



SEPTEMBER 29, 2024

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT
74-109 Larrea St., Palm Desert, California 92260
Fr. Theodore Pantels, M.Div., Pastor/Fr. Euthym Kontaxis M.D., M.Div., Deacon
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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— 2 Corinthians 1:21 – 24; 2:1 – 4 GOSPEL—St. Luke 6:31 – 36

Brethren, it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has commissioned us; he has put his seal upon us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee. But I call God to witness against me — it was to spare you that I refrained from coming to Corinth. Not that we lord it over your faith; we work with you for your joy, for you stand firm in your faith. For I made up my mind not to make you another painful visit. For if I cause you pain, who is there to make me glad but the one whom I have pained? And I wrote as I did, so that when I came I might not suffer pain from those who should have made me rejoice, for I felt sure of all of you, that my joy would be the joy of you all. For I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears, not to cause you pain but to let you know the abundant love that I have for you.

The Lord said, "And as you wish that men would do to you, do so to them. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, despairing of no man; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

SPIRITUAL THOUGHT — Through today's Gospel passage, our Savior proclaims the "Golden Rule" - "As you want others to do for you, you do for them likewise." While this reading ends at verse 36, we can better understand its importance as we continue our study of the Bible to verse 38: "Judge not and you shall not be judged...For the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you." "This 'Golden Rule' is a minimum of Christian virtue, as it places man's desire for goodness ('the natural law of self-love,' according to St. Cyril of Alexandria) as a basic standard of how to treat others. It is but the first step on the path to perfection of virtue; this perfection is found in v. 36, where God's mercy, rather than man's desire, is the standard. Mercy precludes human judgment...The blessings God intends to put into our hearts are more generous than we can possibly contain, yet this also depends on the spirit in which we ourselves give and forgive." (Orthodox Study Bible, pg. 1376).



Liturgical Notes

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **1)** *“O Faithful, let us sing a hymn of praise and worship to the Logos, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, who was born of the Virgin for our salvation. Of His own will He went upon the Cross in the flesh and suffered death, to raise the dead through His glorious Resurrection.”/Τοῦ Συνάνακρονον Λόγον...*

2) *“Since you are a deliverer of captives and a defender of the poor; a physician for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, O Great among the Martyrs and Glorious George, intercede to Christ our God that He may save our souls.”/Ὡς τον αιχμαλώτων ελευθεροτής...*

4) Kontakion: *“Champion of Christians not put to shame, advocate before the Maker always steadfast, do not spurn sinners’ voices raised in prayer. In Your goodness respond to bring help to us who devoutly petition you. Hasten Your intercession and urgently make entreaty; for You unfailingly defend, Theotokos, those who honor You.”/Προστασία των Χριστιανών...*

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Tuesday, October 1st..... Bible Study- 10:00 a.m./Blessing of Water (Agiasmo)-11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, October 2nd....Orthodox Christian Catechism (online) -6:30 p.m. (To register, please email Fr. Ted at pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com so that you can receive a Zoom link).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPIRITUAL RETREAT – Please see the flyer in our parish hall announcing our Fall St. George Spiritual Retreat – an overnight pilgrimage to **St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Monastery** in Florence, Arizona from **Friday, October 25th-Saturday, October 26th, 2024**. Make reservations by contacting Fr. Ted at (760) 880-5869. **Deadline for registrations is October 1, 2024.** Note the **Sign-up Sheet in our parish hall**. In addition, you may sign up by emailing Fr. Ted at: pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Sunday School Registration: **Today following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. See insert!** Sunday School will be **“Family Sunday School”** events, beginning on **Sunday, October 13th**. We look forward to introducing our Sunday School theme for the year: **“Who is God? Who am I? and Who is my neighbor?”** We also look forward to encouraging our students to take part in helping for our **“Sock-tober” Philoptochos project**. See flyers in parish hall.

PHILOPTOCHOS – The **“Sock-Tober”** project is well under way. Please lend your support. **Saturday, October 19th** -“PAINT EL PASEO PINK” Walk in support of cancer research. **The deadline to register is next Sunday, October 6th**. See flyer in parish hall. See flyers in the parish hall.

NEW SOUND SYSTEM- We are hoping to present the costs for the installation of a new sound system at our Fall General Assembly meeting. A handsome donation among those who agree that we need a new system has already been made and we look forward to receiving more donations. If anyone wants to donate toward the costs for a new sound system (which would be in thousands of dollars), it will be a blessing for our parish as a whole. For more information, contact **Peter Snarskis** at psnarskis@aol.com. A full report for approval will be given to our parish General Assembly in November.

SAINT GEORGE ORTHODOX CHURCH – PALM DESERT, CA

FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL THEME

2024-2025



Who is God?

Who am I?

Who is my neighbor?

**So He answered and said,
“You shall love the
Lord your God with all
your heart,
with all your soul,
with all your strength,
and with all your mind,
and your neighbor as
yourself.”**

Luke 10:27

SUNDAY SCHOOL
RESUMES on
SEPTEMBER 22ND

REGISTER YOUR FAMILY IN PERSON or
ONLINE at www.go-stgeorge.org

**Any questions call:
Fr. Ted Pantels 760-880-5869
Mrs. Athena Snarskis 219-313-6940**



FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES WILL BE HELD ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS (2024):

- October 13th
- November 10th
- December 15th



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.

**NOTE: LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR THE "PAINT EL PASEO PINK" WALK IS
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th!**

SAVE THE DATE!

ST. GEORGE PHILOPTOCHOS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2024

11:30 a.m.

(Following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy)

More details and information to follow in the very near future.

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

PALM DESERT, CA

Join us for Monastery Worship services and discussions about the spiritual way of life in Orthodox Christian Monasteries

SPIRITUAL RETREAT TO ST. ANTHONY MONASTERY

FLORENCE, ARIZONA

OCTOBER 25-26, 2024



St. Anthony Monastery was established in the mid-1990s with Fr. Ephraim serving as the first abbot. It has now become an Orthodox Christian spiritual center to where many Orthodox Christians come for spiritual enlightenment.

No more than 35 adults can be accommodated.

No charge for overnight arrangements (donations are welcome).

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2024.

Contact Fr. Ted at: (760) 880-5869

ST. ANTHONY MONASTERY VISITOR'S GUIDE will be available for those who register to participate.