



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, October 26, 2025

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



6th Sunday of
Luke



Prokeimenon. Grave Mode

*Psalm 63.11,1The righteous
shall rejoice in the Lord.*

Verse: Oh God, hear my cry.



EPISTLE – 2 Timothy 2:1 – 10

GOSPEL – St. Luke 8:26 – 39

Timothy, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus, and what you have heard from me before many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier on service gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to satisfy the one who enlisted him. An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. Think over what I say, for the Lord will grant you understanding in everything. Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David, as preached in my gospel, the gospel for which I am suffering and wearing fetters like a criminal. But the word of God is not fettered. Therefore, I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain salvation in Christ Jesus with its eternal glory.

At that time, as Jesus arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, there met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but among the tombs. When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him, and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beseech you, do not torment me." For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him; he was kept under guard, and bound with chains and fetters, but he broke the bonds and was driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside; and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them leave. Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. When the herdsmen saw what happened, they fled, and told it in the city and in the country. Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. And those who had seen it told them how he who had been possessed with demons was healed. Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gadarenes asked him to depart from them; for they were seized with great fear; so he got into the boat and returned. The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

Priest:

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

Deacon:

**Euthym Kontaxis, M.D.,
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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.

Liturgical Notes For Today's Divine Liturgy

1) With the Entrance of the Holy Gospel –*“Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord by His mighty arm, has created a dominion. He has conquered death by death and become the Firstborn of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of Hades and has granted the world great mercy.”*/ Εὐφραινέσθω τὰ οὐράνια...

2) *“You who look upon the earth and make it tremble, deliver us from the awful threat of earthquake, o Christ our God. Send us rather Your rich mercies, at the the intercession of the Theotokos, O only loving one.”*/ Ὁ ἐπιβλέπων ἐπὶ τὴν γῆν...

3) *“You have proved to be for all the world the great champion in time of peril, as the victor in routing the barbarians. Thus, as you put down the boasting of Lyaïos, imparting courage to Nestor in the stadium, so, O holy One, great Martyr Demetrios, beseech Christ our God for us that we may know the gift of His great mercy.”* / Μέγαν εὐρατο ἐν τοῖς κινδύνοις...

4) *“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]

5) 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

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.
- 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.
- **SAVE THE DATE! — Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 11:30 a.m.!** Everyone is invited to join in the annual **Philoptochos Christmas Party** at the Sun City Mountain View Clubhouse, 38180 Del Webb Blvd., Palm Desert, California. See enclosed flier for information and to make reservations.
- **Organizations We Support - On Saturday, October 18,** St. George volunteers partnered with **Narrow Door founder David Ramirez** to prepare 1,200 food bags for families in need within our local community. Check out the group photo below!



Stewardship

We are approaching the end of the 2025 Stewardship year, and Stewardship 2026 will begin in January 2026. If you haven't yet done so, please complete and send in your 2025 stewardship contribution.

What is a Steward?

A steward is someone who faithfully manages and cares for the gifts that God has entrusted to them, whether those gifts are time, talent, treasure, or the Church's physical and spiritual resources, all in service to God.

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>

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. Let us all come together united in faith and love. **It will take our entire "village" to make it a success.**

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.

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 this coming **October 28** to prepare for the Fall General Assembly meeting.

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), invites students to grow in faith and reflect Christ's love in their daily lives. Classes are held **every Sunday** from **September through May** for students in **Preschool through High School**.

All children are welcome — even if your family is visiting for the day.

To learn more, visit stgeorgepd.org/ministries/sunday-school.

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 by fellow parishioners. 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!



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Week Ahead:

Tuesday, October 21st

Bible Study - 10:00am

Thursday, October 23rd

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

email: fr.theodore@stgeorgepd.org

Saturday, October 18th

STS. COSMAS & DAMIAN —

Orthros—8:30 a.m. followed by the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. **NOTE: No Vesper Service!**

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, November 8

Our Big Fat Greek Yard Sale—See flier

Sunday, November 16

Fall General Assembly

Did you Know?

The practice of blessing homes and objects used for our well-being comes from the Gospel. These sacred objects may include icons, crosses, or instruments used in daily life, reminding us that all things can become vessels of God's grace.

We recall the moment when a woman suffering from continual blood loss was immediately healed after touching the hem of Christ's garment (Luke 8:43–48). As explained in the Orthodox Study Bible (New Testament and Psalms, p. 159):

"Healing power flows from Christ. That which Jesus touches, or which touches Him, is sanctified. The power to heal originates from Him. Similarly, we use physical things in the Orthodox Church because, in the context of faith and prayer, the power of Christ works through them. There is power in the paint or wood of an icon, in the metal of a cross, or in oil and water (as in Holy Unction and Holy Water) only if it is sanctified by Christ. Jesus taught that one thing sanctifies another: 'Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold?' (Matthew 23:17). Therefore, to trustingly touch the border of His garment, as the woman did, was to touch Him. Others may have touched Christ, but her faith drew His power as well."

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.

