



SEPTEMBER 1, 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

ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR



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 Timothy 2:1-7

Timothy, my son, first of all I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all men, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life, godly and respectful in every way. This is good, and it is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony to which was borne at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and apostle (I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

GOSPEL—St. Luke 4: 16-22

At that time, Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day. And he stood up to read; and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." And all spoke well of him, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth.

ECCLESIASTICAL NEW YEAR: SEPTEMBER 1st – It is commonly held that St. Constantine introduced the Indiction Decrees in A.D. 312, after he beheld the sign of the Cross in heaven and vanquished Maxentius, becoming Emperor in Rome. The end of each year was always marked with the harvest and gathering of the crops for storage. The New Year was observed with the sowing of seed in the earth for the production of future crops. Therefore, September is considered the beginning of the New Year. It should be noted that to the present day, the Church has always celebrated the beginning of the New Year on September 1. This was the custom in Constantinople until its fall in 1453 and in Russia until the reign of Peter I. September 1 is still festively celebrated as the New Year at the Patriarchate of Constantinople. - Taken in part from: www.goarch.org

Liturgical Notes

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *“Savior, Your tomb was sealed with a stone. Soldiers kept watch over Your sacred body. Yet, You rose on the third day giving life to the world. Wherefore the powers of heaven cried out, ‘O Giver of Life, glory to Your Resurrection O Christ; glory to Your Kingdom, glory to Your dispensation who alone are the Loving One.’” / Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος...*

2) *“Creator of the universe, setting times and seasons by Your sole authority, bless the cycle of the year of Your grace, O Lord, guarding our rulers and Your nation in peace, at the intercession of the Theotokos, and save us.” / Ο πάσης δημιουργός της κτίσεως ...*

3) *“Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, haven and protection of the race of man; for the Redeemer of the world became incarnate of thee; for thou alone art both mother and virgin, ever blessed and glorified. Intercede with Christ God that peace be granted unto all the world.” / Χαίρε κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθένε ... [Recovery of the Icon of the Theotokos]*

4) *“You became a pillar of patience and emulated the Forefathers, O righteous one: Job in his sufferings, Joseph in temptations, and the life of the bodiless while in the body, O Symeon, our righteous Father, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.” / Υπομονής στύλος γέγονας... [Hymn for St. Symeon the Stylite]*

5) *“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]*

6) Kontakion: *“You who created all things in Your infinite wisdom, and set the times by Your own authority, grant Your Christian people victories. Blessing our comings and goings throughout this year, guide our works according to Your divine will.” / Ο των αιώνων Ποιητής και Δεσπότης...*

MEMORIAL -- Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Rest and Salvation of the servant of, God, **Panagiota Hroundas (3 years)**, the beloved mother of **Eleni Swift** and **Anastasia Burman**. Also, today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Rest and Salvation of the servant of God, **William George Barringer (5 years)**, the beloved husband of **Louise Dobbs Barringer**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Rest and Salvation to **William George Barringer** and to **Panagiota Hroundas** and may He grant peace and comfort to **Louise Dobbs Barringer**, as well as to **Eleni Swift** and **Anastasia Burman** and their families. **MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!**

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

– Tuesday, September 3rd.....Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

– Wednesday, September 4th...Orthodox Christian Catechism (online) - 6:30 p.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**. 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**. Only NEW socks to be deposited by gender. We can also accept your monetary donations accepted. See enclosed flyer

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Click the following: [Be the Bee - Complete Series - YouTube](#). This will link you with our Archdiocese 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 Ameri-

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ANNOUNCEMENTS, Continued

can 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 below.

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT – Today's Gospel passage is from the Gospel of St. Luke 4:16-22. In this passage, we hear about the words that our Lord read in the synagogue from the book of Isaiah 61:1-2. As has become abundantly clear throughout His ministry, our Savior *is* the Lord of Whom Isaiah prophesied -- He *is* God, Who "preaches the Gospel to the poor; Who heals the brokenhearted and gives sight to the blind." "*Being the eternal Son of God, Christ did not become the world's anointed Savior, but He has always been our Savior from before the foundation of the world. It was Christ speaking through Isaiah who said, 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me' (Is. 61:1). Note He does not say, 'The Spirit has come upon Me.' When the Spirit of the Lord descended on Jesus at His baptism, this was a sign revealing an eternal, not temporal, truth to people. [The words 'acceptable year' refer to] the time of the Incarnation, when the Kingdom of heaven has come to earth.*" (Orthodox Study Bible, pg. 1371).



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.

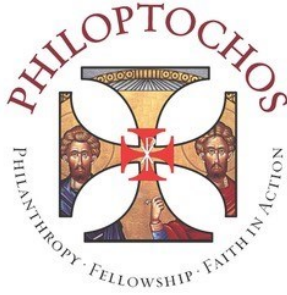
During coffee hour, please see the information fliers that detail the benefits they provide to local mothers and babies.

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

18th ANNUAL

Paint EL PASEO
PINK
PRESENTED BY DESERT CANCER FOUNDATION

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.