

SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street

Palm Desert, California 92260

Website: www.go-stgeorge.org

Email: stgeorgepd@aol.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.

LEARNING FROM ST. PETER

A very important lesson from today's Gospel passage is that all good things come from God. Without God, the Apostles, for example, worked all night and they did not take in any fish. But, with God's blessing, they caught such a great number of fish that St. Peter fell down at the feet of Christ our God confessing his sinfulness. In other words, St. Peter comprehended the love of Christ, all the while understanding his own limitations with humility.

There are two points that relate to St. Peter's action. The first is that the gratitude which St. Peter expressed can be expressed only through an awareness of the reality of this present life in the face of our limitations to overcome the challenges of this reality, in seeking God's Kingdom. All good things in this present life are but a foretaste of the eternal good things of God's Kingdom. The second is that deceptions and temptations alter reality for us into that

Continued on Page 2

EFFECTIVE STEWARDSHIP ... is going out to our people wherever they are in their walk with Christ, listening to their concerns, helping them to realize their importance as branches of the True Vine and encouraging them to offer their gifts in His service. We use various resources to support our efforts, but unless we meet with our people personally, sincerely listen to their ideas and concerns, and share a vision for the future of the parish, our efforts will not reach their full potential.

In *Oriented Leadership* their book on Orthodox Christian leadership, Williams and McKibben define stewardship as the call of the faithful to share willingly the gifts that God has bestowed on them, including sharing these gifts for God's work. Stewardship is devotion and service to God and His Church as persons, as families, as a Parish, as a Metropolis, as a National Church, and as the Church Universal. Stewardship is our active commitment to use ALL our time, talent and treasure for the benefit of humankind in grateful acknowledgement of Christ's redeeming love.

"Stewardship is caring for the needs of others. Stewardship is offering one's self to God as He offered Himself to us. Stewardship is what a person does after saying "I believe..." as proof of that belief." - Williams and McKibben in Oriented Leadership."

– Taken from Greek Orthodox Archdiocese website: www.goarch.org



Ενα σημαντικό μαθημα απο το σημερινο Ευαγγελιο ειναι οτι ολα τα αγαθα προερχονται απο τον Θεον. Χωρις τον Θεον, οι Αποστολοι, π.χ., εργαζονταν ολην την νυχτα και δεν παιρναν ψαρια καθολου. Αλλα, με την ευλογιαν του Θεου, επιασαν τοσο μεγαλο αριθμο ψαριων που ο Αγιος Πετρος επεσε με ταπεινοτητα στα ποδια του Κυριου ομολγωντας την αμαρτωλοτητα του. Δηλ., ο Αγιος Πετρος εκατενοησε την αγαπην του Χριστου, ενω ταυτοχρονως, εσυνειδοποιησε τις αδυναμιες του με ταπεινοφροσυνην.

Υπαρχουν δυο σημειωσεις που σχετιζονται με αυτο που εκανε ο Αγ. Πετρος: 1) Η ευγνωμοσυνη (την οποιαν ο Αγιος Πετρος εξεφρασε) μπορει να εκφρασθει μονον μεσα απο την συνειδητοποιησην της πραγματικοτητας της εδω ζωης εν σχεσει με τους περιορισμους μας για την υπερβασην των προκλησεων αυτης της πραγματικοτητας, γνωριζοντας οτι η τελικη πραγματικοτης ειναι η Βασιλεια του Θεου. Ολα τα αγαθα αυτης της επιγειου ζωης ειναι μια προγευσις των Αιωνιων Αγαθων της Βασιλειας του Θεου. 2) Οι παραπλανησεις και οι πειρασμοι μετατρεπουν για εμας την πραγματικοτητα σε αυτο που ονομαζεται <υπερρεαλισμος>, οπου ζουμεν με φαντασιες και διαστροφες. Ως εκ τουτου, τονιζουμεν τα δικαιωματα μας αντι τις ευθυνες μας και, αντι να ενισχυουμεν τις αδυναμιες μας, κατηγορουμεν αλλους.

Η αληθινη πνευματικη ζωη των Ορθοδοξων Χριστιανων αρχιζει με σωστες σκεψεις και αντιληψεις που ταιριαζουν με την αγαπην του Θεου.

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

which we call "surrealism," where we live with fantasies and per-versions. In this regard, we often find ourselves promoting rights over responsibilities, taking things for granted and, instead of strengthening our weaknesses, we simply blame other people.

It was in the spirit of awe and humility that St. Peter acknowledged Christ to be True God; it was his humility that brought him to worship Christ and to admit that he was weak before the glory of our Savior. Within a split-second, St. Peter took stock of the condition of his soul when he realized that before him stood God in the flesh.

As we take stock of the condition of our souls today, we come to understand the difference between our present spiritual condition compared to the greatness of Divine love. In the face of the love of Christ our God, St. Peter, for example, realized that his level of love was far inferior to that of God's. From the lives of the Saints, such as St. Peter, we learn that true humility is born from the realization that we never were (nor are we ever) *unworthy* to know God's love. However, through pride, we often make ourselves unable to *accept* and *give* God's love. As a result, as "tools" in God's "work-shed" we are not the best tools in the work of establishing God's Kingdom on earth, thus fulfilling our Divine calling.

This ailing sense of being "worthless tools" has always been cured by repentance. Truly, we must know that God treasures each one of us. We are *worth* His forgiveness. Forgiveness is a "gift from above." As a *gift*, it is not something we can ever earn; but, we have the honor of imparting this same gift freely to others around us. Imparting this gift requires our repentance, however. In the lives of the Saints, such as St. Peter, we are reminded of their own faults, which summoned them to repentance -- such faults as: neglect of God's teachings due to pride and self-centeredness; the failure to overcome temptations; the lack of faith in God that all things work to the good for those who love the Lord. These faults, in fact, give rise to temptations, such as to neglect of the needs of others; to harbor hatred toward those whom we should love; to despair over the general conditions of life. To the contrary, repentance brings about remembrance of God's teachings; the struggle against temptations and love toward others. Repentance is the door to both forgiveness and obedience, through which we maintain our relationship with God and others.

The fish that our Lord allowed the Apostles to catch as a result of their obedience to Him represent the souls of humanity that are to be claimed by God through our example as followers of His Only-Begotten Son. As Christ forgives us and others, we are to do the same. True Orthodox Christian spiritual life begins with correct thinking and proper perspectives which compare to the love of God.

+FR. THEODORE

HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S CELEBRATION OF THE DIVINE LITURGY:

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, soson 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, soson imas."

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."

ANTIPHON II: "Soson 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: "Soson imas Ie 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: "Soson 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. Amin

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

ANTIPHON III This is the day the Lord made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.

Sunday Resurrection Hymn: Ex ipsous katilthes (Tone 8)...(O Lord by Your Sacred Cross You abolished death and granted unto the thief blessed paradise. The Myrrh-bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the Good News at Your command that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, bestowing Your mercy upon the world for evermore.)

Hymn for St. John the Baptist: Ee pro-in ou titkousa, stira efranthiti...(Sing now, O barren one, who did not bear before; for, you have indeed conceived the burning lamp of the Sun and he will illumine all the world afflicted with spiritual blindness. Dance, O Zacharias, and now openly cry out: the one who is to be born is a Prophet of the Most High God.)

Hymn for St. George: Os ton ehmaloton eleftherotis...(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 with Christ our God that He may save our souls.)

Kontakion Hymn for this Sunday: Prostasia ton Christianon (pg. 97)...(A Protection of Christians unshamable, Intercessor to our Holy Maker, unwavering, reject not the prayerful cries of those who are in sin. Instead, come to us for You are good; Your loving help bring to us, who are crying in faith to You: Hasten now to intercede and speed now to supplicate, as a Protection for all time, O Theotokos, for those who honor You.)

READINGS: EPISTLE—Galatians 4: 22-27 / GOSPEL - St. Luke 5: 1-11



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL - Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Rest and Salvation for the servant of God, **Argyro Krespis (1 year)**, the beloved mother of our parish President, **Nick Krespis**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Rest and Salvation to **Argyro Krespis** and may He grant peace and comfort to **Nick Krespis** and to his entire family. **MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**

PHILOPTOCHOS - Save the date. On **Saturday, October 13** there will be an event called Paint El Paseo Pink. This is sponsored by the Desert Cancer Foundation, a new charity we starting to support this year. They are located next door to us. The donation is \$25.00. Children in strollers and dogs are free. Register on line under "Team Saint George." A flier is enclosed in today's *Ladder* and will be available this Sunday at the coffee bar. For more information contact **Rhonda Latkovic**.

PASADENA GREEK FESTIVAL - This afternoon enjoy the Greek Festival at **St. Anthony Greek Orthodox Church** in Pasadena at 778 So. Rosemead Blvd.

ALTAR FLOWER BOUQUETS – All parishioners that have signed up for the new Altar Flower Season during the months of October through December 2018, please submit your checks now to **Louise Dobbs Barringer**, or to the Administration Office. Make your checks out to St. George Church, and in the Memo Column just include Altar Flowers. and the month/date!

SAVE-THE-DATES--OCTOBER 13th: METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO GALA CELEBRATING THE MINISTRIES OF OUR HOLY METROPOLIS. Where: **Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach Resort and Spa, Huntington Beach, CA**. Time: Reception at 6:00 p.m./ Dinner at 7:00 p.m. for more details, check out the flier posted on our parish bulletin board and/or contact Fr. Ted.

ALSO... THE GREEK FESTIVAL HOSTED BY ST. NICHOLAS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA (See Fliers in our parish hall).

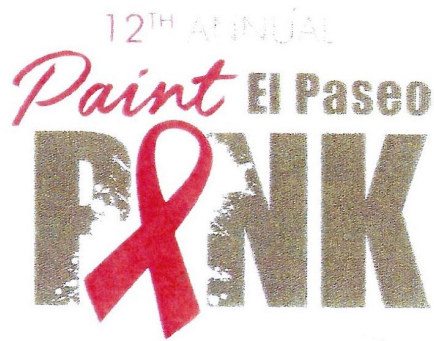
OCTOBER 27th: IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT: You are cordially invited (please bring a friend). **When: Saturday, October 27, 2018; 10:00 a.m.** and again at 1:00 p.m. Please **RSVP by October 22, 2018** by calling (760) 238-7185. **Hosted by: Ann Dixson**. A donation will be made to the St. George Church/Philoptochos.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Tuesday, September 24th.....Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, September 26th.....ST. JOHN THE THEOLOGIAN
Orthros-8:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

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 in order that you may easily take your children for a break, as needed. If necessary, we have a "crying room" in the vestibule for your use. God Bless.



SIGN UP FORM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13 • 2018

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

First Name:

Last Name:

Street Address:

City: State: Zip:

Sex: M F

Phone:

E-mail:

Team Name: *Saint George*

I am raising pledges. My goal is:

I am a breast cancer survivor.

PARTICIPATION TYPE (Per Entry)

Registration Fee \$25 (includes T-shirt) \$

I'd like to buy an additional T-shirt \$25 each \$

I'd like to make a donation \$

TOTAL AMOUNT \$

T-Shirt Size: (Select size for each registered participant.)

S M L XL XXL XXXL

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Cash Credit Card Check
(Make check payable to Desert Cancer Foundation.)

Select One: Amex Visa MasterCard Discover

Credit Card Number:

Expiration Date: / /

For registrations with credit card authorization
e-mail to: info@desertcancerfoundation.org
fax to: Desert Cancer Foundation at 760-773-6532.

Mail your completed registration form and payment to: *
 Desert Cancer Foundation
 74091 Larrea St.
 Palm Desert, CA 92260.

***or give to Rhonda Latkovic**

WAIVER AND RELEASE

I know that the 12th Annual Paint El Paseo Pink event on Saturday, October 13, 2018, is a potentially hazardous activity and I hereby assume full and complete responsibility for any injury or accident which may occur during my participation in this event or while on the premises of this event, and I hereby release and hold harmless and covenant not to file suit against Desert Cancer Foundation, the City of Palm Desert, its officers, officials, agents, employees and volunteers, any Walk sponsors and their agents and employees, and all other persons or entities associated with this event (the Releasees) from any loss, liability or claims I may have arising out of my participation in this event, including personal injury or damage suffered by me or others, whether some be caused by falls, contact with participants, conditions of the course, negligence of the Releasees or otherwise. Participant shall cause all walkers participating in Promotion to hold harmless and release Owner and Taubman Company LLC as Managing Agent from any and all claims and liability growing or arising out of the Promotion or their presence at the Center in connection with the Promotion. I hereby grant permission to Desert Cancer Foundation and its authorized agents to use my name, photographs, videotapes, motion pictures in connection with this event, including recording any other record of my participation in this event for any purpose.

Signature: _____



STEP UP FOR CANCER AWARENESS!



12th Annual Paint El Paseo Pink

THE GARDENS ON EL PASEO

Saturday, October 13, 2018
REGISTRATION: 7:00 AM
WALK BEGINS: 8:00 AM
COST: \$25.00

Join local Coachella Valley residents at the Desert Cancer Foundation's
12th Annual Paint El Paseo Pink walk for breast cancer awareness:
on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at
The Gardens on El Paseo in Palm Desert!

This year's Paint El Paseo Pink will be better than ever! We are excited to announce that once again Paint El Paseo Pink will take over the entire street of El Paseo, from Portola to Hwy 74. Surrounded by the gorgeous lush landscape and boutique shops along the route of El Paseo, walk participants will be able to experience live music, DJs, browse merchant shops, while helping to support life-saving breast cancer screening, diagnostic and treatment services for our local valley residents!

Registration is only \$25 per person! You can choose to register as an individual, or even build or join a team! Register today and help us make the Desert Cancer Foundation's 12th Annual Paint El Paseo Pink the most exciting and impactful event this year!

* All proceeds raised from Paint El Paseo Pink will benefit Desert Cancer Foundation's Suzanne Jackson Breast Cancer Fund and Patient Assistance Programs for cancer screening, diagnostic and treatment services for local Coachella Valley residents.

For more information about registration or sponsorship opportunities, visit www.pepp.desertcancerfoundation.org or call 760-773-6554.

Team:
SAINT
George

Improve Your Health & Environment

You Are Cordially Invited (please bring a friend)

When: Saturday, October 27, 2018

10:00am and again at 1:00pm (choose time that is convenient for you)

Where: St. George Greek Orthodox Church Hall

74-109 Larrea Street, Palm Desert, CA 92260

The event is FREE, the information is priceless - Products will not be sold at the event

Special Guest: Sheila Backus, Health & Wellness Advocate

Refreshments Will Be Served

Please RSVP by October 22, 2018 by calling (760) 238-7185



Hosted by Ann Dixson

*A donation will be made to the
St. George Ladies Philoptochos*



Sheila Backus

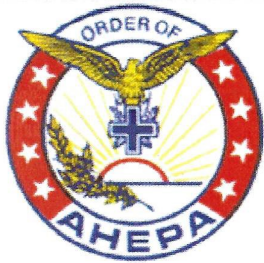


ST. GEORGE GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH

THANKSGIVING
LUNCH

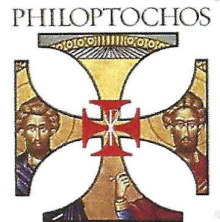
Let's Celebrate God's Goodness

SUNDAY, 12:30 P.M.
NOVEMBER 18th, 2018



Town Center Cafe

44491 Town Center Way
Palm Desert, CA



\$25.00

Children \$12.00 *under 12*

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 or mailed to:

AHEPA 528 Scholarship fund

PO Box 1735 Palm Desert, CA 92261-1735

contact@ahpepa528.org

Please make any checks to AHEPA Chapter 528 or pay online ahpepa528.org
Scholarship awards benefit members of Saint George Church and the AHEPA 528 Family

Deadline for Reservations: Sunday, November 11, 2018

Thank You for your Continued Support!