



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, September 7, 2025

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



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 do in 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."



Sunday Before
Holy Cross

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.



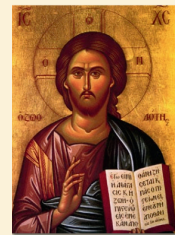
Prokeimenon. Mode

Plagal 2

Psalm 27.9,1

*O Lord, save your people
and bless your inheritance.*

*Verse: To you, O Lord, I
have cried, O my God.*



EPISTLE — Galatians 6:11 – 18

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

GOSPEL—St. John 3: 13-17

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but he who descended from heaven, the Son of man who is in heaven. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Liturgical Notes For Today

At the Entrance of 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 on our forefathers. With pride they said to the Apostles, ‘Death is vanquished. Christ our God has risen, bestowing on the world His great mercy.’”/Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα ...*

2) *“From the root of Jesse and from the loins of David, God’s maiden Mary is born for us this day. Hence, the universe is renewed and becomes deified. Hence, heaven and earth rejoice together. Sing Her praised, nations of the world. Joachim rejoices and Anna celebrates, crying out, ‘The one who was barren gives birth to the Theotokos, Who nourishes our life.’”/ Ἐκ τῆς ρίζης Ἰεσσαί, καὶ ἐξ ὀσφύος τοῦ Δαυῖδ ...*

3) *“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: *“On this day the Virgin Maid, Mary the true Theotokos, the inviolate bridal room of the heavenly Bridegroom, by the will of God is born of a barren woman, to prepare to be the carriage of God the Logos, as for this she had been destined, to be the gateway of God and Mother of Life.”/Ἡ Παρθένος σήμερον, καὶ Θεοτόκος Μαρία ...*

Ladder Sponsorships

The Ladder is now available to be sponsored each month by a Parishioner for any donation amount!

A big thank you to *Annette Lewis* for sponsoring The Ladder for September!

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Council President's Message

Our Parish Council held a special meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2025. A thorough discussion was held in which analysis was given to particulars regarding the Greek Festival. Reports were given by Fr. Euthym Kontaxis and Rhonda Latkovic reviewing information that was provided by our 2025 Festival Chairman, George Argyros, as well as feedback from a sampling of our parishioners. The Parish Council will reconvene on Tuesday, September 9th to further analyze cost controls and future parishioner participation involved in presenting a Greek Festival. Again, any feedback from our parishioners is welcome. Contact Tasia Richards at trichards@stgeorgepd.org.

Philoptochos

General Meeting will be held on Monday, September 15, 11:30am. See fliers attached for other Philoptochos sponsored events.

Kitchen Update

We have been busy deep cleaning the kitchen! Thank you to Krisann Kontaxis for her expertise and leadership to take on this "dirty" project. Thank you to all the parish helpers who came through washing and cleaning!

Everyone is welcome to take a tour, after church, of our new Gordon Ramsay kitchen!



METROPOLIS YOUNG ADULT FALL RETREAT 2025

Orthodox Young Adults (ages 18–35) from across the West Coast are invited to join us for our Metropolis Young Adult Fall Retreat at St. Nicholas Ranch & Retreat Center in Dunlap, CA - a weekend of hiking, prayer, and fellowship. Young adults from all Orthodox traditions are welcome. October 16-19, 2025... Website and more information, access: <https://gosfyouth.org/youngadults>.



St. George's 2025 Pledged Stewards (Members)

as of September 5, 2025

To date we have 85 families who have pledged \$144,975.00. We have received \$114,704.00 so far towards these pledges. The end of the year is four months away!

Listed below are all the Stewards for 2025. The names with a cross next to them indicate those who do not have Pledge Cards on file for this year.

Allen ,Becky (Nicoletta)	Holm, Matthew & Lisa	Pagoulatos, Margarita
Andrikos, Demetri & Diane	Iakovides, Paul & Irene	Pallis, Chris & Vicki
Andros, Nick	Jaskulski, Thomas & Debra	Panopoulos, Joan
Argyros, George & Stacey	Jefferson, Virginia P +	Pantels, Fr. Theodore & Pres Petula
Barringer, Louise Dobbs	Kallis, Linda	Petalas, John & Linda
Basiliko, Constantine +	Karagianis, Lou & Penny	Pettis, Tony
Berz, Diana & Robert	Karris, Emmy +	Piggott, Mary
Bischoff, Jeffrey & Katrina +	Kassotakis, George & Mary Ellen	Pilafidis, Olympia
Bozigian, Linda Jean	Kezios, Rev Spencer T. (Bishop Spyridon)	Platis, Harry PLLC
Borgman, James +	Kontaxis, Euthym & Krisann	Pousen, Debbie (DJ)
Carkonen, Paul & Paulette	Kosturos, Anthony & Tatum	Prineas, Anna +
Castrale, Craig	Kosturos, Paul & Dena	Psaltis, Harry
Chiotis, Antony & Penny	Krespis, Nick & Fotini	Psihogis, Peter & Lisa Marie
Christodulelis, Charles & Eva	Kuchulis, William & Terri	Rassi, Abraham & Geraloine
Christopoulos, Dr Jim & Gloria	Kundanis, Christine	Rellos, Bill & Maria +
Clark, Susan (Segaar)	Laskaris, Annette	Richards, Tasia
Constantine, Kay & Odysseus	Latkovic, Elaine +	Sarikas, Kiriakos & Delores
Dalkas, Anthony & Patricia	Latkovic, Nicholas & Rhonda	Sellas, Dr James & Anastasia
Diamond, George & Paula +	Latkovic, Pauline C.	Shaheen, Bernice
Diamond, Mari Lou	Lee, Bill & Mary	Snarskis, Peter & Athena
Dilberakis, Anastasia	Lekas, Bill & Denise	Spanos, George & Angie
Dixon, Ann & Richard	Lewis, Annette	Speliopoulos, Nick & Carol +
Dunkel, Mariya & Gregory	Loukatos, Constantine & Leslie	Stambolos, Irene
Dymond, Donald & Alexandra	Lucas, Delphine & Steve Brown	Steele, Dr. Stephen & Lynanne
Evrigenis, Sophia	Lyons, Douglas & Carol	Storton, Mychael
Fakinos, Joan	Makrianis, Julie M.	Storton, Wynn & Ana
Gannon, Robert & Sandy +	Maletis, Chris & Kristi +	Sustaita, Jazmine
George, Mark & Jenny	Maletis, Edward & Cyndy	Vasilomanolakis, Francine
Ginos, Nicole M	Maletis, John & Kait	Veroulis, Angelo & Tina
Guinn, Melani	Mckee, Dennis +	Xitco, John V & Kalitsa Z
Hanna, Linda	Meek, Eve	Young, Diane
Hector, Tim & Nadia	Nicholas, Fanny	Zagas, Sophie
Hoffman, Kenneth	Nicholau, George & Gaye	

Why is it important for Parishioners to fill out a Pledge Card each year?

Pledge cards help the Parish Council to set the budget for the coming year. Stewardship pays for the operations of the church, such as utilities, pastoral salaries and their benefits, candles, maintenance of all facilities and additional costs that are directly related to church programs. Without those cards, it is uncertain how to plan for the bills to be paid for the operations of the church.

Check out our website regarding Stewardship at: <https://stgeorgepd.org/donate/stewardship/>

Weekly Opportunities:

Monday, September 8th

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

Tuesday, September 9th

Bible Study—10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 3rd

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

[Contact Fr. Ted to receive a Zoom link.]

fr.theodore@stgeorgepd.org

Upcoming Events:

September 20-October 10 2025

Socktober Event: Donations for the homeless

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Bells Across America Event

Saturday, October 11, 2025

Paint El Paseo Pink Event

Did you Know?

As we enter church, we are found in the “Narthex” section of the church. The purpose of the Narthex is to allow the faithful to transition from the world of our society into the world of God’s Kingdom. Candles are lit to represent that, as Christ is the Light of the World, we who follow Christ are also the light of the world. In addition, the candles represent an offering of our prayers to God. We venerate icons of our patron saint and/or the Holy Theotokos, as we also make the Sign of the Cross.



Pictured is the Narthex of St Demetrios' Chapel, at
St Anthony's Monastery, Florence, AZ

