



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, August 24, 2025

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



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 do in 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."



11th Sunday of
Matthew

Priest:

**Fr. Theodore Pantels,
M.Div. Proistamenos
(Pastor)**

Deacon:

**Euthym Kontaxis, M.D.,
M.Div.**

Mailing Address:

**74109 Larrea Street
Palm Desert, CA. 92260
Tel: (760) 568-9901**

Visit us at:

stgeorgepd.org

Prior to Holy Communion:

1. Ladies, kindly remove lipstick before receiving.
2. Non-Orthodox Christians may not receive Holy Communion, but they may receive the Holy Bread at the end of the service.
3. All Orthodox Christians must be spiritually prepared to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please see the priest if you have any questions.

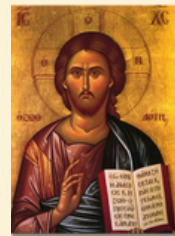


Prokeimenon. Mode 2

Psalm 117.14,18

*The Lord is my strength
and my song.*

*Verse: The Lord has
chastened me sorely.*



EPISTLE — 1 Corinthians 9:2 – 12

Brethren, you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord. This is my defense to those who would examine me. Do we not have the right to our food and drink? Do we not have the right to be accompanied by a wife, as the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas? Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no right to refrain from working for a living? Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Who tends a flock without getting some of the milk? Do I say this on human authority? Does not the law say the same? For it is written in the law of Moses, "You shall not muzzle an ox when it is treading out the grain." Is it for oxen that God is concerned? Does he not speak entirely for our sake? It was written for our sake, because the plowman should plow in hope and the thresher thresh in hope of a share in the crop. If we have sown spiritual good among you, is it too much if we reap your material benefits? If others share this rightful claim upon you, do not we still more? Nevertheless, we have not made use of this right, but we endure anything rather than put an obstacle in the way of the gospel of Christ.

GOSPEL—St. Matthew 18:23 – 35

The Lord said this parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents; and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him the lord of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. But that same servant, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' So his fellow servant fell down and besought him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' He refused and went and put him in prison till he should pay the debt. When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you besought me; and should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord delivered him to the torturers, till he should pay all his debt. So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Council News

Parish Council will be holding their monthly meetings beginning in **September** on the **second Tuesday of every month at 1:30pm**. We will make every effort to post the minutes from every meeting on the bulletin board outside the office. We want you to know what the Parish Council is working on for our church.

We are in the process of deciding whether or not we will continue our annual Greek Festival this coming year. To figure out what we all think, we created a Greek Festival 2026 group led by the Deacon Kontaxis and Rhonda Latkovic. They will be reaching out to our community early in September where they will meet with Parish Council. Parish Council will make the final decision on whether to have a Greek Festival this year.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU BEFORE WE MAKE THIS DECISION...

We want to know what you think...should we have a festival in 2026? We want to hear your opinion!

Please email Tasia Richards at trichards@stgeorgepd.org.

A Note from the Philoptochos President:

Fall is around the corner. It's time for us to plan for our New Philoptochos Year! This is a reminder that our first general meeting will be Monday, September 15, 2025. Lunch will be provided. Lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. with the meeting following. Bring with you any ideas you may have for fundraisers, events, and/or projects we need to support or consider for the new year. We will be reviewing our events that are planned for the year. In addition, we will be asking you to sign up for help with coffee hour, visitations, and committee chairs for upcoming events.

Thank you for your continued support. I am looking forward to working with all of you. Please RSVP to istambolos@stgeorgepd.org or call at 818-517-3169 So that we know how many to plan for lunch.

Warm Regards, *Irene Stambolos, President, Philoptochos*

Philoptochos News

Mark your calendars for upcoming events. **Socktober** donation event for the homeless begins **September 20th-October 20th**. Help us provide **new socks** to Coachella Valley Rescue Mission in helping residents in need & the homeless population in the east valley. Men's, women's & children's socks are needed in casual styles. Only **NEW socks** will be accepted. Contact Board Member **Elaine Grillos for more information at: (650) 224-3636 or email: jgrillos@aol.com.**

Note also that the Annual Pink Walk (Paint El Paseo Pink) is scheduled for Saturday, October 11th. This event raises funds and awareness in helping cancer patients. Pre-race program 7:30 am – Race begins at 8:00 am. Please join our St. George Team. Registration is \$40.00 and includes a new walk tee shirt. Entry fee can be paid via cash, check, or credit card payable to St. George Ladies Philoptochos. See Board member Rhonda Latkovic to register. Call her at (714) 875-4661 or email her at: rlatkovic@stgeorgepd.org



Liturgical Notes For Today

At the Entrance of 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.’”/ Ὅτε κατήλθες...*

2) *“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 των αιχμαλώτων ελευθεροτής...[Hymn for St. George]*

3) Kontakion: *“Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life.”/ Τὴν ἐν πρεσβείαις ἀκοίμητον Θεοτόκον...*



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

Weekly Opportunities:

Tuesday, August 26h

Bible Study—10:00 a.m.

Thursday, August 28th

Orthodox Christian Catechism (online) - 6:30 p.m.

[Contact Fr. Ted to receive a Zoom link.]

fr.theodore@stgeorgepd.org

September 20-October 10 2025

Socktober Event: Donations for the homeless

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Bells Across America Event

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Paint El Paseo Pink Event



Today we commemorate the placement of the relics of St. Dionysios of Zakynthos at his home island of Zakynthos. He was initially buried at the St. George Church at the Strofada Monastery in 1622 where he lived his life as a monk. In 1717, it was decided to transfer his body to Zakynthos and it was discovered that his body remained incorrupt. St. Dionysios is known as the “Saint of Forgiveness,” since he forgave the man who had murdered his brother, after admonishing him to repent of his sins.



Saturday, October 11th
Pre-race program 7:30 AM-Race begins 8:00 AM

Please join our Saint George Team to support cancer care treatment through Desert Cancer Foundation's 19th annual "Pink Walk" and celebrate our **8th year** of participation!



New This Year!

Registration is \$40.00 – includes a new walk tee shirt! (\$5.00 less than last year.)

The Pink Walk requires ten members and our team name will be featured in event programming!
We will provide assistance for signing up!

The entry fee can be paid via cash, check, or credit card payable to **St.
George Ladies Philoptochos.**

Help us raise our goal of **\$500.00** in assisting cancer patients in our community!

See Board Member Rhonda Latkovic to register.
Tel. (714) 875-4661 Email: rlatkovic@stgeorgepd.org



JOIN US FOR SOCKTOBER DONATION DRIVE

Did you know that the # 1 needed clothing item for a homeless person is a pair of socks?

Please help the **St. George Ladies Philoptochos** provide new socks to **Coachella Valley Rescue Mission** for the in-program residents & homeless population in the east valley.

Socks can be in the bins provided that are located in the church hall. Monetary donations can be made & we will do the shopping if you are not able.

Men's, women's, & children's socks are needed in Casual styles.

Please note that: ONLY NEW SOCKS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

Dates: September 20th–October 20th!

Contact Board Member Elaine Grillos for more info.

Tel. (650) 224-3636 or Email: jgrillos@aol.com

ST. GEORGE PHILOPTOCHOS

Memorial Pricing eff. 04/01/2024



Kolyva & Greek Pastries

Our Philoptochos volunteers are available to prepare kolyva for your loved one's memorial if you are unable to do so. The cost for a large tray of kolyva has been increased from \$50.00 to \$75.00 due to escalating food ingredient prices in the stores. In addition, Greek paximathia and/or koulourakia are available for purchase for your memorial. The price is \$12.00 per dozen. We encourage a two-week minimum notice to ensure that a volunteer is available to make kolyva. Contact both Father Theodore Pantels and Philoptochos President Irene Stambolos with your memorial date request.

Memorial Luncheons

We encourage families wanting a Memorial Luncheon after church service to personally arrange their memorial luncheon themselves using a local caterer. Families can also purchase & prepare the food to be served. This includes set-up & clean-up, paper products, etc. Our Philoptochos volunteers can assist with the set-up, coffee serving, & clean-up if needed, for a donation to the chapter.

Contact both the priest, Father Theodore Pantels and Philoptochos President, Irene Stambolos with your request two-weeks in advance.

We thank everyone for their understanding & support.

2025 Philoptochos Board Members

Memorial Pricing Effective April 1, 2024

Kolyva and Greek Pastries Available

Bells Across America Event!



You're invited to help us celebrate the 238th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution! Please join us at the annual "Bells Across America" bell ringing event to kick off Constitution Week

Wednesday, September 17th, 12:45 PM!

Short program will commence at 12:45 PM with the bell ringing to follow at 1:00 PM. Refreshments & lunch will be served after the bell ringing! Live music featuring the Joselyn Desert Strummers!

Location:

**St. George Greek Orthodox Church
74109 Larrea St.
Palm Desert, CA 92260**

Bell Tower

