He restored peace between the Serbs and their neighbors. In establishing the Serbian Church, he was, through that, establishing the Serbian State and culture. He instilled peace between all the Balkan peoples and worked for the benefit of all for which he was loved and respected by all the Balkan peoples. To the Serbian people he gave a Christian soul which did not perish with the collapse of the Serbian State. Sava died in Trnovo, Bulgaria, during the reign of Emperor Asen, having become ill following the Divine Liturgy on the Feast of the Epiphany on January 12, 1236 A.D. King Vladislav translated his body to the Mileshevo Monastery from which Sinan Pasha removed it and burned it on Vracar in Belgrade, April 27, 1595 A.D.

The Spiritual Meaning of the Badnjak (Yule Log)

By St. Bishop Nicolai Velimirovich



Have you ever brought a Badnjak into your home? Do you know that the Badnjak is the finest and foremost custom of all the many traditions by which our people enhance the Christmas celebration? The Serbs begin the celebration of Christmas with the solemn ceremony of bringing in a young oak tree to the house. An oak is usually the most solid tree and produces the most heat. Have you ever anointed the Badnjak with honey? Have you

rejoiced with your children watching its light emitted in a swarm of sparks? Have you enjoyed its heat? The Badnjak is the tree of happiness and sweetness, the tree of health, strength and youth, the tree of life and love. Is there a tree of happiness in this world? Is the Badnjak that tree or is it a semblance and symbol of that tree? Yes, it is only a symbol and a semblance. The real tree of happiness is He who was born on that radiant day. The bringing of the Badnjak into the house represents Christ's coming into the world and His coming into our homes and our souls. What a glorious custom and marvelous scene! The Badnjak represents Christ. As a young and powerful tree the King of love gave Himself to be slain in order to rejuvenate the world by the fragrance of eternal youth; to thaw frozen mankind by the fire of His love; to enlighten and bring joy to all man by the flame of His Divine revelation; to annihilate the false gods on earth by the sparks of His words; to sweeten the bitter waters by the sweet juice of His blood. Having brought the Badnjaks into your homes have you brought Christ into your homes and your souls? A picture is only a picture, but Christ is the reality. The Badnjak is a picture, but Christ is the reality. The Badnjak is a picture of the tree of happiness and as a picture is a warning and reminder that you should bring into your homes and your souls the real tree of Happiness, the Son of God, our Lord Jesus Christ. His teaching, His sermon on the Mount was the sermon on Happiness and contains the only charter of human happiness and He Himself represents the true and eternal Tree of Happiness.

Christmas Bread (Cesnica)



Christmas Bread (Cesnica) is served to the family on Christmas Day and it is never cut with a knife. At mealtime, when the family gathers around the holiday table to break bread together, it is a solemn and holy moment. Many families follow customs which began centuries ago, depending on the province in which their ancestors lived. The holiday candle is lit and placed in the center of the table. The father offers the Cesnica

over the lighted candle and each family member holds a part of the bread with his or her right hand. In unison they exclaim "Hristos Se Rodi" ("Christ is Born") and the answer "Voistinu Se Rodi" ("Truly He is Born") as they break off a portion of the bread. In some provinces, a Christmas bread (Kolac) is prepared. The male head of the house cuts the bread in a sign of the cross on the bottom of the bread with members of the family turning the bread. Special prayers are offered with the entire gathering singing hymns such as "Rozdestvo." The fortunate person who finds the coin (which was washed and placed in the dough while being kneaded), is considered blessed for the coming year. Each person then proceeds around the table, formally greeting every one present with the traditional greeting "Hristos Se Rodi" and the response "Voistinu Se Rodi" This greeting used throughout the Christmas Holy Days is a reminder that Christ brought Peace into this World by His Birth. In some provinces a yellow cornmeal cheese dish (Cicvara) is the first course. In some homes it is served from the pot in which it was prepared and is ladled out with a wooden spoon. It is believed the custom is a reminder of our humble beginnings in ancient Serbian life when most people lived in small, poor villages. Silverware was a precious commodity and the family ate from one pot an used the same spoon. Grains and crops of the field were the mainstays of life. The main course is traditionally a barbecued suckling pig. The holiday meal is enhanced with as many sumptuous courses as the hostess wishes to serve. It is a day of contemplation and rest. It is a day of good cheer which befits the joyous celebration of Christ's Birth. The Peace of God amongst us.



Blessing of the Waters and your home

Every year the Church solemnly blesses water at Epiphany for when God became man He made all nature holy in a new and wonderful way. Through His Baptism the Lord blessed all water in His creation.

A large barrel or tub of water is placed in the center of the Church. The priest censes the water, then blesses it three times with his hand while he says "do thou, the same master sanctify now also this water by the Holy Spirit." After this the priest dips the Cross in the water three times and makes the sign of the cross. The Troparion of the Feast is sung. At the end of the service, the priest blesses us with the holy water by sprinkling some of it on our heads with a sprig of basil. We drink the water and take some home in little containers.

Epiphany or Theophany in Greek means "manifestation." This refers to the appearance of the Holy Trinity-Father Son and Holy spirit—at Jesus' Baptism. God the Father revealed that the Man-Jesus was His son and also God, and in the Holy Spirit all men can see God and know Him everywhere and through everything.

After Epiphany, each year, the priest comes to bless our homes and pray to God to watch over our family with many years of good health and happiness. These are the things that should be prepared. An icon, a candle, water in a bowl and a list of names of the family.

Holy Water is preserved in the home. There are many occasions in family life when a sip of Holy water can help to remind us of the blessing that was given "for the healing of soul and body."

If you have not had your home blessed in a while or if your home has never been blessed, now is a perfect time to do so. Please contact Father Dragomir directly at 480-737-6807 to make arrangements for him to come to your home!



Who'll Take the Son?

A wealthy man and his son loved to collect rare works of art. They had everything in their collection, from Picasso to Raphael. They would often sit together and admire the great works of art.

When the Vietnam conflict broke out, the son went to war. He was very courageous and died in battle while rescuing another soldier. The father was notified and grieved deeply for his only son.

About a month later, just before Christmas, there was a knock at the door. A young man stood at the door with a large package in his hands. He said, "Sir, you don't know me, but I am the soldier for whom your son gave his life. He saved many lives that day, and he was carrying me to safety when a bullet struck him in the heart and he died instantly. He often talked about you, and your love for art. The young man held out his package. "I know this isn't much. I'm not really a great artist, but I think your son would have wanted you to have this." The father opened the package. It was a portrait of his son, painted by the young man. He stared in awe at the way the soldier had captured the personality of his son in the painting. The father was so drawn to the eyes that his own eyes welled up with tears.

He thanked the young man and offered to pay him for the picture. "Oh, no sir, I could never repay what your son did for me. It's a gift." The father hung the portrait over his mantle. Every time visitors came to his home he took them to see the portrait of his son before he showed them any of the other great works he had collected.

The man died a few months later. There was to be a great auction of his paintings. Many influential people gathered, excited over seeing the great paintings and having an opportunity to purchase one for their collection. On the platform sat the painting of the son. The auctioneer pounded his gavel. "We will start the bidding with this picture of the son. Who will bid for this picture?" There was silence. Then a voice in the back of the room shouted, "We want to see the famous paintings. Skip this one." But the auctioneer persisted, "Will someone bid for this painting? Who will start the bidding? \$100, \$200?" Another voice shouted angrily, "We didn't come to see this painting. We came to see the Van Gogh's, the Rembrandt's. Get on with the real bids!" But still the auctioneer continued, "The son! The son! Who'll take the son?"

Finally, a voice came from the very back of the room. It was the longtime gardener of the man and his son. "I'll give \$10 for the painting." Being a poor man, it was all he could afford. "We have \$10, who will bid \$20?" "Give it to him for \$10. Let's see the masters." "\$10 is the bid, won't someone bid \$20?" The crowd was becoming angry. They didn't want the picture of the son. They wanted the more worthy investments for their collections. The auctioneer pounded the gavel. "Going once, twice, SOLD for \$10!" A man sitting on the second row shouted, "Now let's get on with the collection!"

The auctioneer laid down his gavel, "I'm sorry, the auction is over." "What about the paintings?" "I am sorry. When I was called to conduct this auction, I was told of a secret stipulation in the will. I was not allowed to reveal that stipulation until this time. Only the painting of the son would be auctioned. Whoever bought that painting would inherit the entire estate, including the paintings.

The man who took the son gets everything!"

God gave his Son 2,000 years ago to die on a cruel cross. Much like the auctioneer, His message today is, "The Son, the Son, who'll take the Son?" Because you see, whoever takes the Son gets everything.

--author unknown

STEWARDSHIP



What is Christian Stewardship:

Christian Stewardship is... ...learning how to be a responsible and concerned caretaker of Christ's Church; it is learning how to enjoy Church life and be happy in Church work., for in Her dwells the fullness of the Spirit of God. ...our active commitment to use all our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgment of Christ's redeeming love. ...caring for the needs of others. ...offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us. ...what a person does after saying "I believe...", as proof of that belief. ... devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as diocese/metropolis, as national Church and as Church universal

"...We thank you, our God, and praise your glorious Name ...for all things come from you and we have only given back what is yours already."



ANNUAL ASSEMBLY Sunday, February 16, 2020

SERVICE FEES

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

<u>Service</u>	Steward	Non-Steward
Baptism	Donation	Donation
Wedding	Donation	\$600.00
Funeral	Donation	\$600.00
Parastos	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. 2020 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 Branka Andjelkovic *Vera Avramovic *Ann Baich Mila Baich Alex Beric *Maria Brnovich Mark Brnovich Dejan Bunjevic **Dusan Cekarmis** Gordana Cekarmis **Paul Djurisic Dmeter Dragovich** Sharon Dragovich Milutin Drakulovic Novica Gluscevic Ljubo Gordic Snezana Gordic *David Grankowski MaryLynn Gudovic Nicholas Gudovic **Tania Gudovic** Ruzica Jaksic Nebojsa Jevdosic Denise Kangrga 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** Meri Lazarevic

Kata Malobabic-Zlojutro

Donna Marjanovich Iliia Markovic Milorad Markovic *Uros Markovic *Natalie Marusich Dragomir Mikalacki Miodrag Milovanovic **George Mixis** 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 *Slavka Radjevic Dorothy Rybicki John Sefferovich *Emily Sertich Milan Simovich **Branko Srejic** Nancy Srejic **Dusan Stanisic Katarina Stanisic** Mihailo Stojanovic Zdravko Sulaver **Chris Susnier** Dusanka Tkacenko Natasha Tomecak *Fr. Janko Trbovic *Fr. Dragomir Tuba Protinica Kristina Tuba **Zoran Umicevic Danica Vavan**

Olgica Vojnovic Donna Vudrag George Vudrag Nick Vudrag Mirjana Vujic Dubravka Vukcevic Violet Vukotich T.V. Weber Vera Whitted

*Denotes honorary member

Lepa Vavan

As of 12/26/19



ST. SAVA PARISHIONERS GATHER TO HELP

On Sunday, November 24, 2019, St. Sava hosted a fundraiser to help out the Church in New York that was destroyed in a fire on Easter Sunday 2016. Thank you to everyone that helped out in any way to help make this event successful and thank you to the following who donated towards this cause:

M/M Slobodan Andjelkovic

Ms. Diane Baich
M/M Alexander Beric
M/M Rade Blesach
Mrs. Maria Brnovich
M/M Deyan Bunjevic
Mr. Robert Chubrich
M/M Paul Diurisic

M/M Dmeter Dragovich Jr Dr/M Milutin Drakulovic

Mr. Jovan Gajic

Gavrilo Princip Folklore Group

Mrs. Donna Gligich M/M Ljubo Gordic M/M Steve Gudovic Mrs. Ruzica Jaksic

Jedinstvo Tamburica Orchestra

Mrs. Marti Kasovac
Mrs. Pauline Komnenich
Mr. Joseph Kosanovich
Mrs. Nada Krstic
M/M Dusan Lazarevic
Ms. Roberta Lemaich
M/M Dragan Lukic
Mr. Dusan Marceta
Mr. Ljubomir Marcetich
M/M Peter Marjanovich
M/M Uros Markovic

Mrs. Natalie Marusich

Dr/M Lester Mertz

M/M Petar Miric

M/M Bosko Momich Mr. George Momich M/M Stevan Mrksich Mrs. Simone Ossipov Mr. Miomir Palich-Butch Miss Milijana Pavicevich

Mrs. Milka Pavicevich Mr. Milos Pavicevich Ms. Sophia Qendro

M/M George Radakovich

Mrs. Mira Radakovich Mrs. Danica Rakich M/M Milan Simovich SNF Kosovo Lodge #40 M/M Branko Srejic

St. Sava Church, Phoenix St. Sava Senior Citizen Club Stevan Hristich Serbian Choir

M/M Vaso Stojic
M/M Zdravko Sulaver
M/M Nikola Tkacenko
Mrs. Danica Vavan
M/M Ilija Vranjes
Ms. Donna Vudrag
M/M Nick Vudrag
M/M Zoran Vukcevic
Ms. Violet Vukotich
M/M T V Weber

Ms. Vera Whitted

Total Collected \$8,285



From the kitchen of Denise Kangrga

I use this recipe from the Circle of Serbian Sister from Indianapolis IN. It's the best posno chocolate cake ever!

INGREDIENTS

3 c flour

2 c sugar

1 tsp salt

2 tsp baking soda

6 Tbsp cocoa

3/4 c vegetable oil

2 Tbsp vinegar

2 tsp vanilla

2 c water



Sift all the dry ingredients together. Make a well. Pour in oil, vinegar, vanilla & water and mix well.

Pour into a greased and floured 9×13 inch cake pan (or I just spread batter onto a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper)

Bake at 350 for 30 minutes

POSNO FROSTING

1 c powdered sugar

1 Tbsp hot water

1 Tbsp vanilla

Mix well and frost cake after it has cooled.

Inside our Parish



Circle of Serbian Sisters-Kolo Srpskih Sestara

Message from the KOLO President

ANYONE CAN BE A LEADER....

LEADRSHIP IS NOT about the size of your office or the prestige of your title. And it's not just for Presidents and VP's. We all can lead in all we do. To me, true leadership is more about the depth of your commitment and the strength of your character than about the position you hold.

Leadership, to me, is a way of being. It's about inspiring all of those who surround you to realize their gifts and stand for personal greatness. It's about taking responsibilities for every dimension of your life (versus blaming others for what's not working). Leadership is also about connecting to people, deeply, genuinely, passionately, because churches, business, AND LIFE ARE REALLY ALL ABOUT PEOPLE.

KOLO of Serbian Sisters were very busy helping out our Church for our Annual SerbFest. As always, the ladies helped before and during the event... THANK YOU FOR A JOB VERY WELL DONE!!!

Now we are getting ready for our Christmas Eve – BADNJE VECE ... dinner and decorating our Church for Christmas – BOZIC. If you wish to help defray expenses for POINSETTIAS, please see Nancy Srejic, or Vera S. Whitted. A check for the poinsettias can be made to: "Circle of Serbian Sisters St. Sava Church".

Our head chefs for BADNJE VECE dinner will be Radmila Minic and Nada Krstic. The rest of us are always eager to assist in any way we can.

KOLO SISTERS, DON'T FOGET OUR MEETING, JANUARY 19TH 2020 on Sunday after Divine Liturgy. This is a very important meeting since we will be busy making plans for our Church Slava and St. Sava Day Celebration, which will take place on January 26, 2020.

A Special THANKS! Goes to our KOLO sister Mrs. Olgica Vojnovic; your GENEROUS donation is GREATLY appreciated by our KOLO, it will be a tremendous assistance to us in carrying out our mission of serving ST. SAVA parishioners.

As your KOLO President, I want to say thanks to all for your guidance and support and thank you for all you do for the KOLO and our Church. As another year comes to a close, I want to take a moment along with MY KOLO SISTERS... to wish all of you a MERRY CHRISTMAS!!! The Spirit, Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness... AND Joyous and Prosperous NEW YEAR 2020!!! MIR BOZJI! HRISTOS SE RODI! VAJSTINU SE RODI! PUNO ZDRAVLJA, LJUBAVI I SRECE U NOVOJ 2020 GODINI!!!

Blessings and Love,

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.

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

On Sunday, December 8th, we had our Annual Holiday Party which was held at Tommy V's Restaurant in Scottsdale. We had a great turn out of 35 attendees. Our special guests were Father Dragomir and Protinica Kristina Tuba. Everyone boasted about the delicious food and great time they had socializing.

We would like to acknowledge our "Volunteer of the Year", Pauline Komnenich! Pauline, thank you for all that you do!

We are still planning a trip for a guided tour to the Musical Instrument Museum (MIM) and a trip to Bisbee in the spring time. The dates and times for both of these events have not been determined yet. Keep an eye out in future emails and Sunday bulletins for more info.

Our monthly meetings and Senior hosted lunches are always the fourth Sunday of the month. We will not be hosting lunches or holding a monthly meeting in the months of January and February due to our Church's Slava and St. Sava Day Celebration in January and our SNF Golf Tournament in February. The next regular scheduled lunch and meeting is set for Sunday, March, 22, 2020. So be sure to mark your calendars and join us on that day. 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.

Warm regards,

Vera Whitted, Secretary



St. Sava Seniors Holiday Party at Tommy V's in Scottsdale Sunday, December 8, 2019













INSIDE OUR PARISH



Stevan Hristich Choir

Stevan Hristich Choir (Phoenix) Travels

The Stevan Hristich Choir of Phoenix, AZ spent the weekend of November 15 - 17 in Lake Forest, IL, celebrating the inaugural choir concert of the St Nikolai of Zica Choir in Lake Forest. We were fortunate to be part of the choir's inauguration into the Serbian Singing Federation. The festivities were held at their home church, St. Basil of Ostrog.

Our small but determined choir flew to Chicago on various flights and all arrived by Friday evening. We were greeted by chilly temperatures and sightings of some snow on the ground from the previous days early arrival of winter. Our hosts arranged to pick us up at our hotel for the short trip to their hall in order to kick off the weekend festivities. The warm welcome and hospitality of our hosts took away any chill the Chicago-land weather imposed. We were warmly welcomed by everyone - everyone - in the St Basil community. Following the singing of Oce Nas, our evening 'posno' dinner was blessed by Fr. Krosnjar and we enjoyed our first meal with our hosts. After dinner the fun began. This evening's fun was centered around karaoke. And it was a blast. Interspersed with the singing were a few kolos which helped to keep the fun at an almost fever pitch. To say we had a good time would be an understatement!

At the end of the evening we were taken back to the hotel to rest up for what promised to be a full day on Saturday. The accommodations were comfortable and convenient. We were treated to a hotel breakfast on Saturday at the hotel, again provided by our hosts. Mid-morning we were again picked up in the van for a ride into Chicago where we were given a short tour, ably guided by Mike and Nada Savatich, who pointed out distinctive buildings and provided the history of some of them. Both Mike and Nada were well-informed on the architecture and history of the beautiful city. The first stop was outside the Adler Planetarium in the South Loop which afforded us an opportunity to capture some beautiful photographs of the impressive Chicago skyline from the shore of the mighty Lake Michigan. For some of us it was a welcome and nostalgic return to the beauty of the lake and it's power as well as the beauty of the Windy City. For the first-time visitors to Chicago these were breathtaking sights.

It was time to move on. The next stop was a ride north on Michigan Avenue to the 'Magnificent Mile' towards our next destination - the famous John Hancock building. Here we were treated to a trip up to the observatory high above the city. The vistas, while just barely blurred by light fog in the distance, were awesome. From this vantage point one can see many of the famous buildings as well as a view of the vastness of Lake Michigan. We were given time to explore the views from all sides, just wander around enjoying the views and marveling at the beauty of all that is Chicago as well as the marvel that is the John Hancock Center.

Time to move on to the walking part of our day and lunch - this time being treated by the St Basil's Men's Club. Our attempt to dine at the popular 'Eataly' was foiled due to the throngs of people in the city this particular Saturday. We settled on a casual lunch with quick service and began our long walk to Millenium Park to visit the well-known and extremely popular 'Bean'. Along the way our guides continued to point out history and points of interest. We stopped on the Michigan Avenue bridge over the. Hi so River to take a group photo and take in the beautiful river and the buildings along its shorelines.

The brisk, chilly air was balanced by bright sunshine and the rather long walk was invigorating. The mood in the city, which was teeming with visitors, was upbeat and exciting. Along the way various Christmas decorations and trees helped to keep the mood happy.

Upon arrival at the Bean we were given time to stand in awe of this wonder of modern architecture and take pictures of our group for posterity. One of our own members will even be part of someone else's posterity as he managed to photo bomb their celebration photos at the park.



Stevan Hristich Choir

The city tour ended and a quieter, chilled, little more tired group was headed back to the hotel to prepare for the evening concert, dinner and dance. We had just enough time to change and have a short rehearsal before going back to the hall.

The concert was held in the lovely church of St. Basil and was going to feature five SSF choirs: the inductee choir, St. Nikolai of Zića, Lake Forest IL; Stevan Hristich, Phoenix, AZ; SSS Mita Topalovich, Joliet, IL; SSS Stevan Sijaćki, Milwaukee, WI; and SSS Branko Radichevich, Chicago, IL. As is customary, the concert began with a mass chorus singing Oće Naš, both the American and Serbian national anthems, and Vjećnaja Pamjat in honor of all deceased SSF singers. The sounds of mass chorus was tremendous because of the combined talents within the five choirs. This was enhanced by the acoustics and we as singers were moved by the sounds as I am sure those in the audience were. Each choir performed and each was warmly received. At the conclusion of the concert, members of the SSF Board presented the St. Nikolai Choir with certificates outlining their acceptance and membership into the 80+ year old parent organization. Executive Secretary Bonnie Dauer read the certificates and gave a brief welcoming speech. The Stevan Sijacki Choir proudly served as kumovi. After several signings by SSF board members, St Nikolai officers, guest choir President, and SNF representative the singing of Źiveli put the final stamp of approval on the acceptance of the new choir into the ranks of the SSF.

Dinner and a dance followed in the hall and the rest of the evening gave us time to meet fellow singers and for some of us an opportunity to visit with old friends from other choirs and to reminisce about concerts of the past. It was a noisy, fun-filled evening with music and dance. Midnight came too quickly.

Sunday we, Stevan Hristich, were honored to rise early albeit slowly, and sing Liturgical responses. The church was full and based on heartwarming comments heard afterwards, the choral responses were well-received and much appreciated. Father Krosnjar gave a stirring thank you to us from the altar, which served to reinforce what will surely be a new and, hopefully, long-term friendship between our respective communities and choirs.

We moved on to the banquet where we enjoyed a delicious home-cooked dinner. Following the banquet, Marko Savatich and choir president, Helen Popovich Mandich, bestowed our choir with a gift and speeches of their great appreciation to Phoenix for accepting their invitation and presented our president, Joe Kosanovich, with a gift. We, in turn, presented their choir with a monetary gift. President Kosanovich expressed our gratitude for their overwhelming hospitality and warmth. Surely this is a choir union which will last for many years.

Goodbyes were exchanged with promises to meet again at SSF Festivals (hopefully in Phoenix in 2021) and future concerts, it was time to leave so we packed our vehicles and departed for the airport. But first a side trip to Chicago for that visit to Eataly!!!

We wish to give special thanks to Nedra Milisic (formerly of Phoenix) for traveling from New York to sing with us and to Jovo, Nada and Joki Potkonjak of SSS Stevan Sijacki, and Danielle Dragovich, NAU student and daughter of our members Demeter and Sharon for agreeing to lend their talents to our choir both in numbers and quality. Thank you all.

The Stevan Hristich Choir cannot fully express our gratitude to St. Nikolai Choir for the opportunity to be your guests. You can be proud of your inaugural choir concert weekend. You will be a huge asset to the SSF and your youth will carry on the great traditions of being an SSF Choir. Živeli na Mnogaja Ljeta

HRISTOS SE RODI from the SSS Stevan Hristich Choir,

Vonnie Orlich, Choir Secretary



Gavrilo Princip Folklore

The Gavrilo Princip Folklore group has been very busy since we resumed practice in August. The Senior Group, under the direction of Dako Acamovic, has 17 members. Due to such small numbers in the Junior Group and Orolovi Group, it was decided to combine those two, and now the Junior Group has 12 dancers, also instructed by Dako Acamovic. The smallest group, Bozur, which this year is taught by Denise Kangrga, has 17 dancers.

Our first performance of the year was at the Kolo Sister's Slava - Mala Gospojina in September - always a great event to begin the church calendar as well as the church folklore and school year for the children. With a few weeks off in October due to school breaks, our next performance was for SerbFest.

On November 22nd and 23rd, the Senior Group traveled to St. Sava - Wallings in Cleveland, Ohio, to perform at the Morava Annual Folklore Festival. We had 13 dancers perform, and eight (8) parents chaperone. The cold weather didn't deter us from enjoying ourselves. We attended the welcome dance on Friday evening, and on Saturday morning, we visited the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame Museum. The dancers enjoyed the museum, and rest assured, if the dance group ever folds, these kids will absolutely be forming a band. The highlight of the museum for them was being able to go into make-shift studios to learn how to play different instruments popular music. Our Senior Group performed *Igre iz Obrenovca* and *Dajcovo Oro*, and then enjoyed the zabava until 1 AM. A great time was had by dancers and parents alike.

Friday, December 13th was our last practice until Friday, January 3rd. We invite everyone to please come down to the hall that night to help decorate the badnjak and enjoy a posno dinner hosted by the folklore group.

We must take this opportunity to thank our St. Sava Church Board, Parishioners, and the many supporters of our folklore group. With your generosity, donations, and investment in the dancers, the Senior Group was able to perform in Cleveland in **ALL NEW NOŠNJE!** Two weeks prior to the trip, Dako received a shipment of nošnje for *Igre iz Obrenovca*. We had been waiting quite a while for the other shipment from Srbija and figured we wouldn't have it in time for Cleveland, but much to our surprise, it arrived four (4) days before we were to leave for Cleveland.

The dancers looked beautiful and represented St. Sava well, and they were proud to be performing in the new nošnje. THANK YOU EVERYONE FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS!

Please join us on St. Sava Day, and you will see all of the children from all of the groups in the new nošnje. We will also be performing in February at Sv. Nikola's folklore festival February 7th and 8th, and we are planning a trip to California to perform at a folklore festival in Los Angeles. **And don't forget our Pholkfest April 24th & 25th, 2020** "The First Blast After the Fast".

On behalf of the Gavrilo Princip Folklore Board and the folklore families: Mir Boži Hristos se Rodi i Srećna Nova Godina

Nadica Jevdosic, President Denise Kangrga, Vice-President Mike Spanovic, Secretary Beba Drakulovic, Treasurer Alex Beric, Financial Secretary Mikan Budurin, Member at Large

Senior group performance at St. Sava Wallings - Folklorna Grupa Morava Festival & our day trip to the Rock n Roll Hall of Fame Museum in Cleveland













Schedule of January Services

Monday, January 6th -Nativity Eve

10 am Divine Liturgy

6 pm Vespers, Blessing and Burning of Yule Log, Lenten Dinner



Tuesday, January 7th—The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ 10 am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, January 8th—Synaxis of the Most Holy Mother of God 10 am Divine Liturgy

Thursday, January 9th – Holy Apostle, Protomartyr and Archdeacon Stephen 10 am Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, January 14th—The Circumcision of our Lord, St. Basil, New Year 10 am Divine Liturgy

Saturday, January 18th-Holy Cross Day

10 am Divine Liturgy-Great Blessing of Waters

Sunday, January 19th-Theophany

10 am Divine Liturgy-Great Blessing of Waters

Monday, January 20th-St. John the Baptist

10 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, January 26th-St. Sava Day Celebration

10 am Divine Liturgy

St. Sava Day Celebration, Banquet, Slava and Children's Program

Monday, January 27th-St Sava, First Archbishop of Serbia

10 am Divine Liturgy

Распоред Богослужења за Јануар

Понедељак, 6ти јануар, Бадњи Дан

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

6 увече Вечерње, Благосиљање и Уношење Бадњака и Посна Вечера

Уторак, 7-ми јануар, Рођење Христа Спаситеља-Божић

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

Среда, 8-ми јануар, Сабор Пресвете Богородице

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

Четвртак, 9-ти јануар, Св. Промученик и Архиђакон Стефан

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

Уторак, 14-ти јануар, Обрезање Господње, Св. Василије, Нова Година

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

Субота, 18-ти јануар, Крстовдан, Велико Водосвећење

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

Недеља, 19-ти јануар, Богојављење, Велико Водосвећење

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

Понедељак, 20-ти јануар, Св. Јован Крститељ

10 ујутру Св. Литургија

Недеља, 26-ти јануар, Светосавска Прослава

10 ујутру Св. Литургија, Славски Ручак, и Дечији Програм

Понедељак, 27-ми јануар, Св. Сава

10 ујутру Св. Литургија



Christmas Eve/Badnje Vece

Join us for Badnje Vece January 6, 2020

Vespers start at 6:00 pm

Immediately following the service we will have a Procession around the Church Hall (1 time) and the Blessing and Burning of the Yule Log in the courtyard.

After this you will be able to enjoy our wonderful Lenten Dinner in the Church hall.

Please join us for this wonderful festivity.

Позивамо вас на
Вечерње Богослужење
На
Бадње Вече
6-ог јануара, 2020
Са почетком у 6 часова,

Пропраћено проношењем и спаљивањем бадњака,
А затим нам се придружите за нашу традиционалну посну
Вечеру и врућу ракију
Која ће бити служена у нашој дворани.

ST. SAVA DAY



Annual Children's Program
January 26, 2020 with us!

Please join us for
Divine Liturgy, blessing of the Slavski Kolac,
A banquet luncheon, and children's Program.

Our Honorary Kumovi for this year's Slava are our

Gavrilo Princip Folklore Children

So plan to stay for an enjoyable afternoon!

Прославите Црквену Славу и Дечији Св. Савски Програм Са нама 26-ог јануара, 2020

Придружите нам се на Св. Литургији, резању Славског Колача и изванредом банкету.





Hosted by

St. Sava Serbian Church and SNF Lodge #40 Kosovo of Phoenix, AZ

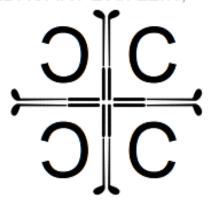
Course: Papago Golf Course

Registration Cut-off Date - Friday January 17, 2020 / 4:00pm

SNF MEMBERS \$390/ GUESTS \$440

Co-Chairs Paul Djurisic and Alex Beric

SNF 52nd MID-WINTER GOLF FEBRUARY 20th-22nd, 2020



Hosted by St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church and SNF Lodge 40, Phoenix, AZ The St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church & SNF Kosovo Lodge #40 of Phoenix invite you to

The 52nd SNF Mid Winter Golf Tournament

February 20th, 21st and 22nd, 2020

Papago Golf Course

Sponsorships

St Sava Serbian Orthodox Church and SNF Lodge Kosovo #40 ask for your support of the Phoenix community through our sponsorship options.

Don't miss this opportunity to send a personal message, market a product or company, or promote an upcoming event.

RESERVE YOUR SPONSORSHIP TODAY!

Fill out and return the form below to:

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church 4436 E. McKinley Street Phoenix, AZ 85008 Attn: Paul, Alex, Dusan

Email: the form, logo's, etc.: bebadrak@gmail.com or dcekarmis47@outlook.com

> If paying by credit card, please call Dusan Cekarmis directly at 602.820.1122

Sponsorship Levels

Hole Sponsor - \$100

One (1) sign displayed all three (3) days of the tournament

Silver - \$250

One (1) sign displayed all three (3) days of the tournament, banner recognition, Golfer Gifts, \$10 in drink/food tickets

Gold - \$500

One (1) sign displayed all three (3) days of the tournament, banner recognition, Golfer Gifts, \$20 in drink/food tickets

Platinum - \$1000

One (1) sign displayed all three (3) days of the tournament, banner recognition, Golfer Gifts, \$50 in drink/food tickets, Reserved parking at Hall and Golf Course

\$100 Hole Sponsor\$2	250 Silver Level\$500 (Gold Level	_\$1,000 Platinum Level
Company Name/Contact:		Phone:	
Address:		State:	Zipcode:
Message for Sign:			
Method of Payment:Credit Care	dCheck Enclosed (make	e payable to 'St Sav	va Golf')
Name on Card:	Card #:		Exp Date:
CCV (3-digit code on back of card):			

S.N.F. KOSOVO LODGE #40

SGOLF &

OUTING

Here is your chance to get a practice round in with your friends before the Mid-Winter!

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19TH, 2020 TEE TIMES STARTING AT 11:00AM

\$128

PER PERSON

Papago Golf Course

5595 E. Karsten Way Phoenix, 85008 FEES, CART, TAX, GOODIE BAG & DINNER THAT EVENING AT ST. SAVA'S

TO SIGN UP AND RESERVE YOUR SPOT CALL GEORGE MOMICH

602-750-3254

JACK RADAVICH

480-231-1766

Wage with Especial/wall soon

We Thank You St. Sava for the Christmas Angel Donations!

Thank you we approached

Thank you for your doublins! we couldn't do this without you. - Petar Tuba

thank you for the donations we really appreciate your help! Nastasyo

hank yeu for all for donations! Menny Chivistmas Valuana Jelotesio



27

Рождество Господа и Бога и Спаса нашега Исуса Христа 7. јануар



"А кад се наврши вријеме, посла Бог Сина својега јединороднога" (Гал 4,14), да спасе род људски. И кад се испуни девет месеци од благовести, коју јави архангелл Гаврил Пресветој Деви у Назарету, говорећи: "Радуј се, бглагодатна...ево зачећеш и родићеш сина, и надјени му име Исус" (Лк 1 18 и 31). У то време изиђе заповест од кесара Августа, да се попише сав народ у Царевини римској.

Сходно тој заповести требаше свако да иде у свој град и тамо се упише. Зато Јосиф Праведни дође с Пресветом Девом у Витлејем, град Давидов, јер обоје беху од царског колена Давидова. Па како се у тај малени град слеже много народа ради пописа, не могоше Јосиф и Марија наћи конака ни једној кући, због чега се склонише у једну пећину овчарску, где пастири овце своје затвараху. У тој пећини, а у ноћи између суботе и недеље, 25. децембра роди Пресвета Дева Спаситеља света, Господа Исуса Христа. И родивши Га без бола, као што Га је и зачела без греха, од Духа Светога, а не од човека, она Га сама пови у ланене пелене, поклони Му се као Богу и положи Га у јасле. Потом приђе и праведни Јосиф, и он Му се поклони као божанском плоду девичанске утробе. Тада дођоше и пастири из поља, упућени од ангела Божјег, и поклонише Му се као Месији и Спаситељу. И чуше пастири мно штво ангела Божјих где поју: "Слава на висини Богу и на земљи мир, међу људима добра воља" (Лк 2,14). У то време стигоше и три мудраца с Истока вођени чудесном звездом, са даровима својим: златом, ливаном и измирном, и поклонише Му се као Цару над царевима, и дариваше Га даровима својим (Мт. 2). Тако дође у свет Онај, чији долазак би проречен од пророка, роди се онако како би проречено: од Пречисте Деве, у граду Витлејему, од колена Давидова по телу, у време када више не беше у Јерусалиму цара од рода Јудина, него цароваше Ирод туђин. После многих Својих преобраза и наговештења, изасланика и весника, пророка и праведника, мудраца и царева, најзад се јави Он, Господар света и Цар над царевима, да изврши дело спасења људског, које не могоше извршити слуге Његове. Њему нека је вечна слава и хвала. Амин.

Сабор Пресвете Богородице

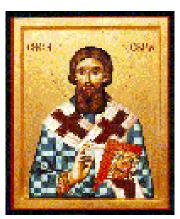
8. јануар



Други дан Божића Црква хришћанска одаје славу и хвалу Пресветој Богоматери, која роди Господа и Бога и Спаса нашега Исус Христа. Сабором се њеним назива ово празновање зато, што се тога дана сабирају сви верни, да прославе њу, Матер Богородицу, и што се тога дана торжествено, саборно, служи у част Њену. У Охриду је од старине био обичај, да се уочи другог дана Божића вечерња служи само у Светој Богородици званој Челница. Све свештенство са народом ту је саборно прослављало Пречисту Богоматер.

Свети Сава, Архиепископ Српски

27. јануар



Син Стефана Немање, великог жупана српског, рођен 1169 године. Као младић жудео за духовним животом, због чега је одбегао у Свету Гору где се замонашио и са ретком ревношћу про шао цео подвижнички устав. Немања последује примеру сина, те и сам дође у Свету Гору, где се замонаши и умре као монах Симеон. Сава је издејствовао код цара и патријарха независност Српске цркве, и постао први ариепископ српски. Подигао је, заједно са оцем својим, манастир Хилендар, а потом и многе друге манастире, цркве и школе по земљи српској. Путовао је у два маха на поклоњење светињама у Светој Земљи. Мирио браћу своју, завађену око власти; мирио Србе са суседима њиховим, и стварајући Српску цркву, стварао је кроз то српску државу и културу. Уносио је мир међу све балканске народе и радио је на добру свих, због чега је и био поштован и вољен од свих Балканаца. Народу српском он је дао хришћанску душу, која није пропала са пропашћу државе српске. Скончао у Трнову у време цара Асена, разболевши се после службе Божје на Богојављење, 12. јануара 1236 године. Тело му пренео краљ Владислав у манастир Милешеву, одакле га Синан-паша дигне и спали на Врачару у Београду, 27. априла 1595 године. (в. 27.април).



Do you have news you would like to share with everyone reading Poruka?

Birth Announcemnt or Christening

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Graduation

Thank You's

Memorial Tribute to a loved one

If so, contact Meri in the Church office at 602-275-7360 or send an email to stsavaphx@gmail.com for more info.

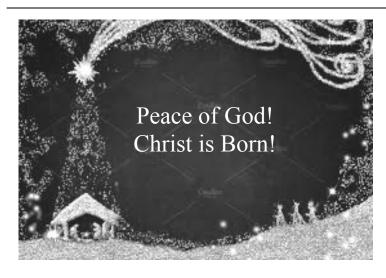


STAY IN THE KNOW

Are you receiving our Weekly Email Newsletter?

If not, please send a request with your email information to:

stsavaphx@gmail.com







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

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