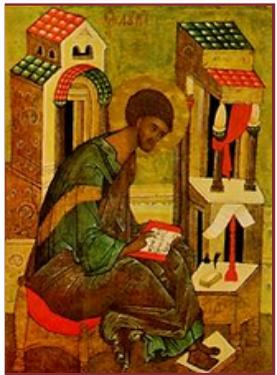




St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, November 23, 2025

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



9th Sunday of
Luke

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:

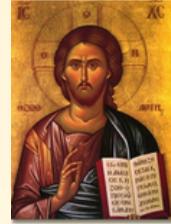
1. Ladies, kindly remove lipstick before receiving.
2. Non-Orthodox Christians may not receive Holy Communion, but they may receive the Holy Bread at the end of the service.
3. All Orthodox Christians must be spiritually prepared to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please see the priest if you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



**Prokeimenon. Grave Mode
Psalm 28.11,1**

*The Lord will give strength to
his people.*

*Verse: Bring to the Lord, O
sons of God, bring to the Lord
honor and glory.*



EPISTLE – Romans 10:11 – 21; 11:1 – 2

GOSPEL – St. Matthew 9:9 – 13

Brethren, Christ is our peace, who has made us both one, and has broken down the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby bringing the hostility to an end. And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

The Lord said this parable: “The land of a rich man brought forth plentifully; and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones; and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; take your ease, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you; and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So is he who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.” As he said these things, he cried out: “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”



Liturgical Notes For Today's Divine Liturgy

1) With the Entrance of the Holy Gospel – “–“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 our Christ, the Giver of Life:"/

Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ σου τὸν θάνατον ...

2) “Today is the prelude of God’s pleasure and the proclamation of man’s salvation. The Virgin is clearly made manifest in the Temple of God and foretells Christ to all. Let us also cry out to Her with mighty voice: ‘Hail fulfillment of the Creator’s dispensation.’/ Σήμερον της ευδοκίας Θεού τὸ προοίμιον...[Hymn in honor of the Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple]

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 των αιχμαλώτων... [Hymn in honor of St. George]

4) Kontakion: “Today the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God enters this house of the Lord brining with Her the grace of the Divine Spirit. The angels of God praise Her. She is the heavenly tabernacle.”/ Ὁ καθαρῶτατος ναὸς τοῦ Σωτῆρος...



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL

Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation of the servant of God, **Mary Chakos Andros (7 years)**, the beloved mother of **Nicholas Andros**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Life and Salvation to **Mary Chakos Andros** and may He grant peace and comfort to **Nicholas Andros**. MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!

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. Please see the enclosed “Festival Information Page” explaining how everyone can support our Greek Festival financially and through sacrifices of time and talent.

Parish Council News

We express our gratitude to all of the participants in our Fall General Assembly Meeting last Sunday

Parish Council Elections

Please find an “**Application for Candidacy for Election to the Parish Council**” form. Those wanting to be candidates for election to serve as members of the **2026 St. George Parish Council** must complete this form and return it to our parish office for Fr. Ted **no later than next Sunday, November 30, 2026.**

In addition, candidates must attend our **Parish Council Seminar** scheduled for **Monday, December 1, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.** at our parish offices. If there is a special circumstance surrounding the inability to return the “Application” form by November 30th or to attend the Parish Council Seminar on December 1st, contact Fr. Ted at which time the validity of the special circumstance will be discussed. Otherwise, “Application” forms returned after November 30th will not be accepted.

Failure to attend the Parish Council Seminar will result in the nullification of an individual's candidacy for the election. **This policy is issued by our Holy Metropolis of San Francisco. Parish Elections** will be held on **Sunday, December 14, 2025**, following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Philoptochos News

Remember our annual **Philoptochos Christmas Party Luncheon** will be on **Sunday, December 7th**. See enclosed flyer for details and to make your reservation. (**Deadline** for reservations is **December 1st**).

— Philoptochos will be selling koulourakia for \$12 per dozen and melomakarona for \$18 per 6. We will also be accepting reservations for the Christmas Luncheon.

Community Christmas Card

It's almost Christmas and St. George is getting ready! We have an annual **Community Christmas Card** where everyone in our St. George family can participate. Please see the attached flier. **Deadline is November 26**. Return the completed form **and contribution** for participation in the Community Christmas Card to our parish office or **mail to: St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 74-109 Larrea St., Palm Desert, CA 92260**. Mark "**Community Christmas Card**" in the memo section of check.

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

The Week Ahead:

Tuesday, November 25th

ST. CATHERINE THE GREAT MARTYR

Orthros-8:30 a.m. followed by the Divine Liturgy–
9:30a.m.

Bible Study-11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 26th

Deadline for participation in the Community
Christmas Card

Thursday, November 20th

Thanksgiving Day

(Office closed; no Orthodox Catechism Class)

Sunday, November 30th

Deadline to submit “Application for Candidacy for
Election to Parish Council” Forms

Monday, December 1st

Deadline for Reservations for Philoptochos
Christmas Luncheon / Parish Council Seminar-
1:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday, December 7th

Philoptochos Christmas Party (Luncheon)
—11:30 a.m. (See enclosed flier)

Sunday, December 14th

Election of candidates to serve as members of the
2026 Parish Council.

Did you Know?

While we may consider greed to be almost a “normal” fault by some of today’s standards, our Lord considers it to be a serious deterrent to our lasting peace and salvation. Consider this passage from *The Orthodox Study Bible*:

*“Greed is pure idolatry (Col.3:5) and unfitting for anyone who knows God... **“Whose will those things be which you have provided?”** is key to understanding the saving up of material goods. St. John Chrysostom writes that the only barns we need we already have: ‘the stomachs of the poor.’ St. Basil the Great taught that the bread in our cupboard belongs to the hungry; the coat hanging unused belongs to the one who needs it; the shoes rotting in our closets belong to those who have no shoes; and the money we hoard belongs to the poor. St. Ambrose teaches, ‘The things which we cannot take with us are not ours. Only virtue will be our companion when we die.’ Even when Joseph stored up grain in Egypt (Gn. 41), it was for the benefit of the whole nation. These teachings apply to parishes as well as to each person.” (pg. 1391)*

The Ladder sponsor for the month of October is Eve Meek in Memory of Patricia and Katherine!

