



NOVEMBER 3, 2024

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea St., Palm Desert, California 92260

Fr. Theodore Pantels, M.Div., Pastor/Fr. Euthym Kontaxis M.D., M.Div., Deacon

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Holy Communion Order

1. Please remain standing while following the directions of our ushers.
2. Ladies, kindly remove lipstick before receiving.
3. When receiving Holy Communion, make the Sign of the Cross, state your name (baptismal name), and naturally receive as if being fed.
4. Non-Orthodox Christians may not receive Holy Communion, but they may receive the Holy Bread at the end of the service.
5. *All Orthodox Christians must be spiritually prepared to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please see the priest if you have any questions.*

THE LADDER

PRAYER FOR READING HOLY SCRIPTURES

“Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us, also, reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all these things that are pleasing to You. For You are the Light of our souls and bodies and to You we give glory together with Your Father Who is without beginning and Your all-holy, good, and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.”

EPISTLE— 2 Corinthians 11:31 – 12:9

Brethren, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus and wanted to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows — and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

GOSPEL — St. Luke 16:19 – 31

The Lord said, “There was a rich man, who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, full of sores, who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table; moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried; and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes, and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus in his bosom. And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy upon me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in anguish in this flame.’ But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses, and the prophets; let them hear them.’ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if some one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ He said to them, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if some one should rise from the dead.’”



Liturgical Notes

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *“When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, then the light of Your divinity destroyed Hades. When You raised the dead from the depths of darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out, ‘Glory to You, O Christ our God, the Giver of Life.’”/“Οτε κατήλθες προς τον θάνατον...*

2) *“Since you are a deliverer of captives and a defender of the poor; a physician for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, O Great among the Martyrs and Glorious George, intercede to Christ our God that He may save our souls.”/Ως τον αιχμαλώτων ελευθεροτής... [St. George the Martyr]*

3) Kontakion: *“Champion of Christians not put to shame, advocate before the Maker always steadfast, do not spurn sinners’ voices raised in prayer. In Your goodness respond to bring help to us who devoutly petition you. Hasten Your intercession and urgently make entreaty; for You unfailingly defend, Theotokos, those who honor You.”/Προστασία των Χριστιανών...*

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

- Monday, November 4th.....Festival Preparation begins at our parish hall at 9:00 a.m. with the making of dolmathes
- Tuesday, November 5th..... Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, November 6th....Orthodox Christian Catechism (online)-6:30 p.m. (Email Fr. Ted at Fr.Theodore@stgeorgepd.org to receive a Zoom link.)
- Friday, November 8th..... ARCHANGELS MICHAEL & GABRIEL
Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
- Saturday, November 9th..... ST. NECTARIOS THE WONDERWORKER
Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“WELCOME BACK TO THE DESERT” COFFEE HOUR – Our St. George Philoptochos is hosting a special coffee hour today following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. All are welcome!

FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS-Begin this week of November 4th! Festival preparations begin with preparing the **dolmathes** starting at **9:00 a.m. Volunteers needed!**

CHECK OUT OUR NEW ST. GEORGE PARISH WEBSITE: <https://stgeorgepd.org>.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Next Sunday, November 10th: **“Family Sunday School”** for children and parents.

FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS-Begin this week of November 4th! Festival preparations begin with preparing the **dolmathes** starting at **9:00 a.m. Volunteers needed!**

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD-Please join in expressing Christmas greetings to fellow parish members and friends by completing the **“2024 Christmas Card”** Form available in our parish narthex and parish hall.

PHILOPTOCHOS – Our next meeting: **Monday, November 11th** with lunch at 11:30 AM and special presenter, **Melissa Hawkins**. **SAVE THE DATE: Philoptochos Christmas Party: December 8th** at the **Sun City Clubhouse**. See flyers at the “Philoptochos Table” in our parish hall. More details **AHEPA** – **AHEPA 528 Thanksgiving Luncheon November 10, 2024**, following Divine Liturgy. See AHEPA 528 website at www.ahepa528.org.

PARISH COUNCIL CANDIDACY & STATE REQUIRED BACKGROUND CHECK – Every candidate for election to serve on the 2025 Parish Council **must** have a **background check, youth safety training**, and a **record** of his or her **fingerprints** through the Archdiocese office of Youth Safety Ministry at email address: www.goarch.org/safety before taking the Oath of Office.