



APRIL 28, 2024

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

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Palm Desert, California 92260

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- Fr. Theodore Pantels, M.Div. Proistamenos (Pastor)
- Deacon Euthym Kontaxis, M.D., M.Div.

Holy Communion Order

- 1. Please remain standing while following the directions of our ushers.
2. Ladies, kindly remove lipstick before receiving.
3. When receiving Holy Communion, make the Sign of the Cross, state your name (baptismal name), and naturally receive as if being fed.
4. Non-Orthodox Christians may not receive Holy Communion, but they may receive the Holy Bread at the end of the service.
5. All Orthodox Christians must be spiritually prepared to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please see the priest if you have any questions.

THE LADDER
PALM SUNDAY



PRAYER FOR READING HOLY SCRIPTURES

"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 doing 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."

EPISTLE—Philippians 4:4-9

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL—St. John 12:1-18

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not

sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

Liturgical Notes for Today

1. Instead of "Save us, O Son of God, Who arose from the dead...", we chant, "Save us, O Son of God, Who sat on a donkey's colt, we sing to You, Alleluia."
2. With the Entrance of the Gospel: Instead of "Come, let us worship and bow down to Christ"...(Δεῦτε προσκυνήσωμεν...), we chant: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Save us, O Son of God, who sat on a donkey's colt. We sing to You, Alleluia."...(Ευλογημένος ο Ερχόμενος εν ονόματι Κυρίου...)
3. **Entrance Hymn:** "O Christ our God, before Your Passion You raised Lazarus from the dead to confirm the common Resurrection for all. Therefore, we carry symbols of victory as did the youths, and we cry out to You, the victor over death, 'Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord.'"...(Τὴν κοινὴν Ανάστασιν...)
4. "O Christ our God, we have been buried with You through Baptism and by Your Resurrection made worthy of Life Immortal. Praising You, we cry out, 'Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord.'"...(Συνταφέντες σοι διὰ του Βαπτίσματος...)
5. **Kontakion:** "In Heaven, He is seated upon a Throne, and on earth He rides upon a foal. O Christ our God, accept the praise of the Angels and the hymn of the Children who cry out to You, "Blessed are You who comes to recall Adam."...(Τῷ θρόνῳ ἐν οὐρανῶ...)
6. **Communion Hymn:** "Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord. Alleluia."/Ευλογημένος ο Ερχόμενος...
7. **After Holy Communion:** The Entrance Hymn.

PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF PALMS

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Faithful: Lord, have mercy.

Chief Celebrant: Lord our God, enthroned above the Cherubim, You have stirred up Your power and sent Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to redeem the world through His Cross, His burial and His Resurrection. When He came to Jerusalem to His voluntary Passion, the people, living in darkness and the shadow of death, taking up the symbols of victory, boughs of trees and palm branches, foretold the Resurrection. Master as we too imitating them, carry Palms and branches on this eve of the feast, watch over us. And as we offer You Hosanna, like those multitudes and the children, safeguard us, so that in hymns and spiritual songs we, too, may worthily witness the life-giving Resurrection on the third day, in Christ Jesus our Lord, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

COMMEMORATING PALM SUNDAY

Commemorating Palm Sunday is a continuation of the celebration of Christ's miracle of raising Lazarus from the dead. Christ God has authority over the living and the dead. As such, despite the fact that the body decomposes after only a few days from when a person dies, Christ will call all people to Eternal Life even centuries after they leave this present life. Thus, in raising Lazarus from the dead, Christ gives us the sign that confirms the prophesy of Ezekiel (37:1-3) that, in Christ our Savior, all people will arise from the dead. The hymn of the day reminds us that the Resurrection of Lazarus "confirms the universal resurrection" of all.

On Palm Sunday, we celebrate the Triumphal Entry of Christ into Jerusalem. As we read in *The Orthodox Study Bible*, "In humility, Jesus shows that He has not come to establish an earthly kingdom...He rides on a donkey – a sign of humility and peace (Zechariah 9:9). This entrance into the Holy City declares the establishment of the Kingdom of God. It is also a promise of Christ's final entrance into the heavenly Jerusalem

Continued on the next page – – –>

with all believers and of His accepting the New Jerusalem [i.e., the Church] as His pure Bride.” (pg. 1308)
Church hymns chanted in celebration of Christ’s Resurrection from the dead refer to the Church being the “New Jerusalem.” As the citizens of Jerusalem did then, today, we too welcome Christ into our lives with palm branches in our hands. +FR. THEODORE

SCHEDULE OF HOLY WEEK SERVICES - 2024

Sunday, April 28th ...PALM SUNDAY – Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
Bridegroom Service – 6:00 p.m.

Monday, April 29th...HOLY MONDAY – Bridegroom Service –6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 30th...HOLY TUESDAY – Bridegroom Service - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 1st..HOLY WEDNESDAY-PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY -9:00 a.m.
Holy Unction Service – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 2nd...HOLY THURSDAY – DIVINE LITURGY (St. Basil)-9:00 a.m.
Service of the Redeeming Passion of our Lord –6:00 p.m

Friday, May 3rd...HOLY FRIDAY – Royal Hours-9:00 a.m.
Service of the Descent of our Lord from the Cross – 12:00 noon
Lamentation Service- 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 4th..HOLY SATURDAY – DIVINE LITURGY (St. Basil)-9:00 a.m.
Vigil for the Resurrection of our Lord – 11:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 5th..GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA
Resurrection Service-12:00 midnight
Divine Liturgy – 12:30 a.m.
Agape Vespers-3:00 p.m a.m.

Monday, May 6th..ST. GEORGE THE GREAT MARTYR
Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON – Everyone who has made reservations is invited to join in today’s Palm Sunday Luncheon following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Today is our **Special School Class** for Palm Sunday. Students will have their palm crosses.

PHILOPTOCHOS – Easter Bake Sale...Today our parish Philoptochos members will be selling **sweet bread** and **koulourakia**. **Bread is \$20** for a 2 and 1/4 pound loaf. **Koulourakia is \$12** per dozen. Also available, a box of 4 **unbaked spanakopitas** for **\$8**. See **Tina Veroulis** and **Rhonda Latkovic** in the parish hall during the course of our Palm Sunday Luncheon.

BOOKSTORE - **Now available:** *Services for Holy Week and Easter*. (Narthex Press Publications).

GOLF TOURNAMENT - **May 18th at 12:15 p.m. at Eldorado Country Club**. See enclosed flyer.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS FOR WORSHIP - Learn to prepare Altar Bread (Prosforo), Kollyva (boiled wheat) & “The Five Loaves” (Artoklasia). Contact our office to sign up.

PRAYER REQUESTS - Call Fr. Ted at (760) 880-5869. Please pray for: Nancy, Ann, Diane, Bess, Michael, Mary, Athanasios, Nicholas.

SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, May 18, 2024 | 12:15pm Shotgun Start | Eldorado Country Club



ENTRY INFORMATION

Saturday, May 18, 2024

- \$185 per player (includes Golf and Awards Dinner)
- 12:15 PM Shotgun Start at Eldorado Country Club
- 5:00 PM Social Hour at St. George Greek Orthodox Church
- 6:00 PM Traditional Greek Dinner at St. George Greek Orthodox Church | Silent Auction and Live Music

ENTRY INFORMATION

- Individual Player(s) ____ (# of players) x \$185 \$ _____
- Tee Sponsorship(s) ____ (# of sponsorships) x \$100 \$ _____
- Traditional Greek Dinner ____ (# of dinners) x \$50 \$ _____
- Donation \$ _____
- Total Amount \$ _____**

CREDIT CARD (please mark one) VISA MASTER CARD

ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

EXP. DATE: ____/____ 3-DIGIT SECURITY NO: _____
(CHECKED BY THE ASSOCIATION)

CARD HOLDER NAME: _____

BILLING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (____) _____-____ FAX: (____) _____-____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EVENT REGISTRATION

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PLAYER NAMES

1. _____	INDEX _____
2. _____	INDEX _____
3. _____	INDEX _____
4. _____	INDEX _____

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

Sign up online at www.go-stgeorge.org/Events/Golf/

Mail Checks and Registration Form to:

74109 Larrea Street | Palm Desert, CA | 92260

Make Checks Payable To:

"Saint George Greek Orthodox Church"