



AUGUST 18, 2024

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street

Palm Desert, California 92260

Website: www.go-stgeorge.org

Email: pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com

Mailing Address:

74-109 Larrea St.

Palm Desert, CA.92260

Tel: (760) 568-9901

or: (760) 880-5869

– Fr. Theodore Pantels, Proistamenos (Pastor)

– Deacon Euthym Kon-taxis, M.D.

Holy Communion Or-der

- 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



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 - 1 Corinthians 1:10 - 17

Brethren, I appeal to you by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no dissensions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brethren. What I mean is that each one of you says, 'I belong to Paul,' or 'I belong to Apollos,' or 'I belong to Cephas,' or 'I belong to Christ.' Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius; lest any one should say that you were baptized in my name. (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized any one else.) For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

GOSPEL - St. Matthew 14:14 - 22

At that time, Jesus saw a great throng; and he had compassion on them, and healed their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass; and taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and broke and gave the loaves to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. Then he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds.

STS. LEONTIUS, HYPATIUS & THEODOLUS - St. Leontius was an officer of the imperial army during the reign of Vespasian (70-79), who gave Adrian, a Roman senator, powers to hunt out Christians and give them over to death. Having learned of Christ, Leontius began turning Romans away from worshipping the pagan gods. Upon hearing this, Adrian sent the soldier Hypatius to hunt down Leontius. On his journey, Hypatius became terribly ill. However, an angel appeared and told him to pray to 'Leontius' God.' Hypatius' friend, Theodolus, joined Hypatius in prayer to Christ. Hypatius was then cured. They confessed their faith that Jesus Christ is God and were baptized. Upon learning of this, Adrian had them arrested. Upon refusing to worship Roman gods, they were tortured and beaten to death. Their martyrdom occurred around 75 A.D.

Liturgical Notes

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *“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 τῷ Σταυρῷ...

2) *“In birth, you preserved your virginity; in death, you did not abandon the world, O Theotokos. As mother of life, you departed to the source of life, delivering our souls from death by your intercessions.”* /Ἐν τῇ Γεννήσει, τὴν παρθενίαν ἐφύλαξας..

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.”* /Ὡς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθεροτῆς...[Hymn for St. George]

4) Kontakion: *“Neither the grave nor death could contain the Theotokos, the unshakable hope, ever vigilant in intercession and protection. As Mother of life, He who dwelt in the ever-virginal womb transposed her to life.”* /Τὴν ἐν πρεσβείαις ἀκοίμητον Θεοτόκον...

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

– Tuesday, August 20th.....Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

– Wednesday, August 21st.... Orthodox Christian Catechism (online) - 6:30 p.m.

– Saturday, August 24th..... Narrow Door Food Bank- 8:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PHILOPTOCHOS – 1)The **Narrow Door Food Bank** in Indio, CA **rescheduled** our Philoptochos Chapter to assist them again to prepare bags for food for needy families on **Saturday, August 24th starting at 8:45 AM to approximate finish at 11:00 AM.** Both men and women are needed. If interested in volunteering, please contact **Rhonda or Nick Latkovic at (714) 875-4661.** A sign-up sheet is located on the bar area in the church hall. We can arrange for transportation for volunteers if needed. 2) Philoptochos is repeating the successful **"NO-SEW Blanket Outreach Project"** from last year to benefit two non-profits: **The SafeHouse of the Desert** and **Birth Choice of the Desert.** Our goal is to make a total of forty blankets that will be donated to benefit the children being assisted at each agency. We are supplying the blankets and we need volunteers to actually make them. It takes about two hours of your time to make one blanket. No sewing involved! Please see **President Rhonda Latkovic** if you wish to help. 3) Our popular **"Sock-tober Outreach Project"** will be starting in September and we will be collecting socks to benefit the homeless and those being housed in shelters at the **Coachella Valley Rescue Mission.** Collection bins will be set up in the church hall for NEW socks to be deposited by gender. We can also accept your monetary donation and do the sock shopping for you. Please support this worthwhile project. See enclosed flier.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Click the following: [Be the Bee - Complete Series - YouTube](#). This will link you with our Archdiocese religious videos on Church-related topics as part of a weekly home-study "quality time" experience. Sunday School classes are to begin on **Sunday, September 22nd.**

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT – Today’s Epistle and Gospel passages hint at two subtle sins: 1) hypocrisy; 2) lack of faith. St. Paul reminds the Corinthians not to quarrel about who is better than others, because we are all *one* in Christ. Quarrelling also is usually about who is “right” and who is “wrong.” For Christians, we are all right in loving our Lord, Who embodies extreme humility; but, we are all wrong when we are filled with self-centeredness and pride. Trying to be “right” while also being “wrong” is a trademark of hypocrisy. From the Gospel, we learn of Christ feeding thousands of people from 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. It is a miracle that is meant to strengthen our faith. Our Lord condemned hypocrisy *and* lack of faith. To the Pharisees, He said, *“Wow, you Pharisees, you hypocrites!”* To the Apostles, He often said, *“O, you of little faith!”* Let us repent of these sins by praying for increased faith and for a sincere heart in showing love for God and others.

Cashless Giving to St. George Greek Orthodox Church of the Desert

We have had comments recently from parishioners that they and others are carrying less and less cash – especially among the younger generations for items such as candles and donations. Couple these comments with the security issues involved with cash and checks, there is an increased need for cashless giving. Of course, we will still accept cash and checks.

Beginning August 11th, 2024, you will see a “Point of Sale” Credit Card Machine place near the Coffee serving line similar to the units we use at the Festival **for Cashless Giving**. The unit is ICON driven and intuitive – similar to the units we used at the festival.

I will be there to assist when there are user questions. There will be posted directions as well.

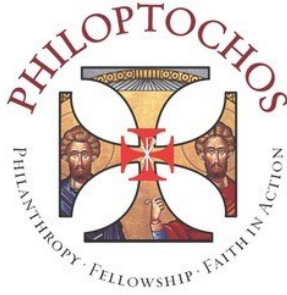
This machine will be set up for self service of **Stewardship, Candles, Sunday School Donations, Endowment, and General Giving**.

When waiting for your after service coffee or even upon entering, you are welcome to use the machine to contribute to the church to the before mentioned areas. A receipt will print which is yours to record the transaction. The office will record your transactions automatically from our Wells Fargo Bank partner.

We will partner this with our upcoming new website which will also offer on-line giving making your donation seamless and instant. This will also reduce office work done by volunteers and improve the security of our volunteers.

Nick Latkovic, Parish Treasurer.





“SOCK-TOBER”

DONATION EVENT for the HOMELESS

September 15th-October 15th

- o Did you know that the number 1 needed clothing item for a homeless person is a pair of socks?
- o Please help the St. George Ladies Philoptochos provide new socks to Coachella Valley Rescue Mission for the in-program residents & homeless population in the east valley.
- o Deposit socks in the bins provided that are located in the church hall. Monetary donations can be made & we will do the shopping if you are not able.
- o Men’s, women’s, & children’s socks are needed in Casual styles. Please note that: **ONLY NEW SOCKS WILL BE ACCEPTED!**

Thank you!