



MAY 4, 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

THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN



### 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—Acts 6:1 – 7

In those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists murmured against the Hebrews because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the body of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brethren, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole multitude, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands upon them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

#### GOSPEL—St. Mark 15:43 – 16:8

At that time, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate, and asked for the body of

Jesus. And Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock; and he rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid. And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the door of the tomb?" And looking up, they saw that the stone was rolled back; for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed in a white robe; and they were amazed. And he said to them, "Do not be amazed; you seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here; see the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." And they went out and fled from the tomb; for trembling and astonishment had come upon them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

### Liturgical Notes for Today

At the Entrance of the Gospel: *"Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life."*/Χριστός Ανέστη...

1. As the Gospel is raised: *"In the congregations bless God, the Lord Who springs out of Israel. Save us, O Son of God Who rose from the dead, as we sing to You, Alleluia."*/Εν εκκλησίαις ευλογείτε...
2. *"When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, then the Light of Your Divinity destroyed Hades. When You raised the dead from the depths darkness, all the heavenly powers cried out, 'Glory to You, Christ our God, the Giver of Life.'"*/Ότε κατήλθες...
3. *"Lowering You pure Body from the Cross, the noble Joseph wrapped It in clean muslin with fragrant spices and laid It in a new tomb; but, on the third day You rose, O Lord, granting the world great mercy."*/Ο ευχήμων Ιωσήφ...[Hymn in honor of the Noble Joseph]
4. *"Standing by the tomb the angel said to the Myrrh-bearing Women, 'Myrrh is for the dead, but Christ has proven Himself alien to death. Therefore, cry out: "The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy.'"*/Ταῖς Μυροφόροις Γυναῖξι...[Hymn in honor of the Myrrh-bearing Women]
5. *"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]
6. **Kontakion:** *"Though You went down into the tomb, You destroyed Hades' power, and You rose the victor, Christ God. To the myrrh-bearing women, saying, 'Hail!' and granting peace to Your disciples, You are He Who raised up the fallen."*/Εἰ καὶ ἐν τάφῳ...
7. After Holy Communion: *"Christ is risen..."* / Χριστός Ανέστη...

### WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Monday through Wednesday, May 5, 6 and 7.....Metropolis of San Francisco Clergy Laity Conference at St. Nicholas Ranch. No Bible Study on Tuesday, May 6th.

Thursday, May 8th.....ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

Orthodox Christian Catechism - 6:30 p.m. (online) - Contact Fr. Ted to receive a Zoom link.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**— Our final **"Family Sunday School"** Sunday for this year is **Sunday, May 18th**. We look forward to honoring our students and their families.

**PHILOPTOCHOS** — Monday, May 5th, 11:30 AM-Philoptochos General Meeting & Elections for the 2025-2027 term — PLUS a Cinco De Mayo themed luncheon! See enclosed flier. Members of our St. George Philoptochos attended the **Metropolis Kids 'n' Cancer** event in Newport Beach, CA, which was a record-breaking success!

# PHILO STRONG

St. George Ladies Philoptochos | Chapter 4035 | Palm Desert, CA

## NARROW DOOR Food Bagging Sat. May 17th

Interested in volunteering a couple of hours to help families with food insecurity needs? We will be assisting the Narrow Door in Indio with food bagging preparations on Saturday, May 17 starting at 8:45 AM till approximately 11:30 AM. **RSVP by May 11th** to Rhonda (714) 875-4661 or Nick (760) 455-9727

## SIP-N-PAINT Saturday, May 3rd

Our successful Sip-n-Paint series continues on Saturday, May 3rd at the church hall. We will be painting an 11x16 canvas with a Santorini Scene! \$20 fee per attendee includes Greek appetizers & refreshments. **RSVP by April 30th** to Athena (219) 313-6940 or Rhonda (714) 875-4661

## XRISTOS ANESTI!



## Monday, May 5th Elections!

Please make plans to attend our May General Meeting. We will be holding elections for the 2025-27 Philoptochos Board of Directors. This is an important meeting and election that sets up the success of our chapter leadership for the next two years.

**Voting will begin at 11:30 AM in the church hall** with a **Cinco de Mayo** lunch to follow and general meeting.

Please **RSVP** to current President **Rhonda Latkovic** by **May 2nd, 2025** via phone, text, or email. Tel./Text (714) 875-4661  
Email [rlatkovic@stgeorgepd.org](mailto:rlatkovic@stgeorgepd.org)

The following ladies are running for the board for the term 2025-2027:

Paulette Carkonen, Elaine Grillos, Linda Kallis, Rhonda Latkovic, Marie, Malley, Margarita Pagoulatos, Debbie Pousen, Susan Segaar, Irene Stambolos, Tina Veroulis, Kalitsa Xitco.

**VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!**