



AUGUST 25, 2024

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

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– Fr. Theodore Pantels, Proistamenos (Pastor)

– Deacon Euthym Kon-taxis, M.D.

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

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 3:9-17—Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw - each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

GOSPEL: St. Matthew 14:22-34 —At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and

go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE (Brother of St. Peter). St. Andrew established the Church in Byzantium (later known as Constantinople) in 38 A.D. Thus, he is the Patron Saint of our Holy Patriarchate of Constantinople. From there, ancient historians, such as Eusebius, have asserted that St. Bartholomew also traveled the lands which have become Russia, Romania and Ukraine, where Orthodox Christians also honor St. Bartholomew as their Patron Saint. During the Fourth Crusade (1204), his relics were taken to Italy. In 1964, Pope Paul VI returned all the relics of St. Andrew to the Patriarchate of Constantinople during his historic meeting with Patriarch Athenagoras. Today we commemorate the Return of the Body of St. Andrew the Apostle. St. Andrew's Feast Day is: November 30th.

Liturgical Notes

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *"O Merciful One, You came from on high, and condescended to Your three day burial to save us from suffering. You are our Life and our Resurrection. Glory to You."/* Εξ ύψους κατήλθες...

2) *"O Holy Apostles, intercede to our merciful God, that He may grant our souls forgiveness of sins."/* Άγιοι Απόστολοι... [Hymn for St. Bartholomew]

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]

4) Kontakion: *"In your holy birth, Immaculate One, Joachim and Anna were rid of the shame of childlessness; Adam and Eve of the corruption of death. And so your people, free of the guilt of their sins, celebrate crying: 'The barren one gives birth to the Theotokos, who nourishes our life.'"* / Ιωακείμ και Άννα ονειδισμού...

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

– Tuesday, August 27th.....Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

– Wednesday, August 28th....Orthodox Christian Catechism (online) - 6:30 p.m.

– Thursday, August 29th.....BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PHILOPTOCHOS – 1)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. No sewing involved! Please see **President Rhonda Latkovic** if you wish to help. 2) 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 registration will be held on **Sunday, September 22nd**.

"BELLS ACROSS AMERICA" - Our St. George parish has the honor of hosting the local chapter of **The Daughters of the American Revolution** for their annual **"Bell Ringing" Tribute** to our American Nation for *Constitution Week* on **Tuesday, September 17, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.** We look forward to welcoming various dignitaries. See enclosed flyer!

BIRTH CHOICE OF THE DESERT NEEDS OUR HELP! See enclosed flyer!

SPIRITUAL THOUGHTS – *"Christ did not command the winds to cease at that time, but Himself stretched forth His hand and took hold of Peter, because here faith was required of him. When we do not do our part, divine (grace) slows and stands still. . . it was not the wind that did Peter harm; his lack of faith sank him. Where faith is fruitful, firm and strong, none of the evils that may befall us can do us any harm."* – St. John Chrysostom

"The principle and source of the virtues is a good disposition of the will, that is to say, an aspiration for goodness and beauty. God is the source and ground of all supernal goodness. Thus the principle of goodness and beauty is faith or, rather, it is Christ, the rock of faith, who is principle and foundation of all virtues. On this rock we stand and on this foundation we build every good thing (cf. I Cor. 3:11)." – St. Gregory of Sinai



One of the local non-profits that Philoptochos has supported for many years is Birth Choice of the Desert. They are currently in need of donations to help maintain their local operations.

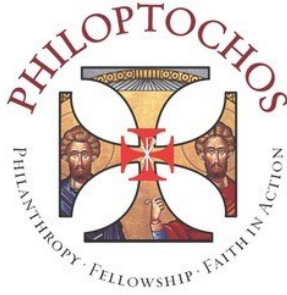
During coffee hour, please see the information fliers that detail the benefits they provide to local mothers and babies.

We hope you will consider giving a donation to Birth Choice of the Desert.

Cash or checks can be placed in the baby bottles on the tables.

Thank you for your generosity!

The St. George Ladies Philoptochos Chapter



“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!

Bells Across America Event!



You're invited to help us celebrate the 237th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution! Please join us at the annual "Bells Across America" bell ringing event to kick off Constitution Week

Tuesday, September 17th, 12:45 PM!

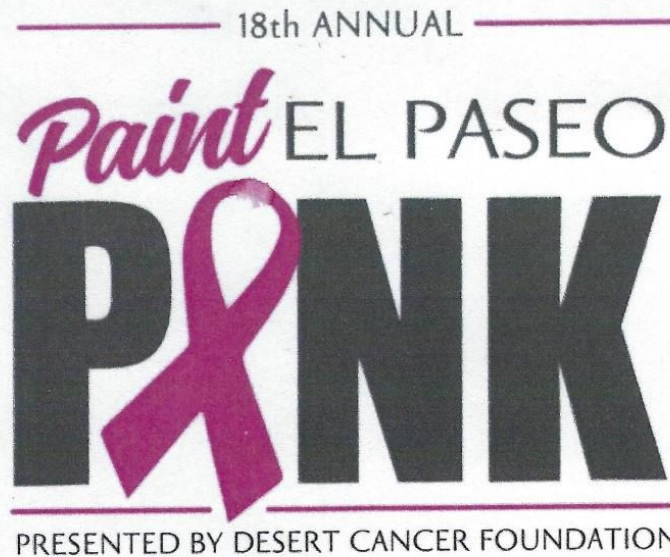
Short program will commence at 12:45 PM with the bell ringing to follow at 1:00 PM. Refreshments and light snacks will be served after the bell ringing!

Location:

*St. George Greek Orthodox Church
74109 Larrea St.
Palm Desert, CA*

Bell Tower





Saturday, October 19th

Pre-race program 7:30 AM-Race begins 8:00 AM

Please join our Saint George Team to support cancer care treatment through Desert Cancer Foundation's annual "**Pink Walk**" and celebrate our **7th year** of participation!

NEW THIS YEAR:

Register to walk for as little as a \$ 5.00 donation!

Registration is \$40.00 if you want a new *tee shirt.

Registration closes Oct. 8th, 2024.

*(Event Tee shirts will be distributed Wed.10/16-Fri.10/18 from 10:00 AM-6:00 PM-this year you must pick up your own tee at the Hotel Paseo)

Register directly via the Desert Cancer Foundation website by clicking on the pink #PEPP box in the upper left hand corner, then click on the pink box "Join a Team" and select Saint George, then enter your personal information & submit.

For those needing help signing up, please see Rhonda or Athena.