

NOVEMBER 6, 2016

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street  
Palm Desert, California 92260

Website: [www.go-stgeorge.org](http://www.go-stgeorge.org)

Email: [pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com)



# THE LADDER

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 4755

Palm Desert, CA.92261

Tel: (760) 568-9901

or: (760) 880-5869

– Fr. Theodore Pantels,  
Proistamenos (Pastor)

– Deacon Euthym Kontaxis,  
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.

**FAITH IN CHRIST OUR GOD**

From the reading of today's passage from the Gospel of St. Luke we learn of the events that form the basis of our Church's Holy Tradition: 1) the blessing of Christ's presence in our homes, and, 2) that the Divine power of Christ works through means of the Church's utensils. Truly, everything in the world belongs to God and their purpose is to be used to glorify God.

Understanding these two Traditions, priests perform Church Services in the

homes of the faithful, such as the Blessing of the Waters and Holy Unction. Also, Holy Communion is brought to the homes of shut-ins and to the hospitals of the sick. Holy Water and Holy Oil are the material means through which the Grace of the Holy Spirit in the Name of Christ works. Holy Communion is Christ Himself Who enters the homes and hospitals of the sick, thereby enlivening them

This occurs in the same way in which Christ healed the woman with the *continued on page 2*

**ST. PAUL OF CONSTANTINOPLE**—Saint Paul the Confessor, Archbishop of Constantinople, was chosen to the patriarchal throne after the death of Patriarch Alexander (+ 340). At the time, many false teachings about God were circulating throughout the Roman-Byzantine Empire—chief of which was the teaching that Christ is *not* God (known as Arians). Because St. Paul was always teaching that Christ is, in fact, God in the flesh, when Constantius (a follower of the false teaching) became emperor, he banished St. Paul from his position. But, eventually the Orthodox faithful rose up and called St. Paul back to his patriarchal throne, to which he returned, despite Constantius' wishes, who then banished him again.

When Constantius died, St. Paul was brought back to his patriarchal throne by the new emperor, Constans. As always, St. Paul continued to teach the Orthodox Faith that Christ is God in the flesh. However, those who opposed the Orthodox teaching murdered Constans and forced his replacement to follow their teachings. St. Paul was then banished a third time. He was carried off to Armenia, where, as he was celebrating the Divine Liturgy in a home where he was confined, a group of those who maintained that Christ is *not* God broke in and strangled St. Paul with one of his own vestments. St. Paul of Constantinople is a martyr of the Orthodox Church, giving his life for Christ our God.



Απο το αναγνώσμα της σημερινής περικοπής εκ του κατα Λουκαν Ευαγγελίου, καταλαβαίνουμε τις βάσεις δυο Ιερών Παραδοσεων της Εκκλησίας: 1) η ευλογία της παρουσίας του Χριστού μέσα στα σπίτια μας, και, 2) η δύναμις του Χριστού ενεργεί δια των Εκκλησιαστικών υλικών μεσών. Μαλιστα, όλα τα πράγματα του κόσμου ανηκουν στον Θεο και έχουν σκοπον να μεταχειριζονται προς δοξαν Του.

Γνωρίζοντας τις δυο αυτές Παραδοσεις, οι ιερείς τελουν μερικες Εκκλησιαστικες ακολουθιες στα σπίτια των πιστων, σαν το Αγιασμο και το Ευχελαιον. Επίσης, φέρουμε την Θεϊαν Κοινωνιαν σε εσωκλεισμενους αρρωστους και σε αρρωστους στα νοσοκομια. Το αγιασμο και το Ευχελαιον είναι υλικά μέσα δια των οποίων ενεργεί η χάρις του Αγίου Πνεύματος εν ονοματι του Θεου μας Χριστού. Η Θεϊα Κοινωνια είναι ο Χριστός, ο Ιδιος, ο Οποιος εισέρχεται στα σπίτια και στα νοσοκομια και τους ζαναζωντανεύει.

Αυτο γίνεται κατα το ιδιον τροπον όπως εθεραπευσε ο Χριστός την αιμορραουσαν γυναικαν, η οποία αγγιξε το ενδυμα Του και αναστησε απο τον θανατον την κορην του Ιαιριου μέσα στο σπίτι του.

Επειδη φερούμεν την χάριν του Χριστού στα σπίτια των πιστων κατα αυτους τους τροπους, τονίζουμε επίσης οτι σύμφωνα με την Ιεραν Παραδοσιν της Εκκλησίας μας το σπίτι του καθε Ορθοδοξου πιστου είναι <κατα οικον εκκλησια.> Οπως ο Χριστός είναι ο Νυμφιος της Εκκλησίας, ο Χριστός είναι επίσης ο Νυμφιος του καθε σπιτιου και της καθε οικογενειας. Ας δοξώμεν τον Χριστον καθε ημερα!

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

issue of blood and Who raised the daughter of Jairus from the dead when He entered his home.

Since we bring the Grace of Christ to the homes of our faithful in these ways, we emphasize also that, according to Holy Tradition, the home of every Christian is to be “a home-Church.” As Christ is the Bridegroom of the Church, Christ is also the Bridegroom of every home and of every family.

This understanding is unique to Orthodox Christianity. Those who fail to accept the fact that Holy Marriage is truly a Sacrament of the Church, rather than a “love contract,” miss out in living the Sacrament as it is supposed to be lived. The Orthodox Marriage crowns worn by the bride and the groom are “utensils” of Christ’s Grace, blessing them in their role of saving each other’s souls as witnesses (or martyrs) of Christ—and, together with our Savior, they are “co-rulers” *with Christ* in a new kingdom, which is comprised of their children and family. This kingdom, like its “mirror image” the Church, is a kingdom of prayer, forgiveness and the provision of responsible, loving care, based on faith in God.

From today’s Gospel passage, we find two individuals who found themselves in a difficult position with others of their community: Jairus and the woman with the issue of blood. Being a ruler of the synagogue, Jairus risked being cast out of the synagogue by acknowledging the Divinity of Christ, yet he boldly approached our Lord *with faith*, asking Him to cure his daughter. The woman, not wanting to be obvious in the face of others, simply touched the garment of Christ as a “secret” act in order to be healed. In the end, Christ proclaimed to everyone that her *faith* made her well.

Faith in God is a powerful energy that comes from within us. It was St. Paul who defined “*faith*” as “*the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see.*” (Hebrews 11:1). The energy that we spend to take care of our health is based on the faith that the sun will rise tomorrow. The energy that we spend to practice Christian virtues of love, forgiveness and participation in the Church’s Sacramental Life is based on the faith that Christ will raise us from the dead. It is faith in Christ our living God which changed St. Paul from sinner into saint. Likewise, this faith in Christ will make us saints, as well, as we live out our lives both in the kingdom of our homes and the Church, as well as in the world around us.

+FR. THEODORE

**PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Yvonne Flessas, George Aeder, Adele Gallade, Kathy Ligeros, Nicholas Kyriakou, Mary Ganakis, Erika Aguilar (Ana and Wynn Storton’s daughter) (*Many of the faithful on our Prayer List face chronic or serious illness*).

ANTIPHON I: *"Tes presvies tis Theotokou..." (By the prayers of the Theotokos...)*

Verse 1— Bless the Lord, O my soul, and everything within me, bless His Holy Name.

Refrain: *"Tes presvies tis Theotokou, soter, soston imas."*

Verse 2—: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His rewards.

Refrain: *"By the prayers of the Theotokos, Savior, save us."*

Verse 3— :The Lord prepared His throne in heaven and His Kingdom rules over all.

Refrain: *"Tes presvies tis Theotokou, soter, soston imas."*

Chanter(s): *Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.*

Refrain: *"By the prayers of the Theotokos, Savior, save us."*

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ANTIPHON II: *"Soston imas Ie Theou..." (Save us, O Son of God...)*

Verse 1— Praise the Lord, O my soul! I shall praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God as long as I exist.

Refrain: *"Soston imas, Yie Theou, O Anastas ek nekron, psallontas si alleluia."*

Verse 2— Blessed is He whose help is the God of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God.

Refrain: *"Save us, O Son of God, Who arose from the dead, we sing to You, Alleluia."*

Verse 3— The Lord shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, to all generations.

Refrain: *"Soston imas Ie Theou, O Anastas ek nekron, psallontas si alleluia."*

Doxa Patri ke Io ke Aghio Pnevmati ke nin ke aei ke eis tous eonas ton eonon.

People: *"O Monogenis Ios ke Logos tou Theou..." (O Only-Begotten Son and Word of God...)*

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**HYMNS FOR THE ENTRANCE WITH THE HOLY GOSPEL: ANTIPHON III—** *This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein. Let heaven and earth praise Him the seas and everything that moves in them.*

**Sunday Resurrection Hymn:** *Efrenestho ta ourania [Tone 3]... (Let all things above in heaven rejoice and let all things below on earth be glad. With all the might and strength of His arm an eternal deed the Lord did perform. Beneath His feet He has trampled down death by death and First Born of the dead has He become. From the womb of Hades has He delivered us and to all the world has granted His great redeeming mercy.)*

**Hymn for St. Paul of Constantinople:** *Thei-as pisteos omologia... (Your confession of the true divine faith manifested you unto the whole Church as another Paul and zealot among the priests. With you together is shouting the righteous blood of Zacharias and Abel unto the Lord. Holy Father Paul, beseech Christ our God fervently, entreating that He grant us His great mercy.)*

**Hymn for St. George:** *Os ton ehmaloton eleftherotis... (As the one who sets the captives free and the protector of the poor; as physician to the sick and the champion defender of kings, bearer of trophies are you, O Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls.)*

**Kontakion Hymn:** *Prostasia ton Christianon... (A Protection of Christians unshamable; mediation with the Creator immovable. We sinners beg You: do not despise the voices of our prayers, but anticipate, since You are good, and swiftly come unto our aid as we cry out to You with faith: Hurry to intercession; and hasten to supplication, O Theotokos, Who defends at all times those who honor You.)*

**READINGS:** Epistle – Galatians 1:11-19/ Gospel – St. Luke 8:41-56

**Megalinarion:** Axion Estin (page 52 in the Divine Liturgy Books)

**Communion Hymn:** *Enite ton Kyrion... (Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Allelouia.)*

*"Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the well-spring of life"*

*Proverbs 4:23*



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VETERANS DAY PROGRAM TODAY:** Today’s program features Color Guards; with "Taps" played for the Military fallen by Cathedral City High School/Band; music by **Louise Dobbs Barringer, Vocalist, and accompanist by Sook Lee.** Our Guest Speaker is **Lt. Col. Blaine Mack, USAF, Ret.,** a three war veteran (World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War).A luncheon for all will follow our Veterans Day Program.

**ALTAR FLOWER BOUQUETS** – Altar Flower Bouquets gracing our Holy Altar today were donated by: **Rhonda Latkovic - “In memory of my mother Patricia Fleming!”**  
**Debbie Pousen - “In celebration of my father Tom Evans' 100th birthday!”**

**PHILOPTOCHOS** – Get your Thanksgiving Luncheon tickets. TODAY, is the last day to make your reservations. They may be purchased at the Philoptochos table in the hall. The luncheon will be this coming Saturday, November 12 at 1:00 p.m. Tomorrow, November 7 at 11:00 a.m. is the Philoptochos Board Meeting. Next Monday, November 14 at 11:45 a.m. is our General Meeting. ALL PARISHIONERS ARE INVITED to hear our Book Talk. See Flyer. Our Christmas Bake Sale will be in December and order forms are now available on the coffee bar in the hall.

**THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON** – The **Thanksgiving luncheon,** through combined efforts of our **AHEPA and Philoptochos,** will be served this **Saturday, November 12, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.** Proceeds will benefit the **AHEPA Chapter 528 Fr. T.P. Theophilos Memorial Scholarship Fund.** Deadline for reservations: **Sunday, November 6, 2016.**

**CELEBRATING HUMAN LIFE NIGHT** – Mark **Thursday, November 10th** on your calendars and join us for an hour and a half symposium, **“The Value of Human Life,”** at the **St. Garabed Armenian Apostolic Church on Monterey Ave., Rancho Mirage at 7:00 p.m.** Fr. Ted has been organizing this event with **Fr. Krikor Zarkanian of the St. Garabed parish and Mr. Bob Kurtz of the Sacred Heart Parish in Palm Desert.** Speakers: **Fr. Donald Craig,** Chaplain at Eisenhower Medical Center, on the topic of **“Physician-Assisted Suicide;”** **Fr. Michael Fanous,** priest at St. Mary Magdalene Coptic Church in Indio, on the topic of **“Genocide in the Middle East;”** and **Patti Smith** of the Roman Catholic Church organization, **“Silent No More,”** on the topic of **“Praying for the End of Abortion.”** See the flier in the parish hall and posted on the bulletin board.

**2017 GREEK FESTIVAL MEETING** – Monday, November 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**COLORING BOOK GROUP** – Mark **Friday, November 18th** on your calendars and join us for the **November Coloring Book Group session,** beginning at **12:00 noon.** A nice luncheon will be included (a \$5 minimum donation is requested). **RSVP by Sunday, November 13, 2016.**

**WEEKDAY CALENDAR**

- Monday, November 7th.....Philoptochos Board Meeting – 11:00 a.m.  
Festival Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 8th.....ARCHANGELS MICHAEL & GABRIEL  
Orthros-8:30 a.m. / Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m. / Bible Study-11:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, November 9th.....ST. NECTARIOS THE WONDERWORKER-Fr. Ted will be at the  
Divine Liturgy in Covina, California, which begins at 10:00 a.m.
- Thursday, November 10th.....CELEBRATING HUMAN LIFE NIGHT – 7:00 p.m.  
(see announcement above)
- Saturday, November 12th.....THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON – 1:00 p.m. / No Vespers

*The November 2016 Ladder  
is sponsored by  
Philoptochos*

**We encourage all of our parents to sit in the church with their entire family as they participate in the beauty and mysteries of the Divine Liturgy. For those with young children, feel free to sit near an aisle so that you may easily take your children for a break, as needed. If necessary, we have a “crying room” in the narthex for your use. God Bless.**

# PHILOPTOCHOS

## CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE

Christmas Bread-Vasilopita  
Koulourakia



*Merry Christmas & Happy New Year*

The Ladies of Philoptohos Society will be baking again this year the traditional Christmas bread, Vasilopita and koulourakia that are delicious any time of day.

Orders with your contribution should be made no later than **December 5, 2016**. Please place the completed order in an envelope marked "PHILOPTOHOS" in the basket on the Coffee Bar in the Church Hall or give to Lula Valissarakos or Tina Veroulis. If you have any questions, please call Lula at 760 200-8501 or Tina 406 431-9516.

**PICK UP DATES:**

Sunday, December 11, 2016 (following the conclusion of Church Services)

Sunday, December 18, 2016 (following the conclusion of Church Services)

*We thank you in advance for your continued support of Philoptohos*



NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

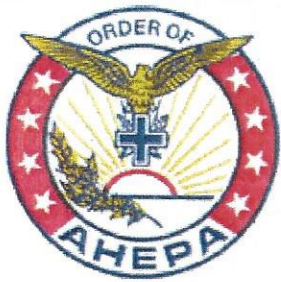
| <u>ITEM</u>                                | <u>QUANTITY</u> | <u>UNIT PRICE</u> | <u>AMOUNT (\$)</u> |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Koulourakia _____                          |                 | \$6.00            | _____              |
| Christmas Bread _____                      |                 | \$10.00           | _____              |
| Vasilopita Bread with Coin _____           |                 | \$10.00           | _____              |
| <u>Make checks payable to Philoptochos</u> |                 | Total Amount      | \$ _____           |

**ST. GEORGE GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH**

**THANKSGIVING  
LUNCH**

Let's Celebrate God's Goodness

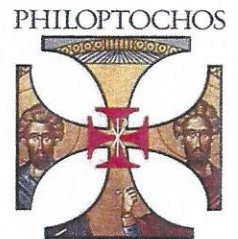
**SATURDAY, 1:00 P.M.  
NOVEMBER 12th**



**ST. GEORGE GREEK  
ORTHODOX CHURCH HALL**

**74-109 LARREA PALM DESERT, CA**

**ADULTS: \$15 / CHILDREN UNDER 12: \$7**



**Please reserve today: Tickets can be purchased from  
Philoptochos or AHEPA 528**

**All proceeds go to Fr. Theophilos Theophilos  
Memorial Scholarship Fund.**

**Donations accepted at [www.ahepa528.org](http://www.ahepa528.org) or mailed to:**

**AHEPA 528 Scholarship fund**

**PO Box 1735 Palm Desert, CA 92261-1735**

**[contact@ahempa528.org](mailto:contact@ahempa528.org)**

*Scholarship awards benefit members of Saint George Church and the AHEPA 528 Family*

**Deadline for Reservations: Sunday, November 6, 2016**

*Thank You for your Continued Support!*

# SAVE THE DATES

2017 ST. GEORGE GREEK FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2017

FESTIVAL PLANNING MEETINGS:

Monday, November 7, 2016—7:00 p.m.

The first Mondays of December and January (2017)

at: 7:00 p.m.

FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS BEGIN:

JANUARY 9, 2017



# ***SAVE THE DATE!***

***Sunday, April 23, 2017***

***FEAST DAY OF ST. GEORGE***

**HOSTING:**

**HIS EMINENCE,  
METROPOLITAN GERASIMOS**

**of**

**SAN FRANCISCO**

**On the occasion of the:**

**20th ANNIVERSARY OF CELEBRATING OUR PATRON SAINT IN OUR  
ST. GEORGE PARISH CHURCH EDIFACE!**

**THIS CELEBRATION INCLUDES:**

**St. George Golf Tournament at Desert Willow**

**Golf**

**Resort in Palm Desert: Friday and Saturday, April 21-22.**

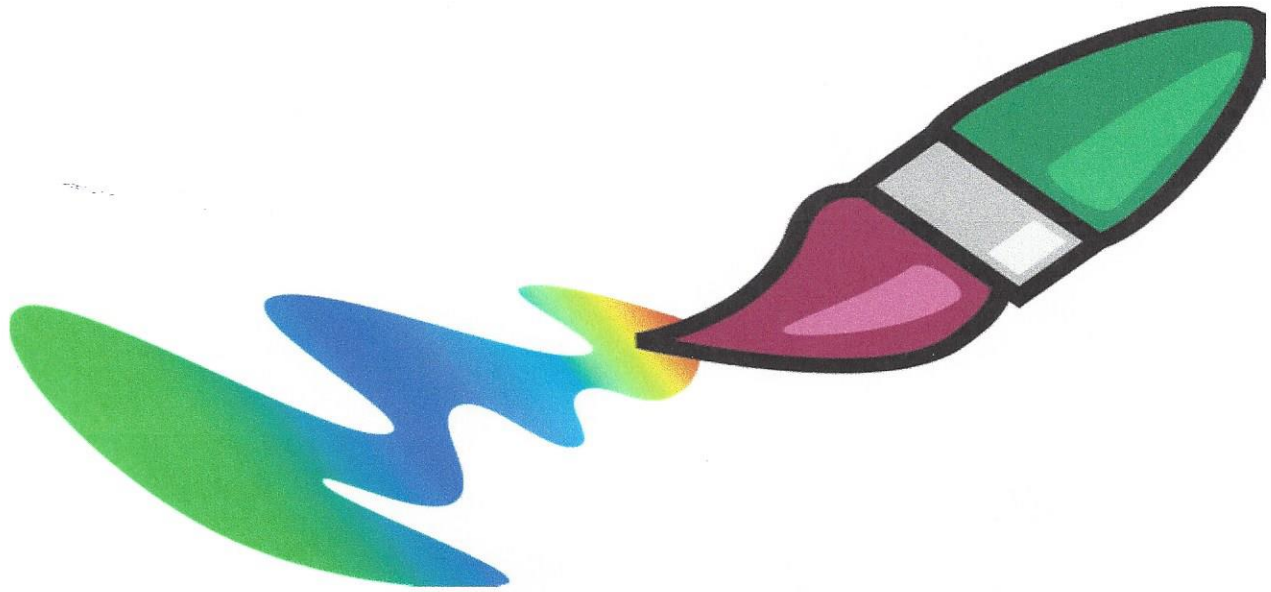
**April 21, 2017: Friday afternoon golf followed by steak dinner at the church.**

**April**

**22, 2017: Saturday morning golf followed by Greek-style dinner at the church...live music, dancing and fun!**

**More details and information to follow in the months**





# **ADULT COLORING SESSION & LUNCHEON**

**When: Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> @ noon-2pm**

**Where: St. George church hall**

**RSVP: By November 13<sup>th</sup> to Rhonda Latkovic**

**Lunch will be served at noon with coloring to follow. A \$5.00 minimum donation is requested. Lunch will be a Thanksgiving inspired menu! There will also be raffle.**

**Coloring supplies provided. Please join us!**

## NOTICE OF FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

The Fall General Assembly Meeting for our St. George Greek Orthodox Parish will be held on **Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016**, following the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. Please remember that in order to participate in the proceedings of the General Assembly Meeting, one **must** have already submitted a Stewardship card for 2016 and one **must** be current in their 2016 annual Stewardship Pledge (as per our Bylaws, Article 18, Section 1). Questions and/or concern's regarding one's Stewardship are to be referred to the Parish Priest, Father Ted (as per our Parish Bylaws, Article 18, Section 4). We will be requiring all attendees to sign in prior to the start of the meeting.

### AGENDA – November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

1. Call to Order – Jim Christopoulos, Parish Council President
2. Opening Prayer – Father Ted Pantels
3. Confirmation of a Quorum – Jim Christopoulos, Parish Council President
4. Selection of Assembly Chairperson – Jim Christopoulos, Parish Council President
5. Selection of Assembly Secretary – Assembly Chairperson
6. Minutes of Spring, 2016 General Assembly Meeting – Assembly Chairperson
7. Stewardship Report – TBD
8. Financial Report – Tina Veroulis, Assistant Parish Council Treasurer
9. Budget Approval for 2017 – Nick Kaperonis, Parish Council Treasurer
10. Board of Auditors Report – Annette Laskaris, Committee Chairperson
11. Selection of Auditing Committee for 2016 - Assembly Chairperson
12. Solar Panels Status – Jim Christopoulos, Parish Council President
13. Bylaws Revision – Jim Christopoulos, Parish Council President
14. Endowment Fund – TBD
15. Parish Council Nominations<sup>1</sup>/Board of Elections – TBD
16. Festival Update – Jim Christopoulos, Parish Council President
17. Metropolitan Visit – Father Ted Pantels
18. Other New Business<sup>2</sup>
19. Adjournment
20. Closing Prayer – Father Ted Pantels

Respectfully,

The Parish Council

<sup>1</sup>Those wishing to be a candidate to serve as a Parish Council Member for 2017 must submit their Candidacy Form by November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Parish elections will be on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016. See Father Ted for a Candidacy Form.

<sup>2</sup>A request to add an item to this agenda must be made as a written request and received by the Parish Council by November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 and then must be approved by the Parish Council.

# THE VALUE OF HUMAN LIFE

## ECUMENICAL PRAYER AND DISCUSSION

### ST. GARABED ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH

38905 Monterey Ave.— Rancho Mirage, California

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2016**

**FROM: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

For reservations & more information call (760) 773-2155

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Fr. Donald Craig  
Chaplain of Eisenhower  
Medical Center  
Rancho Mirage, California

Topic:  
*Physician-Assisted Suicide*

Fr. Michael Fanous  
St. Mary Magdalene Coptic  
Orthodox Church  
Indio, California

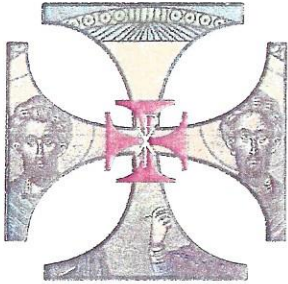
Topic:  
*Genocide in the Middle East*

Patti J. Smith  
Regional Coordinator for the  
*Silent No More Campaign* &  
Leader of *Rachael's Hope for  
After Abortion Healing Re-  
treats* in San Diego County

Topic:  
*Praying for the End of  
Abortion*

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IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD



# The Ladies Philoptochos Society

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of St. George Greek Orthodox Church of The Desert

**PHILOPTOCHOS GENERAL MEETING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2016**

All parishioners are invited to our meeting on November 14 for an informative Book Talk by author Constance M. Constant. She will talk and read excerpts from her recently published book:

**AMERICAN KID**  
**Nazi-Occupied Greece Through a Child's Eyes**

**Date: Monday, November 14, 2016**  
**Time: 11:45 a.m.**  
**Where: Church Hall**

**A hearty lunch will be available for \$8.00.**

**Please RSVP at the Philoptochos table in the Church Hall  
so we can plan how many servings for lunch.**

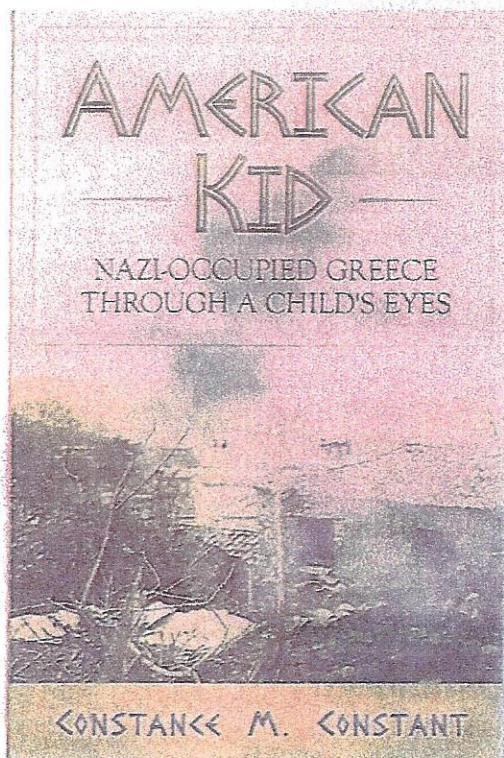
**We hope to see you at this exciting event!**

# AMERICAN KID NAZI-OCCUPIED GREECE THROUGH A CHILD'S EYES

BY CONSTANCE M. CONSTANT  
AUTHOR OF AUSTIN LUNCH

For Katherine and her three American children, Greece was meant to be a one-year refuge from the late 1930's Depression. Her husband's family-owned orchard should have provided for their well-being, but instead embroiled them in legal debate. WWII Axis bombings of Kalamata prompted the young family to flee to the remote mountain village of Katherine's birth in Laconia, but Nazi invasion—and seemingly endless occupation of their village and their house—trapped them there until war's end.

NOW AVAILABLE FROM [AMAZON.COM](http://AMAZON.COM), AND BARNES & NOBLE



"This book is an eye-opener on the kind of brutality the German army imposed on the people of Greece."

—Michael S. Dukakis

"In addition to the decimation of Greece's Jews, hundreds of thousands of civilians died, mostly because of starvation. Having a goat and an olive tree made the difference between life and death... Rich with telling detail, the book brings to life what it is to share fragile survival skills with family, friends, and neighbors. *American Kid* is a celebration of the dignity of simple people in the face of unimaginable cruelty."

—Demetrios Liappas  
Loyola Marymount University

"Told through a child's eyes, this heroic tale is the 20th century odyssey of an American family returning to their roots in Greece during the Great Depression, before the onset of WWII."

—Maria Fotopoulos  
Writer, animal rights activist

"The author has captured a vibrant, fascinating portrayal of village life in Greece under Nazi occupation, along with the feelings, painful and pleasant, that innocent civilians endure in wartime. By telling the story through a child's eyes, without the cynicism or jadedness of adulthood, *American Kid's* Johnny brings the reader, scene by scene, into the relevance of historical events... a unique, easily readable, and engaging history of WWII."

—Chris G. Kuchuris  
Professor of Social Sciences, College of Southern Nevada