



JUNE 30, 2024

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

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- Fr. Theodore Pantels, M.Div. Proistamenos (Pastor)
- Deacon Euthym Kon-taxis, 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
ALL SAINTS SUNDAY; SYNAXIS OF THE 12 APOSTLES



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—Hebrews 11:33 – 40; 12:1 – 2

Brethren, all the saints through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, received promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, that they might rise again to a better life. Others suffered mocking and scourging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were tempted, they were killed with the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, ill-treated — of whom the world was not worthy — wandering over deserts and mountains and in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had foreseen something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin that easily distracts, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the

pioneer and perfecter of faith.

GOSPEL— St. Matthew 9:36 – 38; 10:1 – 8

At that time, when Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity. The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Lebbaeus called Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out, charging them, Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And preach as you go, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying, give without pay.

Today we commemorate the Holy Apostles: St. Peter, St. Andrew (the First- Called), Sts. James and John (the sons of Zebedee), St. Philip, St. Bartholomew, St. Thomas, St. Matthew (the tax-collector), St. James (the son of Alphaeus), St. Simon the Zealot, St. Jude, St. Matthias (who was elected as successor to Judas Iscariot, who betrayed the Lord and then hanged himself). St. Paul became an Apostle following his encounter with Christ on the road to Damascus.

Liturgical Notes

- 1) Entrance with the Holy Gospel: *“O merciful One, You came from on high, and condescended to Your three-day burial to save us from passions. You are our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to You.”/ Εξ ύψους κατήλθες...*
- 2) *“O holy Apostles, intercede to merciful God that He may grant our souls forgiveness of sins.”/ Απόστολοι άγιοι πρεσβεύσατε...[Hymn for the Holy Apostles]*
- 3) *“Your Church, O Christ our God, clothed itself in the blood of Your martyrs from throughout the world, as though it were a robe of linen and purple; through them, she cries out to You, ‘Send down upon Your people compassion, grant peace to Your commonwealth and, to our souls, great mercy.’/ Των εν όλω τω κόσμω Μαρτύρων Σου...[Hymn for All Saints Sunday]*
- 4) *“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 ελευθερωτής...[Hymn for St. George]*
- 5) Kontakion: *“The world offers You, the Author of all creation, as the first-fruits of nature, the God-bearing martyrs. O most merciful, by their intercessions, through the Theotokos, maintain Your Church in perfect peace.”/ Ως απαρχάς της φύσεως...*

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

From **Monday, July 1, 2024 to Thursday, July 4, 2024**, clergy and representatives from our parish will participate in the **47th Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Clergy-Laity Assembly and National Philoptochos Convention** in San Diego, California. Our weekly Bible Study and Orthodox Christian Catechism classes will not convene.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REGIONAL ORTHODOX YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS - St. Nicholas Summer Camp near Fresno has only 18 openings for the July 14-July 20 session. However, both **St. Sophia Summer Camp** near San Bernardino and **St. Nicholas Summer Camp** are accepting camper applications for their “wait lists.” For more information about these Greek Orthodox Youth Summer Camps, visit ... the website for St. Sophia Summer Camp: <https://www.saintsophiacamp.org> , or the website for St. Nicholas Summer Camp: <https://gosfyouth.org/summer-camp-2024>.

AHEPA – A flyer announcing our AHEPA 528 “Hot Dog Luncheon” on Sunday, July 14, 2024 is available in our parish hall. All are welcome! All that is asked is an “at will” donation to be contributed in the effort to raise funds in support of finding a cure for Cystic Fibrosis. We ask for RSVP. Contributions toward this cause will also be accepted at our AHEPA 528 website: www.ahepa528.org.

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT – Today is the Sunday following Pentecost as it is known as “**All-Saints Sunday**.” In his Epistle to the Hebrews, St. Paul writes, *“Surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”* (Hebrews 12:1). *“The cloud of witnesses includes...the saints and martyrs of the Lord in all ages. If they made it, so can we. We persevere by getting rid of **sin**, the **weight** of which keeps us from heeding the truth; setting as our destination the heavenly city, running **the race** of faith; and keeping our attention focused on Jesus Christ our Lord and King (Hebrews 12:2). This race is not a sprint, but a marathon of **endurance**: it does not end until we fully enter the age to come (See 1 Corinthians 9:24-27).”* (Orthodox Study Bible, pg. 1668).



KEEP FIGHTING FOR A CURE



FREE HOT DOG LUNCHEON / FELLOWSHIP JULY 14TH FOLLOWING SERVICES

St George Greek Orthodox Church
74-1096 Larrea Palm Desert, CA 92260



"At Will Donation" proceeds for Cystic Fibrosis.
Donations are accepted at www.ahepa528.org
or mailed to:

AHEPA CHAPTER 528
Attn: Cystic Fibrosis
42-215 Washington St. A - 154
Palm Desert, CA 92211-8032
contact@ahepa528.org



QR CODE SQUARE DONATE

For over 103 years, we have promoted the ancient Hellenic ideals of education, philanthropy, civic responsibility, family, and individual excellence through community service and volunteerism.

As AHEPA Brothers we band together to raise funds for many causes,
today we are supporting Cystic Fibrosis, "FIND THE CURE!"



Brother "Bill" Rellos lost his daughter Anastasia at the young age of 34 to this disease and we appreciate anything to help with the efforts to find a cure!

Cystic fibrosis is a progressive, genetic disease that affects the lungs, pancreas, and other organs.

There are close to 40,000 children and adults living with cystic fibrosis in the United States (and an estimated 105,000 people have been diagnosed with CF across 94 countries), and CF can affect people of every racial and ethnic group.

ANY DONATION HELPS!