



AUGUST 10, 2025

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street

Palm Desert, California 92260

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



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.

THE LADDER

PRAYER FOR HOLY SCRIPTURES DURING THE DIVINE LITURGY

"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—1 Corinthians 3:9 – 17

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder, I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw — each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

GOSPEL— St. Matthew 14:22 – 34

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was out on the sea, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the strong wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

DID YOU KNOW? — Incense (frankincense) was one of the gifts given by the Wise Men to our Lord, the New-Born King, at Bethlehem. We use incense in our worship services to honor Christ our King, His saints and all those in attendance at our worship services in order to honor their Image of God in Christ, since we are of the communion of Christ's saints and we are collectively as individuals, members of Christ's Royal Priesthood. In addition, incense represents our prayers leading up to Christ in His Kingdom of Heaven.

Liturgical Notes for Today

At the Entrance of 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 ὕψους κατήλθες...

2. You were transfigured on the Mount, Christ God, revealing Your glory to Your disciples, in so far as they could comprehend. Illuminate us sinners also with Your everlasting light, through the intercessions of the Theotokos, Giver of light, glory to You." / Μετεμορφώθης ἐν τῷ ὄρει Χριστέ ὁ Θεός...

3. "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 that He may save our souls." / Ως τῶν αἰχμαλώτων... [Hymn in honor of St. George]

4. **Kontakion:** "You were transfigured upon the mount, O Christ our God, and Your disciples, in so far as they could bear, beheld Your glory. Thus, when they see You crucified, they may understand Your voluntary passion, and proclaim to the world that You are truly the effulgence of the Father." / Ἐπὶ τοῦ ὄρους...

MEMORIAL — Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation of the servant of God, **George Pantels (40 days)**, the beloved brother of **Fr. Ted**. MAY HIS MEMORY BE ETERNAL!

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

- Monday, August 11th.....Paraklisis Service — 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, August 12th.....Bible Study — 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, August 13th.....Paraklisis Service — 6:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 14th.....Great Vespers — 6:00 p.m. (No Orthodox Catechism Class)
- Friday, August 15th.....DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS
Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
- Next Sunday, August 17th.....Dormition Feast Day Luncheon following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FEAST DAY LUNCHEON: IN HONOR OF THE THEOTOKOS — Following Church Services on **Sunday, August 17th** in our parish hall. Please join us! **See enclosed flyer for details.**

PARAKLISIS SERVICES & THE FEAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS —

Enclosed is a form to list the names of family and friends to be included in the **Paraklisis Services**, scheduled for **tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.** and **Wednesday, August 13th at 6:00 p.m.** Also make every effort to participate in the **Great Vesper Service at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, August 14th** in honor of the Theotokos and the **Divine Liturgy on Friday, August 15th.** *Your attendance and participation in these sacred services are essential for inspiring others and carrying on the flame of our Orthodox Christian Faith!*

PHILOPTOCHOS — Continuing our Coffee Hour service, we graciously accept donations to cover costs. We also need your help in hosting coffee hour. Sign ups are in the church hall or you may contact **Marie Malley 760-898-2713**. We will continue to serve refreshments. Once everyone has been served, you're more than welcome to help yourself to seconds.

Warm Regards, Irene Stambolos, President, Philoptochos

Tel: 818-517-3169 — Email: Istambolos@stgeorgepd.org.

Also... "**Food Bagging**" at the **Narrow Door** on **August 16th at 8:45 -11:15 a.m.** Sign-up sheet is in the parish hall.

METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO YOUNG ADULT CONFERENCE — The 2025 YAL Conference (Young Adults 18-35) will take place over **Labor Day Weekend, August 28 – September 1, 2025**, in Seattle, Washington at the **Seattle Marriott in Bellevue**. The weekend promises a transformative experience rooted in the Four Pillars of YAL: Worship, Witness, Service, and Fellowship. For more details and registration access: www.sanfran.goarch.org

O MOTHER OF GOD, WE GLORIFY YOU

**WE CELEBRATE YOUR DORMITION AND WE ASK FOR HEALING
OF SOUL AND BODY**

**JOIN US! SUNDAY,
AUGUST 17**

Following Liturgy

for a fellowship
luncheon. Lunch
is free.

Donations are
graciously
accepted.

Your presence is
a blessing, and
we look forward
to sharing this
special day
together.





THE DORMITION OF THE HOLY THEOTOKOS

AUGUST 15

Concerning the Dormition of the Theotokos, this is what the Church has received from ancient times from the tradition of the Fathers. When the time drew nigh that our Savior was well-pleased to take His Mother to Himself, He declared unto her through an Angel that three days hence, He would translate her from this temporal life to eternity and bliss. On hearing this, she went up with haste to the Mount of Olives, where she prayed continuously. Giving thanks to God, she returned to her house and prepared whatever was necessary for her burial. While these things were taking place, clouds caught up the Apostles from the ends of the earth, where each one happened to be preaching, and brought them at once to

the house of the Mother of God, who informed them of the cause of their sudden gathering. As a mother, she consoled them in their affliction as was meet, and then raised her hands to Heaven and prayed for the peace of the world. She blessed the Apostles, and, reclining upon her bed with seemliness, gave up her all-holy spirit into the hands of her Son and God. With reverence and many lights, and chanting burial hymns, the Apostles took up that God-receiving body and brought it to the sepulchre, while the Angels from Heaven chanted with them, and sent forth her who is higher than the Cherubim. But one Jew, moved by malice, audaciously stretched forth his hand upon the bed and immediately received from divine judgment the wages of his audacity. Those daring hands were severed by an invisible blow. But when he repented and asked forgiveness, his hands were restored. When they had reached the place called Gethsemane, they buried there with honor the all-immaculate body of the Theotokos, which was the source of Life. But on the third day after the burial, when they were eating together, and raised up the artos (bread) in Jesus' Name, as was their custom, the Theotokos appeared in the air, saying "Rejoice" to them. From this they learned concerning the bodily translation of the Theotokos into the Heavens. These things has the Church received from the traditions of the Fathers, who have composed many hymns out of reverence, to the glory of the Mother of our God.

—Information taken from our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese website: www.goarch.org

Many thanks to Rhonda Latkovic who prepared an educational kiosk located in our parish hall to learn more about these two special Feast Days of our Church and the corresponding Church iconography.



**NAMES FOR THE PARAKLISIS SERVICES HELD DURING THE SEASON OF SPIRITUAL
PREPARATION TOWARD THE COMMEMORATION OF THE DORMITION OF THE
MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS ON AUGUST 15th**

**(Write the First Name of loved ones and friends that to be included in the PARAKLISIS
SERVICE in honor of the Holy Theotokos as we pray for their health and wellbeing.)**
