



JULY 13, 2025

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street

Palm Desert, California 92260

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

Mailing Address:

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Palm Desert, CA.92260

Tel: (760) 568-9901

or: (760) 880-5869

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

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

THE HOLY FATHERS OF THE 4th ECUMENICAL COUNCIL



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— Titus 3:8 – 15

Titus, my son, the saying is sure. I desire you to insist on these things, so that those who have believed in God may be careful to apply themselves to good deeds; these are excellent and profitable to men. But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels over the law, for they are unprofitable and futile. As for a man who is factious, after admonishing him once or twice, have nothing more to do with him, knowing that such a person is perverted and sinful; he is self-condemned. When I send Artemas or Tychicus to you, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Do your best to speed Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way; see that they lack nothing. And let our people learn to apply themselves to good deeds, so as to help cases of urgent need, and not to be unfruitful. All who are with me send greeting to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with you all. Amen.

GOSPEL— St. Matthew 5:14 – 19

The Lord said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Think not that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Whoever then relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but he who does them and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

THE FATHERS OF THE 4th ECUMENICAL COUNCIL — Today we commemorate the Holy Fathers of the 4th Ecumenical Council who assembled in Chalcedon in 451, declaring that our Savior Jesus Christ is fully God and fully Man. He is the Light of the world! By extension, we are to be the light of the world. *"God is the true and uncreated Light...In the New Testament, the Son of God is called 'Light' (Jn. 1:4-9). Light is necessary both for clear vision and for life itself. Faith relies on this divine light, and believers become 'sons of light' (Jn12:36; 1 Th 5:5) who shine in a perverse world (Php 2:15)."* (Orthodox Study Bible, pg. 1275)

Liturgical Notes

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *"The Women disciples of the Lord heard from the angel the joyful news of the Resurrection and the repeal of the sentence imposed upon our forefathers. With pride they said to the Apostles, 'Death is vanquished. Christ our God is risen, bestowing upon the world His great mercy.' / Το Φεδρόν της Αναστάσεως...*

2) *"You are greatly glorified, O Christ our God, who established our Fathers as luminaries upon the earth, and through them led us all to the true Faith. O Most compassionate, glory to You." / Υπερδοξασμένος ει, Χριστός ο Θεός ημών...*[Hymn for the Holy Fathers]

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:** *"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

Tuesday, July 15th.....Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, July 17th.....Orthodox Christian Catechism (online)- 6:30 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP – From Fr. Anthony Coniaris' book, *Where Moth and Rust Do Not Consume* there is this note: *"A friend tells of a man who was the town drunk, but he converted at a revival meeting, and he was to be baptized by immersion in a nearby creek. As he went down into the water, the preacher noticed that he had something in his pocket and said, 'What's in your pocket?' The man answered, 'Oh, that's my wallet.' The preacher, somewhat relieved asked, 'But you don't want your wallet to get all wet, do you?' The man answered, 'Parson, when I get baptized my wallet gets baptized with me!'"*

– Debbie Pousen, Stewardship Chairperson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGIONAL ORTHODOX YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS – The Metropolis of San Francisco St. Nicholas Summer Camp at St. Nicholas Ranch is currently in session and has sold out. However, applications for youth to join the St. Sophia Summer Camp are still being accepted and will be now placed on a "waiting list" in the event that availabilities arise in the near future. For more information, see the website for St. Sophia Summer Camp: <https://www.saintsophiacamp.org>.

HOLY METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO YOUNG ADULT LEAGUE CONFERENCE – This year's Metropolis Young Adult Conference will take place in Seattle, Washington from August 28 – September 1. If interested, now is the time to prepare to attend. **To stay informed, follow the Metropolis of San Francisco YAL Conference on Instagram at [_yalconference](https://www.instagram.com/_yalconference/), or contact the planning team at registration@sfyalconference.org**