



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, October 19, 2025

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



3rd Sunday of
Luke

Priest:

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

Deacon:

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

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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 – 2 Corinthians 11:31 – 12:9 GOSPEL – St. Luke 7:11 – 16

Brethren, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, he who is blessed forever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus and wanted to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise — whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows — and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man, I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and “God has visited his people!”



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!”*

“Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον...

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.”/Ὡς των αιχμαλώτων... [Hymn in honor of 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 τῶν Χριστιανῶν...*



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Council News

- **The Fall General Assembly** is on **Sunday, November 16!** We are currently preparing the agenda and have many important matters concerning our church to discuss. Please plan to attend and participate. All parishioners are welcome; however, only stewards may vote on issues. Please complete your Stewardship Pledge Card now, or see **Debbie Pousen**, our Stewardship Chairperson, for assistance.
- Parish Council Meetings will be held on **October 14** and **October 28** to prepare for the Fall General Assembly meeting.

Philoptochos News

- **Philoptochos will be selling Koulourakia for \$12 per dozen** after church in the hall. Thank you to Rena Iakovidis for her hard work and generous donation to support this effort. **Wheat for Koliva will also be offered for \$5.00 per 16 oz. package.** If you are interested in purchasing, please contact Irene Stambolos at (818) 517-3169.
- Tomorrow marks the **end of our Socktober donation event** with Coachella Valley Rescue Mission for the homeless. **New men's and women's socks are needed most.** Contact Board Member Elaine Grillos for more information at: (650) 224-3636 or email: jgrillos@aol.com.
- Our **Big Fat Greek Yard Sale** is coming up on **Saturday, November 8** from **7:00AM–3:00PM** — see attached enclosed flyer for more information.
- We want to thank Philoptochos and those who participated in the annual **“Paint El Paseo Pink” Walk** for the Desert Cancer Foundation in an effort to find a cure for cancer. Attached below is the group picture.



Stewardship

We are coming up to the end of the year for Stewardship 2025 and Stewardship 2026 will be beginning in January 2026! Complete and send in your 2025 contribution.

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>

What is a Steward?

A person who responsibly manages and cares for the gifts God has entrusted to them, whether those are time, talent, treasure, or the church's physical and spiritual resources, on behalf of God.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. George Festival

The dates for our **Greek Festival** are **February 21–22, 2026!** The upcoming festival will differ from those in recent years, as it will be produced entirely by all of us, the stewards of St. George. The festival has never needed our parish family more. This time, **it will take our entire “village” to make it a success.**

Submissions for The Ladder

As we enter the busy holiday season and prepare for the Greek Festival, those wishing to include announcements or flyers in *The Ladder* are kindly asked to submit them no later than Tuesday of each week by emailing **Fr. Ted** at tpantels@stgeorgepd.org or **Stephanie Christopoulos** at stephanieeee125@gmail.com. We extend our sincere thanks to Francine Vasilomanolakis and Christian Hernandez for their teamwork in maintaining the high professional standard of *The Ladder*. Francine will now be focusing her time on her duties as Parish Treasurer, so we are grateful to Stephanie Christopoulos for volunteering to assist with proofreading and to Christian Hernandez for continuing to aid with the final publication.

The Week Ahead:

Monday, October 20th

ST. GERASIMOS OF CEPHALLONIA

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

Tuesday, October 21st

Bible Study - 10:00am

Thursday, October 23rd

ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE

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

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

email: fr.theodore@stgeorgepd.org

Saturday, October 18th

Vespers—5:00 p.m. with Catechism class to follow

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, November 8

Our Big Fat Greek Yard Sale—See flier

Sunday, November 16

Fall General Assembly

Did you Know?



Parents are encouraged to keep their children's baptismal candles for their home altars. As noted in *Making God Real in the Orthodox Christian Home* by Fr. Anthony Coniaris (p. 86), “Candles used at baptism, especially for the baptism of a child, in the Orthodox Church are very significant and meaningful.” Patriarch Sophronios reminds us, “Today we have escaped from darkness, and by the light of the knowledge of God, we have been illuminated.” Once asleep to the wonders of salvation, baptism opens the eyes of the soul to see Christ, “the true light that enlightens every man coming into the world” (John 1:9). Parents are encouraged to keep the baptismal candle and present it to their child once they reach the age of understanding, explaining that at baptism they received the Light, who is Christ.

--Taken from *“Making God Real in the Orthodox Christian Home”* by Fr. Anthony Coniaris, pg. 88.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's Memorial:

Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation of the servants of God **Elizabeth Lisa Puglisi-Holm** (40 days), beloved wife of Matthew Holm; **George Edison Nicholau** (six months), beloved husband of Gaye Nicholau and father of Edie Delegans; and **Edison Nicholau** (74 years), beloved brother of Edie Delegans.

May our Lord God, and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Life to **Elizabeth Puglisi-Holm, George Edison Nicholau, and Edison Nicholau**, and may He bring peace and comfort to Matthew Holm and Edie Delegans.

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!



Sunday School:

Sunday School has begun and it's not too late to attend! This year's theme is "Be the Light: Living God's Love in the World" (Matthew 5:14–16), reminding us that no matter how small our actions may seem, they have the power to share Christ's love in school, at home, and with friends.

We welcome you to join Presbytera Petula and Mrs. Athena Snarskis EACH Sunday for Preschool through High School throughout the year from Sept to May, even if your family is visiting for the day.

Special lesson dates are also planned once a month (see dates online or in The Ladder) with Mrs Alex Pappas and Ms Nicole Nasser assisting. Each session will include a way for students to add their voice to our bulletin board project, so everyone can be part of the journey! We look forward to a blessed year together with your children!

See **our website** <https://stgeorgepd.org/ministries/sunday-school/> for more about Sunday School!

EVENT SCHEDULING

Our parish Master Calendar is available on the St. George website at <https://stgeorgepd.org>. Many thanks to Christian Hernandez, who has worked diligently to create and maintain our beautiful parish website. **Before scheduling any future events**, please check the Master Calendar or contact Fr. Ted to help avoid any conflicts.

Grab a Drink in our Parish Hall

You might have noticed a basket and credit card device by the drinks refrigerator. The drinks are anonymously donated. This is a small way to help our church one drink at a time!

Anyone can purchase water for \$2.00, all other drink for \$5.00 and Halva for \$5.00.

Proceeds go towards the needs of the church.

Have a drink and help our church!

The Ladder sponsor for the month of October is your Parish Council!

Fr. Ted and Presvytera will sponsor the Ladder for February and we have sponsors signed up until the end of January.