



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, December 7, 2025

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



10th Sunday of
Luke

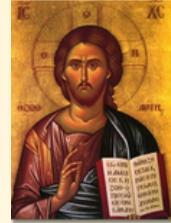


Prokeimenon. Mode 1

Psalm 32.22,1

*Let your mercy, O Lord, be
upon us.*

*Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye
righteous.*



EPISTLE – Ephesians 5:8 – 19

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is a shame even to speak of the things that they do in secret; but when anything is exposed by the light it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.” Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.

GOSPEL- Luke 13:10 – 17

At that time, Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, “Woman, you are freed from your infirmity.” And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.” Then the Lord answered him, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?” As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Priest:

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

Deacon:

**Euthym Kontaxis, M.D.,
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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.

Liturgical Notes For Today's Divine Liturgy

1) The Entrance with the Holy Gospel – “Savior, Your tomb was sealed 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, ‘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 σφραγισθέντος...

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 that He may save our souls.”/Ως των αιχμαλώτων... [Hymn in honor of St. George]*

3) Kontakion: “Today the Virgin comes to the cave to ineffably give birth to the eternal Logos. Harkening to this, rejoice, O Universe, and with the angels and shepherds glorify Him, the God before all ages, Who willed to be held as a young child.”/ Η Παρθένος σήμερον...



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Please join us on **Sunday, December 21st** during **Coffee Hour** to sing **Christmas Carols**. It is a time of fellowship, as we reflect on the Angels' hymn: "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace and good will among mankind."

ST. GEORGE FESTIVAL

The dates for our Greek Festival are February 21-22, 2026! The upcoming festival will be produced by all of us – the stewards of St. George. Let us come together united in faith and love. **It will take a "village" to make it a success.** To volunteer to help toward the success of our Greek Festival and for more information, **see Fr. Euthym Kontaxis** following church services on Sundays and sign up in our parish hall.

The **"Feed the Festival/Nourish the Faith"** Greek Festival needs chart posted in our parish hall and included in today's Ladder, along with the enclosed **Festival Baking Schedule** share the ways our parish family can offer support for the festival. Donations of time, treasure, and talent are always gratefully welcomed and appreciated.

Parish Council Elections

Parish Elections will be held on Sunday, December 14, 2025 following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. To vote, one must be current with regard to his/hers 2025 Parish Stewardship Obligation. If there is any question about Stewardship, please see our **Stewardship chairperson, Debbie Pousen**. We express sincere gratitude in advance to those who are serving as members of this year's Election Committee: **Tina Veroulis, Susan Segaar and Irene Stambolos.**

Stewardship

The end of the year is almost upon us. Please do all that you can to fulfill your Stewardship pledge for 2025. We want to begin 2026 with a clean slate. Thank you for your contributions in 2025. If you have any questions about our Stewardship program, please see Debbie Pousen after church services.

There are 2 ways to send in your stewardship:

- Mail in or bring in your check (our address is on first page of The Ladder) - make sure to write "stewardship" on your check, so it is recorded properly.
- Pay online using our secure online payment system at: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZN30/campaign/C-151YF>



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Philoptochos News

All who have made reservations for today's Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon are to **leave immediately after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy to attend the Annual Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at: Sun City Mountain View Club House, 38180 Del Webb Boulevard, Palm Desert CA.** Please refer to the enclosed map and directions.

Note: Philoptochos will not be hosting Coffee Hour today!



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Week Ahead:

Tuesday, December 9th

ST. ANNA — Orthros: 8:30am, Divine Liturgy:
9:30am

AHEPA Christmas Party — 6:00PM

Bible Study — 11:00 a.m.

Thursday, December 11th

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

[Contact Fr. Ted at tpantels@stgeorgepd.org to receive a Zoom link to join.]

Friday, December 12th

ST. SPYRIDON THE WONDERWORKER

His Grace, Bishop Spyridon's Name Day
Orthros-8:30 a.m. followed by the celebration of
the Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 13th

Vespers with Orthodox Christian Catechism-5:00
p.m.

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, December 9th

AHEPA Christmas Party at our parish hall – 6:00
p.m. (Fliers are available in our parish hall.)

Sunday, December 14th

Elections for candidates to serve as members of
the 2026 St. George Parish Council

Sunday, December 21st

Coffee Hour with Christmas Carols

Saturday, December 24th

Eve of the Nativity of our Savior, Jesus Christ
(Morning Service only: Royal Hours -8:00 a.m.
followed by the Divine Liturgy
of St. Basil the Great)

Sunday, December 25th

THE NATIVITY OF OUR SAVIOR, JESUS
CHRIST (Christmas Day)

Orthros-8:30 a.m. followed by the celebration of
the Divine Liturgy

Did you Know?

Through our Holy Church services, we have the opportunity to worship our Lord along with the saints of every generation who have worshiped Him from the time of the Apostles. We share in a sacred Tradition of our Savior's followers from the very beginnings of the Apostolic Church. Here's what St. Nectarios once wrote about the supreme importance and value of worship: "When St. Luke the Evangelist is narrating the marvelous signs surrounding the Birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, he describes the vision of a multitude of Angels praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace and good will among mankind.'" (Luke 2:14). The worship of God therefore is the honorable work of Angels that has great value and significance when practiced by men and women of the human race, as well." [*While on earth, we join with the Angels in heaven].

--See: Peter Chamberis [translator], *Habitation of Holiness: Selections from the Writings of St. Nectarios*, Newrome Press, Columbia, Missouri, 2020, pg. 11 (*Fr. Ted's note)

