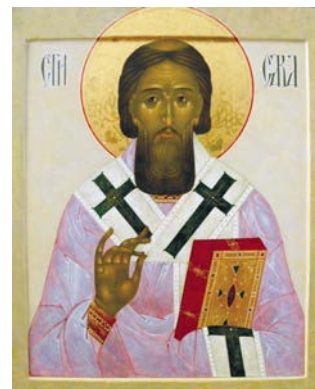


THE WAY + *ЈЕДИНИ ПУТ*

JANUARY 2013 BULLETIN

ST. SAVA SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Peace from God - Christ is Born! *МИР БОЖИЈИ - ХРИСТОС СЕ РОДИ!*



Word Became Flesh

Our Advent journey has been meant to prepare us for the celebration of this Holy event. Here is a simple story by an unknown author that brings to light the amazing wonder of what the Feast of the Nativity of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is all about.

There was once a man who didn't believe in the spiritual meaning of the Nativity of Christ, and was skeptical about God. He and his family lived in a farm community. His wife was a devout believer and diligently raised her children in her faith. He sometimes gave her a hard time about her faith and mocked her religious observance of Christ's Nativity. One snowy Nativity eve she was taking the kids to the Nativity eve service at church. She pleaded with him to come, but he firmly refused. He ridiculed the idea of the incarnation of Christ and dismissed it as nonsense. "Why would God lower himself and become a human like us?! It's such a ridiculous story!" he said. So she and the children left for church while he stayed home.

After they left, the winds grew stronger and the snow turned into a blizzard. As he looked out the window, all he saw was a blinding snowstorm. He sat down to relax before the fire for the evening. Then he heard a loud thump, something hitting against the window... and another thump. He looked outside but couldn't see. So he ventured outside to see. In the field near his house he saw, of all the strangest things, a flock of geese! They were apparently flying to look for a warmer area down south, but got caught in the snow storm. The snow had become too blinding and violent for the geese to fly or see their way. They were lost and stranded on his farm, with no food or shelter. They just fluttered their wings and flew around in circles around the field blindly and aimlessly.

He had compassion for them and wanted to help them. He thought to himself, "The barn would be a great place for them to stay! It's warm and safe; surely they could spend the night and wait out the storm." So he walked over to the barn and opened the barn doors for them. He waited, watching them, hoping they would notice the open barn and go inside. But they just fluttered around aimlessly and didn't notice the barn or realize what it could mean for them. So he started whistling and calling to them... but nothing changed. He shouted, jumped up and

down, and waved his arms. They didn't pay attention. He moved closer toward them to get their attention, but they just moved away from him out of fear. He went into the house and came back out with some bread, broke it up, and made a bread trail leading to the barn. They still didn't catch on. Starting to get frustrated, he went over and tried to shoo them, run after them, and chase them toward the barn. They only got scared and scattered into every direction except toward the barn.

None of his attempts to get them into the barn succeeded. Nothing he did could get them to go into the barn where there was warmth, safety, and shelter; nothing he did could make them enter the one place where they could survive.

Feeling totally frustrated, he exclaimed, "Why don't they listen to me?! Why don't they follow me?! What's wrong with them?! Can't they see this is the only place where they can survive the storm?! How can I possibly get them into the one place to save them?!" He thought for a moment and realized that they just won't follow a human. He said to himself, "How can I possibly save them? The only way would be for me to become like those geese. If only I could become like one of them! Then I could show them the way! Then I could save them! They would follow me, not fear me. They would trust me, and I would lead them to safety."

He stood silently for a moment as the words that he just said reverberated back to himself in his mind: "If only I could become like one of them—then I could show them the way—then I could save them." He thought about his words, and remembered what he said to his wife: "Why would God want to be like us? That's so ridiculous!" Something clicked in his mind as he put these two together. It was like a revelation, and he began to understand what his wife had tried to explain to him about the true meaning of Christ's Nativity. We were like the geese—caught in the storms of life and perishing. God became like us so He could rescue us. That is the meaning of Christ's Nativity, he realized in his heart.

As the winds and blinding snow abated, his heart became quiet and pondered this epiphany. He understood what Nativity was all about. He knew why Jesus had come. Suddenly years of doubt and disbelief were shattered, as he humbly and tearfully bowed down in the snow, and embraced the true meaning of the Nativity.

As we journey on toward Nativity morning, please take time to consider these words from the first chapter of the Gospel of John: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it... He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory..."

Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry

Реч постаде тијело



Наш пут божићњег поста је био потребан да би били спремни за овај Свети празник. Ово је проста прича од непознатог писца која освјетљава шта значи ово невероватно чудо с Празником рођења Господа Бога и Спаситеља нашега Исуса Христа.

Некада је био човек који није веровао у духовни значај Христовог рођења, и био је скептичан о Богу. Он и његова

фамилија су живели у земљорадничкој заједници. Његова жена је била побожан верник и марљиво је гајила своју децу у вери. Понекада је он био критичан у вези њезине вере и ругао се на њезино религиозно придржавање Празника Христовог рођења. Једне снежне вечери уочи Празника Христовог Рођења она је разговарала са децом о Служби у Цркви. Она га је молила да дође са њом, али он је чврсто одбио. Исмејао се идеји утеловљење Христово и одбацио га као бесмислено. „Зашто бих се Бог понизио и постао човек као ми“?! Ово је бесмислена прича“! каже он. Тако, она и деца су кренили ка цркви док би он остао кући.

После њиховог одласка, ветар се појачао и снег претворио у мећаву. Гледајући кроз прозор, само је видео заслепљујућу мећаву. Сео је пред ватру да се одмори то вече. Па је онда чуо бучни туп ударац, нешто удара од прозора...и још један туп. Погледао је напоље али није ништа могао да види. Тако се усудио да оде напоље и види. У пољу близу куће он је видео, свих најчуднијих ствари, јато гусака! Вероватно су летеле да нађу топлију област према југу, али су биле ухваћени у мећави. Снег је постао превише заслепљујуће и насилан да би гуске могле да полету или да виде куда да иду. Биле су изгубљене и насукане на његову фарму, без хране и склоништа. Само су лепршале и летеле у кругу око поља слепо и бесциљно.

Имао је саосећање за њих и хтео да им помогне. У себи је помислио, „Штала би била добро место за боравак! Топло и сигурно је; сигурно могу да преноће и сачекају док олуја прође“. Тако оде до штале и отвори врата за њих. Чекао, гледајући њих, са надом да ће приметити да је штала отворена и ући унутра. Али оне су само лепршале околно бесциљно и нису приметиле шталу или свахтиле шта би то њима значило. Па поче звиждати и звати њих... али ништа се није променило. Викао, скакао горе и доле, и махао рукама. Нису скренуле пажњу. Приблжио се њима да бих добио њихову пажњу, али оне се само склонише од њега због страха. Отиде у кућу и врати се са хлебом, изломио и направио траг са хлебом ка штали. Још нису схватиле. Почео је да биде фрустриран, оде код њих и покуша да их отера, трчећи позади њих, и потера их ка штали. Само су се уплашиле и раштркале на све стране осим штале.

Шта год је пробао није успео да их доведе у шталу. Ништа није могао урадити да би отишле у шталу где је топло, сигурност и склониште; није могао ништа да уради да би отишле тамо где би могли преживети.

Фрустриран, узвикно, „Зашто ме не послушају? Зашто ме не прате? Шта је са њима? Да ли не виде да је ово једино место где могу преживети олују? Како могу да их доведем у једно место где могу бити спашене“? Замислио се и свахтио да оне не прате човека. Рекао је себи, „Како да њих спасим? Једини начин је да ја postanем гуска. Само ако могу да постојим као оне! Онда могу њима показати пут! Онда



могу да њих спасим! Могу мене пратити да ме се не плаше. Имале би поверење у мене, и ја би њих довео до склоништа“.

Стане без речи за тренутак док речи које је изговорио не врате му се у ум: „Ако само могу да postanем као једна од њих – онда могу њима показати пут – онда могу њих спасити“.

Помислио мало о овим речима, и сетио се шта је рекао жени: „Зашто би

Бог хтео да буде као ми? То је бесмислено“! Нешто му је кликнуло у глави док је саставио ове две изреке. Било је то као откривање, и почео да разуме шта му је жена покушала да објасни о правом мишљењу Христовог рођења. Били смо као гуске – ухваћени у олуји живота и пропадајући. Бог је постао као ми тако да би могао нас спасити. Ово је шта значи Христово рођење, реализовано је у његовом срцу.

Док се ветар и заслепљујући снег смањило, његово срце се утешило и размишљао о овом откривању. Разумео је шта значи ово Рођење. Знао је зашто је Христос дошао. Од једанпут невера се разбила, док се са скромношћу и сузама поклатио у снегу и прихватио прави значај о Христовом рођењу.

Док ми путујемо ка Празнику Христовог рођења, молимо вас да узмете у обзир ове речи у Јеванђељу прве главе Јована: „У почетку бјеше Логос (Ријеч), и Логос бјеше у Бога, и Логос бјеше Бог. Он бјеше у почетку у Бога. Све кроз њега постаде, и без њега ништа не постаде што је постало. У њему бјеше живот, и живот бјеше свјетлост људима. И свјетлост свијетли у тами, и тама је не обузе...Он не бјеше свјетлост, него да свједочи о свјетлости. Бјеше свјетлост истинита која обасјава свакога човјека који долази на свијет. У свијету бјеше, и свијет кроз њега постаде, и свијет га не позна. Својима дође, и своји га не примише. А онима који га примише даде власт да буду чеда Божија, онима који вјерују у име његово; Који се не родише од крви, ни од жеље тјелесне, ни од жеље мужевље, него од Бога. И Логос постаде тијело и настани се међу нама, и видјесмо славу његову...“

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Blessings & prayers / Благослови и молитве

Home blessing / Благосиљање домова: Danilo Vukosav

Slava / Славе: St. Nicholas: Milomir Djordjevich Family, Michael Jankovich Family, Radomir Jasika Family, Srdjan / Jadranka Jovic, Korzynek Family, Cedo Marusic Family, Radenko Marusic Family, Novica Petrovic Family, Bogdan Stankovic Family, Goran Stankovic Family, Mile Stevanovic Family, Goran Trbic Family, Jovo Trbic Family, Andjelko Vasic Family, Danilo Vukosav Family

Memorial prayers / парастосе: Georgri Cvetana, Milica Subotic,

Remember to contact Fr. Ilija to have birth prayers said on the first, eighth and 40th day of birth the birth of your child. Не заборавите да контакирате о. Илију како би могао да очита молитве за новорођене првог, осмог и четрдесетог дана по рођењу.

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Thank you very much! Много вам хвала!

Church lunches: KSS, Protinica Carole Balach, Jadranka Jovic, Rada Marusic

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Transportation

Many of our parishioners are not able to come to church because they don't have a way to get there. If anyone is able to provide transportation, please contact Fr. Ilija.

Много парохијана нису у могућности да дођу у цркву на богослужење јер немају средства. Ако је неко у могућности да их доведе, молим вас контактирајте о. Илију.



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Sunday School



Here we are in January and getting ready for our annual Savindan Program on January 27. All children are encouraged to participate whether it is reciting poems, singing playing an instrument and / or dancing. It would be wonderful if all our children could participate. Just imagine a picture with over 100 children!!! Let's make it happen!

Contact Fr. Ilija right away if your child will be participating so we can prepare the program.

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THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF PREPARATION FOR CONFESSION – Десет (божји) заповести у припрему за исповест

FIRST COMMANDMENT: 'I am the Lord your God: You shalt have no other Gods before me.'

Ја сам Господ Бог Твој; немој имати других богова осим мене.

- Have I loved God as much as I should?
- Have I been more interested in my own will rather than God's?
- Have I failed to pray sincerely and regularly?
- Have I believed in God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit?
- Have I failed to trust in God and His mercy?
- Have I complained against God in adversity?
- Have I been thankful for God's blessings?
- Have I doubted the Christian faith and the teachings of the Church?
- Have I tried to serve God and keep His Commandments?
- Have I given way to superstition?

- Have I frequented the religious meetings of heretics and schismatics?
- Have I neglected my duties to God through fear of ridicule or persecution?

SECOND COMMANDMENT: 'You shalt not make unto you any graven image.'

Не прави себи идола нити каква лика; немој им се клањати нити им служити.

- Have I put another person or object before God in my life?
- Have I been insincere about my religion?
- Have I made an idol of any person or thing?
- Have I given to anyone or anything the worship that is due to God alone?
- Have I set before myself the holy life of Jesus and tried to imitate Him?
- Have I read the Holy Scriptures regularly?
- Have I neglected to receive Holy Communion regularly or without due preparation?

THIRD COMMANDMENT: 'You shalt not take the name of the Lord in vain.'

Не узимај узалуд имена Господа Бога својега.

- Have I paid proper attention to holy persons and things?
- Have I broken any solemn promises?
- Have I profaned the holy name of God in any way?
- Have I cursed anyone or anything, or sworn a false oath?
- Have I failed to give proper reverence to holy persons or things?
- Have I had due respect for the clergy of the Church or hindered them in performing God's work?
- Have I broken any solemn vow or promise?
- Have I entered into any unlawful contract or made an unlawful promise?

FOURTH COMMANDMENT: 'Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.'

Сећај се дана одмора да га светкујеш; (шест дана ради и сврши све своје послове, а седми дан је одмор Господу Богу твојему.)

- Have I always kept Sunday as it ought to be kept?
- Have I stayed away from Church on Sundays or prevented others from going?
- Have I done unnecessary work on Sundays?
- Have I spent the day in unwholesome fashion or profaned it by improper conduct?
- If I could not go to Church because of illness or other grave cause, have I prayed at home?
- Have I caused anyone else to profane the Lord's Day?
- Have I kept the Fasts and Festivals prescribed by the Church?

FIFTH COMMANDMENT: 'Honor your father and your mother.'

Поштуј оца својега и мајку своју, (да ти добро буде и да дуго поживиш на земљи.)

- Have I argued disrespectfully with my parents?
- Have I respected my parents and been obedient to them?
- Have I been guilty of deception, or caused them pain by my words or actions?
- Have I neglected them or failed to help them?
- Have I done my duty towards my family?
- Have I been wanting in love or kindness towards my mate or harmed my mate in any way?

- Have I set my children a good example and tried to bring them up properly?
- Have I corrected their faults with patience and not with anger?
- Have I over-indulged and spoiled them?
- Have I neglected my God-children and failed in my obligations toward them?
- Have I worked for my employers honestly and diligently?
- Have I treated fairly all those who have worked for me?
- Have I honored the Church as my spiritual mother by honoring and practicing my religion in accordance with her teachings?

SIXTH COMMANDMENT: ‘You shalt not kill.’

Не убиј.

- Have I harmed others by ridicule & sarcasm or contempt & stubbornness?
- Have I fought with my family and friends?
- Have I caused the injury or death of any one, or wished that they or I were dead?
- Have I done anything to shorten my own life or that of someone else by injuring health, or through evil and intemperate living?
- Have I given way to anger, or harmed others with words or actions?
- Have I defamed others who needed help, or failed to stand up for those unjustly treated?
- Have I been cruel to anyone or have I mistreated or destroyed any life unnecessarily?
- Have I failed to forgive anyone or harbored evil thoughts against them?
- Have I eaten or drunk or smoked too much?

SEVENTH COMMANDMENT: ‘You shalt not commit adultery (or infidelity).’

Не чини прељубе.

- Have I given way to impure thoughts, words, or deeds?
- Have I committed any unworthy actions alone or with others?
- Have I degraded myself in any way, or forgotten human dignity?
- Have I read immoral books or magazines, or delighted in obscenity of any kind?
- Have I associated with bad companions or frequented unsavory places?
- Have I led others to commit sinful acts?
- Have I been unfaithful to any trust confided in me?

EIGHTH COMMANDMENT: ‘You shalt not steal.’

Не кради.

- Have I ever stolen or wished to do so, or shared in stolen goods?
- Have I given to my Church what I know I can afford to give?
- Have I kept anything that did not belong to me?
- Have I tried honestly to find owners of lost articles I have found?
- Have I cheated anyone?
- Have I paid my debts?
- Have I lived within my income, and not wastefully and extravagantly?
- Have I given to charitable causes in proportion to my means?
- Have I been honest and upright?

NINTH COMMANDMENT: ‘You shall not bear false witness.’

Не сведочи лажно на ближњег својега.

- Have I exaggerated or let others take the blame?
- Have I told lies, or added or subtracted from the truth?
- Have I made careless statements or spoken evil of anyone?
- Have I told any secrets entrusted to me, or betrayed anyone?
- Have I gossiped about anyone or harmed their reputation?
- Have I concealed the truth, assisted in carrying out a lie, or pretended to commit a sin of which I was not guilty?
- Have I tried to see the good in others rather than their shortcomings?

TENTH COMMANDMENT: ‘You shall not covet.’

Не пожели ништа што је туђе.

- Have I envied anything good that has come to others?
- Have I been jealous of another's good fortune?
- Have I wished for anything that was another's?
- Have I damaged or destroyed the property of others?
- Have I wished for things God has not given me, or been discontented with my lot?
- Have I been stingy?
- Have I held back anything due another?
- Have I hoped for the downfall of anyone so that I might gain by it?
- Have I failed to be gracious and generous to anyone?
- Have I expected God to give me that which I would refuse one of my fellow human beings?
- Have I been lazy, idle, or wasted my time?

Remember: It takes a good person to admit that he makes mistakes. You are not bad because you go to confession. You are a good person trying to become even better.

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STEWARDSHIP – СТАРАТЕЉСТВО (Добročинство)

The new year is upon us it is time for you to renew your commitment to help St. Sava Church cover its operating expenses. This stewardship contribution should not be confused with donations for the new building project, rituals and bookstore. They are different. So once you search your heart and determine how much you plan to contribute to St. Sava this coming year, please allocate your donations accordingly. Remember that Stewardship is not just about money, but also returning to the church God’s gifts of time and talents that He has bestowed upon you. Enclosed you will find the latest brochure about stewardship from our Serbian Church on this continent. Also, a stewardship card for you to fill out and return to the Church. Thank you!

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A Message From Fr. Ilija

Beloved St. Sava Church parishioners,

I'm sure many of you have heard that Protinica and I will be leaving Seattle in July 2013 to return to NW Indiana where I grew up and where much of our family still lives. After many discussions, soul-searching and prayer, we've mutually decided that this is the best course for us to take since Protinica is ready to retire. I will continue to serve the Church in whatever manner God sees fit until I reach the newly-required retirement age of 72 or 40 years of service. It was never a question where to retire, only when, and we have always supported each other. We came as a team and will leave the same way.

Though it is hard to leave our beloved St. Sava Church in Issaquah seeing the church full each Sunday, the joyous children each week during their activities, and the willing workers for every project large and small, it is just those significant achievements that make us confident we have made the right personal choice. With the strong leaders, stewards and parishioners now active in the parish, we are sure that St. Sava Church is moving and will continue to move in only one direction - and that is forward! We pray that our ten years here have had an impact to help form the parish into the dedicated and cohesive community it has become. If it is God's will I can continue to be the architect for the new church project. We also pray that God will guide His Grace, Bishop Maxim to find and provide an energetic and dedicated priest who will continue to minister to your spiritual needs with zeal and enthusiasm for the constant betterment of all facets of parish life. God will provide for us all ! His wisdom never fails.

We love you all and will miss you,
Fr. Ilija and Protinica Carole

Порука од о. Илије

Љубљени парохијани Цркве Св. Сава,

Сигуран сам да сте чули да Протиница и Ја напуштамо Сијетло у Јулу 2013.год. враћајући се у Северозападну Индијану где сам одрастао и где већина моје фамилије живи. После много разговора и преиспитивања, заједнички смо одлучили да је ово најбољи пут за нас јер Протиница је спремна да се пензионише. Наставићу да служим цркву по Божијој вољи докле год не постигнем ново обавезно пензионисање од 72 године старости или 40 година службе. Није никада било питање где ћу се пнезионисати, само када. Увек смо подржавали једно друго. Дошли смо као екипа и тако ћемо и одселити.



Док је тешко напустити нашу вољену Цркву Св. Сава у Исакви видећи пуну Цркву сваке недеље, радосну децу сваке недеље за време активности, и вољене раднике за сваку акцију велику или малу, то је само оно од значајнијих достигнућа да се осећамо уверени да смо се одлучили правом личном избору. Са јаким вођама, старатељима и парохијанима који су сада активни у Парохији, сиругни смо да Црква Св. Сава креће се и наставиће да се креће у једном правцу - и то је напред! Молимо се да за ових прошлих десет година смо имали утицај на формирању ове парохије у једну посвећену и кохезивну заједницу што постоји. Ако је Божија воља, ја могу наставити да останем архитекта за нови црквени пројекат. Исто се молимо да ће Бог бити у помоћи да Њ.П. Владика Максим нађе и обезбеди енергичног и посвећеног свештеника који ће наставити да послужи вашим духовним потребама са ревношћу и одушевљењем за непрекидну добробит свих аспеката парохијског живота. Бог ће нама све подарити! Његова мудрост никада не пропада.

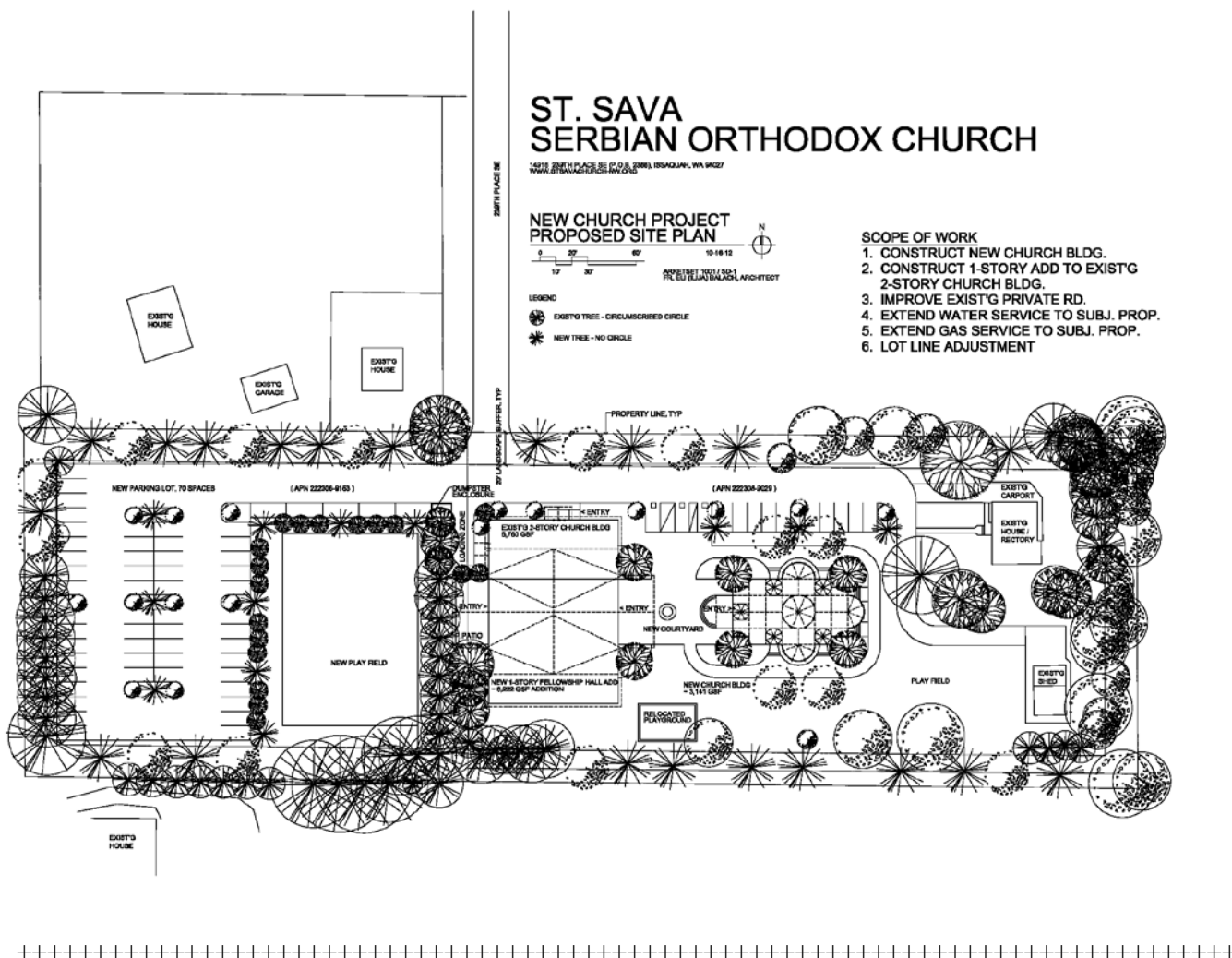
Волимо вас и недостајаћете нам,
О. Илија и Протиница Карол

Let's build a church together! - *Изградимо цркву заједно!*

Glory to God for all things for He has worked through many of you so that we have achieved a major milestone in our New Church Project – OUR MORTGAGE HAS BEEN PAID OFF on the new land ! Your generosity demonstrates your love for His Holy Church. May God continue to bless all of you and your families.

Now that we have paid off the mortgage before the due date, we need to be prepared to continue with our commitment to bring our New Church Project to realization. We have met with the County and are responding to their comments regarding our proposed project. Afterwards we will submit a formal application for a Conditional Use Permit. Once we obtain a Conditional Use Permit we will prepare working drawings for a construction permit.

We look forward to your continued support for the glory of God and to ensure a future for your children and their children in a community of love. For those of you who have not yet contributed to this holy work, please search your hearts and realize that whatever you contribute will be pleasing to God.



PLEASE SHARE THIS BULLETIN WITH OTHERS, ESPECIALLY FAMILY MEMBERS