



OCTOBER 27, 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

Website: www.go-stgeorge.org

Email: Fr.Theodore@stgeorgepd.org

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

ST. NESTOR THE MARTYR

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 9:6 – 11

Brethren, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

GOSPEL—St. Luke 8:41 – 56

At that time, there came to Jesus a man named Jairus, who was a ruler of the synagogue; and falling at Jesus' feet he besought him to come to his house, for he had an only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she was dying. As he went, the people pressed round him. And a woman who had had a flow of blood for twelve years and had spent all her living upon physicians and could not be healed by anyone, came up behind him, and touched

the fringe of his garment; and immediately her flow of blood ceased. And Jesus said, "Who was it that touched me?" When all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the multitudes surround you and press upon you!" But Jesus said, "Some one touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." And when the woman saw that she was not hidden, she came trembling, and falling down before him declared in the presence of all the people why she had touched him, and how she had been immediately healed. And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." While he was still speaking, a man from the ruler's house came and said, "Your daughter is dead; do not trouble the Teacher any more." But Jesus on hearing this answered him, "Do not fear; only believe, and she shall be well." And when he came to the house, he permitted no one to enter with him, except Peter and John and James, and the father and mother of the child. And all were weeping and bemoaning her; but he said, "Do not weep; for she is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. But taking her by the hand he called, saying, "Child, arise." And her spirit returned, and she got up at once; and he directed that something should be given her to eat. And her parents were amazed; but he charged them to tell no one what had happened.



Liturgical Notes

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *“O Savior Your tomb was sealed by the Jews with a stone; soldiers kept watch over Your sacred body. Yet, You rose on the third day, giving life to the world. Wherefore, the powers of heaven cried out to You, O Giver of Life: ‘Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ; glory to Your Kingdom; glory to Your dispensation, Who alone are the loving One.’”/Του λίθου σφραγισμένου...*

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, October 28th.....Philoptochos Holiday Pastry Baking begins: 9:00 a.m at our parish hall.

Tuesday, October 29th.....Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, October 30th.....Orthodox Christian Catechism (online)-6:30 p.m. (Email Fr. Ted at Fr.Theodore@stgeorgepd.org to receive a Zoom link.)

Friday, November 1st.....THE HOLY UNMERCENARIES, STS. COSMAS & DAMIAN
Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
Blessing of Waters (Agiasmo) - 11:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Our 2024-2025 Sunday School Year begun! Classes are held following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy in our parish hall classrooms.

NEW PARISH WEBSITE – Join us today for our **special coffee hour reception** and **presentation** as we **unveil our new St. George website**. During this presentation, parishioners will learn details pertaining to new online communications of our parish.

PHILOPTOCHOS – Our next meeting: **Monday, November 11th** with lunch at 11:30 AM and special presenter, **Melissa Hawkins**, from the Betty Ford Center! You don’t want to miss this one!

– **Philoptochos holiday pastry baking** starts **tomorrow, Monday, October 28th** at **9:00 a.m.** and continuing on the **29th, the 31st, & November 1st**. Please contact **Tina Veroulis** or **Rhonda Latkovic**.

– **SAVE THE DATE** – **Philoptochos Christmas Party: December 8th** at the **Sun City Clubhouse**. Flyers are available at the “Philoptochos Table” in our parish hall. More details to follow.

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

AHEPA – Everyone is invited to join in the **AHEPA 528 Thanksgiving Luncheon November 10, 2024**, following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. See AHEPA 528 website at www.ahepa528.org.

PARISH COUNCIL CANDIDACY & STATE REQUIRED BACKGROUND CHECK – To volunteer or to be nominated as a candidate to serve as a member of the Parish Council for 2025, every candidate for election **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. Please see the attached guidelines in today’s email version of *The Ladder* (or the printed guidelines in our parish hall) for information.



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA
ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL

Prot. No. 340/2024

Archiepiscopal Encyclical for the Commemoration of OXI Day

October 27, 2024

To the Most Reverend and Right Reverend Hierarchs, Pious Priests and Deacons, Monks and Nuns, Presidents and Members of the Parish Councils, Honorable Archons of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, Members of Leadership 100, Day and Afternoon Schools, Philoptochos Societies, Youth, Greek Orthodox Organizations, and entirety of the Christloving Plenitude of the Sacred Archdiocese of America:

Blessed is the people, whose help is the Lord their God.
(Doxology for October 28th, the Feast of Victory)

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

OXI Day is a shining reminder of the courage and steadfastness of the People of Greece, who stood tall in the face of the fascist aggression and invasion against their Nation during World War II. The line that they drew was in their own blood, and their heroism is redolent of those Immortal Heroes of 1821, in whose steps they faithfully followed.

Greece may be a small land, but it is an enormous civilization. Whether in the mainland, the islands, or the outposts of Asia Minor that were founded thousands of years ago, the genius of Hellenas has always shone forth for all the world to see. The resistance of Greece to the fascists of the Second World War was inevitable, for such cruel and violent forms of domination are counter to every impulse of the Hellenic Mind. Add to this culture the Christian Orthodox Faith, and you have a spiritual, mental, and indeed, national phalanx against tyranny.

Therefore, it is no accident that the Church of Greece transferred the feast of the Holy Protection of the Virgin from October 1st (the day it is normally observed) to OXI Day, October 28th. This recognition of God's favor and aid in the face of invasion through the intercessions of His Holy Mother is deeply engrained in the psyche of the Greek People. Around the world, Hellenes and Philhellenes alike celebrate this faith in God and faith in the human potential for justice and goodness on this Day of the "OXI" to totalitarianism and the "NAI" to freedom. How blessed we all are to be the People whose help is on the Lord our God.

With paternal love in Christ,
† ELPIDOPHOROS
Archbishop of America



CANDIDACY FOR ELECTION TO SERVE ON THE PARISH COUNCIL of ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA

Parish Council elections are approaching soon.

Those considering candidacy for election to serve as a member of the Parish Council for 2025 must comply with the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco and California law AB 506.

The Metropolis has set up a Youth safety compliance program which requires new Parish Council members to register online with: [Youthsafetyplatform.goarch.org](https://youthsafetyplatform.goarch.org).

What is required?

1. Background check done online. This is required every two years.
2. Online classes which are required every year. It takes about two hours of your time.
3. A Live scan of your fingerprints. This is done at a local business. The church will pay for the live scan. This is required only 1 time.

Along with the above, candidacy for election to serve as a member of the Parish Council for 2025 requires the following:

1. Baptism/Chrismation according to the Rites of the Greek Orthodox Church
2. If married, married according to the Rites of the Greek Orthodox Church. (The Church does not condone living together as if married while not married according to the Sacrament of Marriage.)
3. Regular participation in the Liturgical & Sacramental Life of the Church
4. Up-to-date Parish Stewardship contribution
5. Seminar with the parish priest regarding the duties and obligations of a member of the Parish Council.

These requirements are directives from our Holy Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America and must be understood prior to making and/or accepting a nomination for candidacy for election to serve on the Parish Council at our upcoming Fall General Assembly in November. To receive a "Parish Council Candidacy Form," and for more information contact Fr. Ted no later than Sunday, November 24, 2024.