



APRIL 6, 2025

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street

Palm Desert, California 92260

ROAD TO RESURRECTION

THE LADDER
SUNDAY OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT



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—Hebrews 9:11 – 14

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things to come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, not with the blood of goats and calves but with his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

GOSPEL—St. Mark 10:32 – 45

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise.” And

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Mailing Address:

74-109 Larrea Street
Palm Desert, CA.92260
Tel: (760) 568-9901
or: (760) 880-5869

– Fr. Theodore Pantels,
M.Div. Proistamenos
(Pastor)
– Deacon Euthym Kon-
taxis, M.D. ,M.Div.

Holy Communion Or-
der

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.

Liturgical Notes for Today

With the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *“O Merciful One, You came from on high and condescended to Your three-day burial to save us from passions. You are our life and resurrection, O Lord, glory to You.”/Εξ ύψους κατήλθες προς τον θάνατον...*

2) *“God’s Image was perfectly preserved in you, O Mother. For, taking up the Cross you followed Christ. You taught us by example to disdain the flesh which is a passing thing, but to see the soul which is immortal. Wherefore, O Holy Mary, your spirit rejoices with the angels.”/Εν σοι μήτηρ ακβριβώς...[Hymn for St. Mary of Egypt]*

3) *“Since You are a deliverer of captives and a protector of the poor; a physician for the sick; a noble attendant to kings, O Great among the martyrs and glorious George, intercede with Christ God that He may save our souls.”/Ως τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτῆς ...[Hymn for St. George]*

4) 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 Χριστιανῶν...*

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

- Monday, April 7th.....Philoptochos General Meeting – 11:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 8th.....Bible Study -10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, April 9th.....PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY – 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, April 10th.....Orthodox Christian Catechism-6:30 p.m. (online) *Contact Fr. Ted for link.*
- Friday, April 11th.....PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY – 9:00 a.m.
- Saturday, April 12th.....SATURDAY OF LAZARUS
Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – Sunday, April 6th in our parish hall following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy...**A beautiful recap of Krisann’s trip to Greece to mount Nicholas’ first museum show at the prestigious Goulandris Museum in Athens.**

PHILOPTOCHOS EVENTS: (Please read carefully in order to be well informed!)

– **Philoptochos Board:** St. George Philoptochos is a ministry of the church that provides support to local worthy organizations and is the hearth of our church. Philoptochos is looking for women of our parish to join in the enjoyment of helping others and run for the Philoptochos Board! If you are interested in running for a seat on our Philoptochos Board, see the attached flier for the instructions and qualifications for running. The deadline for nominations is **April 15**. Elections will be held on **Monday, May 5, 2025** at a Philoptochos General Meeting and a Cinco De Mayo luncheon in our parish hall at 11:30am. Please consider donating your time to this worthy ministry.

– **Part II of the Mini-Icon Painting Workshop.** Louka will be available to help with finishing touches for icons during coffee hour. Fr. Ted blessed the icons at the Tuesday Holy Water Service(“ Agiasmo”).

– Monday, April 7th, 11:30 AM- Philoptochos General Meeting & Lenten Lunch with special guests (Birgit & Craig) from SafeHouse of the Desert. **RSVP by Sunday, April 6th to President Rhonda Latkovic** via email rlatkovic@stgeorgepd.org or text (714) 875-4661.

– Sunday, April 6th & 13th, during coffee hour-Philoptochos Easter Bake Sale with sweet bread and pastries. (See flier)

– Sunday, April 27th, 2:00 PM-Kids-n-Cancer Event sponsored by the Metropolis at Newport Beach Country Club. Register on-line for tickets.

– Monday, May 5th, 11:30 AM-Philoptochos General Meeting & Elections for the 2025-2027 term. See the enclosed flier with instructions on running for election to the Philoptochos Board for the 2025-2027 term. PLUS a Cinco De Mayo themed luncheon! More information to follow.

Continued on the next page – – –>

ANNOUNCEMENTS, Continued

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON – Next **Sunday, April 13** in our Parish Hall, donation \$10. **Deadline to sign up is April 7th**. Please see the attached flier to sign up so we can plan the food for the luncheon adequately.

BOOKSTORE - Now available: *Services for Holy Week and Easter.* (Narthex Press Publications).

GOLF TOURNAMENT - Saturday, April 26th. See: <https://stgeorgepd.org/golf-tournament>

HOLY WEEK 2025

Saturday, April 12th..... SATURDAY OF LAZARUS

Orthros-8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 13thPALM SUNDAY

Orthros-8:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

Bridegroom Service – 6:00 p.m.

Monday, April 14th..... HOLY MONDAY – Bridegroom Service -6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 15th..... HOLY TUESDAY – Bridegroom Service - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16th....HOLY WEDNESDAY

Presanctified Divine Liturgy-9:00 a.m.

Holy Unction Service – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 17th.....HOLY THURSDAY

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil-9:00 a.m.

Service of the Redeeming Passion of our Lord -6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 18th.....HOLY FRIDAY

Royal Hours-9:00 a.m.

Spiritual Lesson/Discussion-10:30 a.m.

Service of the Unnailing of our Lord (“Apokathilosis”)-12:00 noon

Lamentation Service- 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 19th.....HOLY SATURDAY

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil-9:00 a.m.

Vigil for the Resurrection of our Lord-11:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 20th.....RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD OF CHRIST OUR SAVIOR

Divine Liturgy-12:00 mid-night

Agape Vesper Service-11:30 a.m.



ST GEORGE PARISH

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON

APRIL 13, 2025

Dear Parishioners

St. George Greek Orthodox Church of the Desert will hold the annual Palm Sunday Luncheon on Sunday April 13 following liturgy. It's all about Fellowship! We are certain that all of you will want to attend this meaningful and holy holiday celebration.

The cost for the luncheon will be \$10.00 per person. The menu will consist of appetizers, fish, our famous skordalia and a Lenten dessert. *Your support is greatly appreciated.*

Contact Tina Veroulis at (760) 568-9901 to make your reservations or complete this flyer and enclose your payment with this form. Checks can be made out to St. George Church. You can mail it to 74109 Larrea St., Palm Desert, CA 92260 or bring it to the office. **The deadline is April 7, 2025.**

Please print your name on the line below.

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

NUMBER ATTENDING _____ AMOUNT _____ CHECK _____ CASH _____



SAINT GEORGE PHILOPTOCHOS CHAPTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

This is an election year for the Saint George Philoptochos Board of Directors for 2025-2027 (a 2-year term). The election will take place on **Monday, May 5, 2025** at our monthly meeting.

*If you are interested in running for a seat on the Board, please indicate it in a letter and mail or drop it off at the Church office, addressed to Philoptochos. You may also send it by email to: rlatkovic@stgeorgepd.org Your correspondence must be received **by the April 15, 2025 deadline.**

In order to run, you must meet the following qualifications:

- 0 Be a full member of the Philoptochos Society.
- 0 Be a member in good standing with the Parish, as a pledged steward.
- 0 Be a member of the Philoptochos chapter at least one full year prior to the election.
- 0 Have attended at least 4 meetings/activities of the chapter in the previous year.
- 0 Be present at the election meeting unless such absence is excused.

As Board members we are called to keep our National Philoptochos Mission in the forefront of our hearts, minds, and work.

As a Board member, you will be expected to attend monthly Board & General Assembly meetings, to help on committees, and to assist and attend events we host.

Please consider leading with us!

Rhonda Latkovic, 2023-2025 President

Easter BAKE SALE

St. George Ladies Philoptochos Society, Chapter 4035



Koulourakia & Paximathia

\$12.00 per dozen

Melamakerona & Kourembiethes

\$10.00 per 6 pcs.

Baklava

\$10.00 per 6 pcs.



Easter Bread
\$20.00 per 2 1/4 lb. loaf with or without dyed egg

Easter Bake Sale - Sunday 4/6 & 4/13

We will be selling Greek pastries & Easter bread after church services on Sunday April 6th and April 13th.

We have limited quantities of Easter bake sale items available, so please plan on purchasing your needs on these days.

Contact Tina Veroulis @ (406) 431-9516 for alternate pick-up dates/times.

1

SUNDAY SALE

April 6th & 13th-
Available after church services in the hall.

2

ALTERNATE PICK-UP DATE/TIME

Contact Tina Veroulis
tel. (406) 431-9516

3

CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD

Pay any one of three ways.



His Eminence Metropolitan Gerasimos and the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco Philoptochos cordially invite you to attend

Agape

A Celebration of Love

"Whoever received one little child like this in My name receives Me." Matthew 18:5

Visit www.sfphiloptochos.org to make a secure donation TODAY!

Camp Agape is dedicated to providing support for children afflicted with cancer and their families. This beloved ministry offers a compassionate and caring environment, exemplary of Christ's unconditional love, along with an opportunity to shape meaningful friendships and create precious memories.

To benefit our Kids 'n' Cancer Ministry

Sunday, April 27, 2025
2:00 p.m. PDT

Newport Beach Country Club

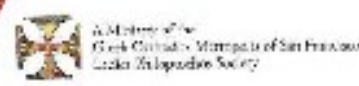
One Clubhouse Drive
Newport Beach, CA 92660

RSVP Date: April 20, 2025

While enjoying an afternoon of fabulous music, delectable food, and good friends, guests will have the opportunity to purchase Mystery Hat Boxes filled with exciting gifts and participate in an Opportunity Drawing!



Kids 'n' Cancer
Camp Agape



Opportunity Drawing
The Louis Vuitton Neverfull MM Tote Bag



Register at www.sfphiloptochos.org or by calling 415-431-2600 by April 20, 2025

Cost: \$100 person