



St. George Greek Orthodox Church

Sunday, January 18, 2026

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!



12th Sunday Of
Luke

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

Deacon:
Euthym Kontaxis,
M.D., M.Div.

**74109 Larrea St. Palm
Desert, CA. 92260
Tel: (760) 568-9901
Office Hours: M - F
10a.m. - 2p.m.**

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 4

Daniel 3.26,27

**Blessed are you, O Lord, the
God of our fathers.**

**Verse: For you are just in all
you have done.**



EPISTLE – Hebrews 13:7 - 16

Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Do not be led away by diverse and strange teachings; for it is well that the heart be strengthened by grace, not by foods, which have not benefited their adherents. We have an altar from which those who serve the tent have no right to eat. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the sanctuary by the high priest as a sacrifice for sin are burned outside the camp. So Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through his own blood. Therefore let us go forth to him outside the camp and bear the abuse he endured. For here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city which is to come. Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

GOSPEL – St. Matthew 4:12 - 17

At that time, as Jesus entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance and lifted up their voices and said: “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; and he fell on his face at Jesus’s feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. Then said Jesus: “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” And he said to him: “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

Liturgical Notes For Today's Divine Liturgy

1. The Entrance with the Holy Gospel – “By Your Cross, O Christ our God, You destroyed death. You opened paradise to the thief. You transformed the lament of the Myrrh-bearing women, and You commanded the Apostles to proclaim You are risen, granting the world Your great mercy.”//Κατέλυσας τω Σταυρώ...

2. “You became radiant by your Orthodox deeds, quelling heresy and becoming conquering champions. Your piety enriched all and the Church became greatly beautified. You have worthily found Christ our God, Who by your prayers grants all great mercy.” [Apolytikion Hymn for Sts. Athanasios and Cyril, Patriarchs of Alexandria]

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: “Your birth sanctified the Virgin’s womb and fittingly blessed the hands of Simeon. You have now come and saved us O Christ our God. In troubled times, as the only loving One, give peace to Your commonwealth and strength to those in civil authority, whom You love.”/Ο Μητραν παρθενικήν αγιάσας τω τόκω σου...



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OATH OF OFFICE

Following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy today, the members of the St. George 2026 Parish Council will come forward for their Oath Of Office, thereby officially beginning their service as Parish Council members for this year (listed alphabetically):

Jim Christopoulos

Patricia Dalkas

Nick Krespis

Tasia Richards

Athena Snarskis

Peter Snarskis

Nick Speliopoulos

Francine Vasilomanolakis

We pray that our Lord and Savior will continue to guide them keeping them in His protection and granting them every blessing.

MEMORIAL

Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Rest and Salvation for the servants of God, the beloved parents of **Athina Powers (Karamanlis)**, **Theodora (56 yrs.)** and **Christos Karamanlis (20 yrs)** and **Demetrios Karamanlis (50 yrs)**, the beloved brother of **Athina Powers (Karamanlis)**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Rest and Salvation to **Theodora, Christos and Demetrios Karamanlis** and may He grant peace and comfort to **Athina Powers (Karamanlis)**.



MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!



St. George Golf Tournament

Volunteers Needed: Annual Parish Golf Tournament & Taverna Dinner

This is an important request to find a committed group to work together for this important church fundraiser.

Our parish is at a crossroads as we look ahead to this year's Annual Golf Tournament and Taverna-style Dinner. This event has long been a valued tradition and a vital fundraiser for our church—but it can only happen if we form a dedicated group of volunteers to help plan and carry it out. You don't need to be a golfer or know anything about golf. There's a variety of things to accomplish.

The Parish Council must soon decide whether we will host the tournament this year. With a committed volunteer committee, it is likely that we can continue the tournament and the Taverna dinner again this year.

Other than an initial organizational meeting, most of the work will take place after the Festival, making this a manageable commitment for many.

This event is more than a day on the course—it is an important fundraiser that supports the life and ministries of our church. Your time, talent, and willingness to help can make the difference between continuing this tradition or seeing it come to an end in 2026.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please e-mail **Jim Christopoulos at goofy_328@yahoo.com** or **Nick Speliopoulos at nspelio@me.com**. Let us come together to ensure the success of this meaningful parish event.



A Note from the Treasurer

We will be working on the year end statements for 2025 in the next two weeks. Any donations received for 2025 from stewardship, festival, general offerings, etc. by check, credit card or our online payment system, Vanco, will be posted on one statement for each parishioner. These statements will be mailed to you by the end of the month.

As Interim Treasurer, I thank you for your donations to our St. George Greek Orthodox Church and remember how to make your checks "happy."

-Francine Vasilomanolakis



Committee Sunday on January 25

Save the date for Committee Sunday on January 25 following Divine Liturgy.

We are starting off the new year with a lot of ways in which St. George parishioners can participate!

Come and see what committee you would like to be part of and sign up! The more people to help... the more fun!

Come join us on this Sunday and learn all about our committees.

STEWARDSHIP 2026 HAS BEGUN

*Mail or bring checks in.

Make your check "Happy" by writing "Stewardship" on the memo for proper recording.

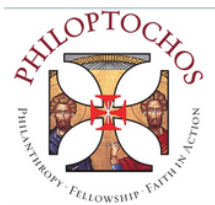
*Pay online using our secure system:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZN30/campaign/C-151YF>

PHILOPTOCHOS

Upcoming Events

- *January 19th & 20th **ONLY**- Festival Baking (8:30-1p.m.)
- *January 24, 2026: Game Day
(Mexican Train Dominos-2:00 p.m., church hall)
- *February 2, 2026: Philoptochos Board Meeting (11a.m.)
- *February 9, 2026: Philoptochos General Meeting (11:30a.m.)



ST. GEORGE FESTIVAL

Save the dates! Our Greek Festival will be held February 21–22, 2026. This joyful event is produced by all of us—the stewards of St. George. Let us come together in faith and love to make it a success.

To volunteer, please see Fr. Euthym Kontaxis after Sunday services and sign up in the parish hall. Be sure to check the updated “Feed the Festival/Nourish the Faith” chart posted in the hall, along with the printed Festival Baking Schedule, which is also posted in our parish hall. Donations of time, talent, and treasure are always welcome and deeply appreciated.

Thank you to all those who have donated so far!

Did you Know?

When we say or chant the words “Kyrie Eleison” (in English: “Lord, have mercy”), we must know that these words have deep spiritual meaning. Fr. Anthony Coniaris notes: “The word “mercy” in English is the translation of the Greek word “eleos.” This word has the same ultimate root as the old Greek word for oil, or more precisely, olive oil; which was poured onto wounds and gently massaged in, thus soothing, comforting, and making the injured part whole again. The Hebrew word which is also translated as “eleos” and mercy is “hesed,” which means steadfast love. The Greek words for “Lord have mercy” are “Kyrie eleison,” meaning “Lord soothe me, take away my pain, show me Your steadfast love.” This mercy does not refer to justice or acquittal, but to the infinite loving-kindness of God and His compassion for His suffering children.”

UPCOMING

SERVICES

Tuesday, January 20th - 8:30 a.m.

ST. EUTHYMOS THE GREAT Orthros - followed by the celebration of the Divine Liturgy [Fr. Euthym's Name Day]

Thursday, January 22nd - 6:30 p.m.

Orthodox Christian Catechism (online)- 6:30[Email Fr. Ted at tpantels@stgeorgepd.org to receive a Zoom link.]

Saturday, January 24th - 5:00p.m.

Vesper Service followed by Orthodox Catechism (Q&A)

EVENTS

NOTE: Festival Baking - 8:30a.m.

(Paximadia/Melomakarona) -Monday, January 19th

Tuesday, January 20th