

JANUARY 20, 2019

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

ST. EUTHYMIOS THE GREAT

MEANING IN SUFFERING

In his second Epistle to the Corinthians, St. Paul expresses the "human condition" of Christians who live in this world, even though they have faith in Christ our God. We learn from him that our lives will not be without pain and suffering, because, "death is at work ." (2 Corinthians 4: 12). At the same time, as a result of our faith in Christ God, we endure trials, knowing that, not only will God offer us the way to acquire peace and comfort in the future, but our Lord

uses our circumstance so that others can be inspired to learn about the love and power of God.

Consistent with the words that we heard from today's Epistle reading, we bring to mind St. Paul's pain, as he said, "A thorn in the flesh was given to me." (2 Corinthians 12: 7).

St. John Chrysostom notes that the life of St. Paul is a replica of the life of any one of us. "Wherever there is a difficulty, that is where there God gives consolation. There where God gives consolation.

Continued on Page 2

ST. EUTHYMIOS THE GREAT (Happy Name Day to our Deacon Euthym!)

St. Euthymios was from Melitene in Armenia and was the son of pious parents named Paul and Dionysia. He was born about 377. He studied under Eutroius, the Bishop of Melitene, by whom he was ordained and entrusted with the care of the monasteries of Melitene. Then, after he had come to Palestine about the year 406, he became the leader of a multitude of monks. Through him, a great tribe of Arabic people was turned to piety, when he healed the ailing son of their leader Aspebetos. Aspebetos was baptized along with all his people

Eudocia, the widow of Saint Theodosius the Younger, eventually made her dwelling in Palestine. Over time, she had fallen into heresy. However, she repented of falsehood and sought the full truth of Orthodox Christianity. In this effort, she sent envoys to Saint Symeon the Stylite in Syria, asking him his opinion of heresies and the declaration issued at Council of Chalcedon. Saint Symeon, praised the holiness and Orthodoxy of Saint Euthymios and sent her to Saint Euthymios to be delivered from her errors. In her repentance, she lived a saintly life-style. St. Euthymios became the divine oracle of the Church, or rather, "the vessel of divine utterance," as a certain historian writes. He was the instructor and elder of Saint Sabbas the Sanctified. Having lived for 96 years, St. Euthymios reposed in 473, on January 20. --Taken in part from www.goarch.org/



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.

Στην δεύτερη Επιστολήν του προς τους Κορινθίους, ο Άγιος Παύλος εκφράζει την <ανθρώπινην περίστασιν> των Χριστιανών που ζουν σε αυτόν τον κόσμο, ενώ πιστεύουν στον Θεόν μας Χριστόν. Μαθαίνουμε από αυτόν ότι η ζωή μας δεν θα είναι χωρίς πόνο και δυσκολίες, διότι <ο θάνατος ενεργείται.> (2 Κορ. 4: 12). Ταυτοχρόνως, λόγω της πίστεώς μας στον Χριστόν τον Θεόν, υπομένουμε, γνωρίζοντας ότι, όχι μόνον θα μας προσφέρει τον τρόπον να αποκτήσουμε ειρήνην και παρηγορίαν στο μέλλον, αλλά θα χρησιμοποιήσει την περίστασίν μας γιά να εμπνεύσει άλλους γιά να γνωρίσουν την αγάπην και την δύναμην του Θεού. Σύμφωνα με τα λόγια του σημερινού αναγνώσματος της Επιστολής, φέρνουμε στην μνήμην μας τον πόνον του Απ. Παύλου που είπε: <έδόθη μοί σκόλοψ τή σαρκί.> (2 Κορ. 12: 7).

Ο Άγιος Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος σημειώνει ότι η ζωή του Αγίου Παύλου είναι ένα αντίγραφο της ζωής του καθενός από εμάς. *Όπου είναι η θλίψις, εκεί είναι και η παρηγοριά. Εκεί που υπάρχει παρηγοριά, υπάρχει και η χάρις. Γιά παράδειγμα, όταν ο Άγιος Παύλος ερίχθηκε στην φυλακήν, εκεί έγιναν θαύματα...Όταν έφθασε προς τον δικαστήν σε αλυσίδες, τότε εταπεινώσε τον δικαστήν διά μέσου της Θείας σοφίας...Έτσι όταν οι τρεις παίδες ερίχθηκαν στον φλογερόν φούρνον, τότε η δύναμη του Θεού εκδηλώθηκε...>, έτσι ώστε και οι άλλοι άρχισαν να τον προσκυνήσουν. (Περι Δευτ. Επιστολής Κορ., Ομιλία 26).*

Η πνευματική ζωή είναι αγώνας. Διά μέσου του αγώνος αυτού, η σοφία που χαρίζει ο Θεός σε εμάς γίνεται διαφωτισμός γιά άλλους.
+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

tion, God also gives grace...As an example, when St. Paul was thrown into prison, that is when a miracle occurred... When he reached his judge being bound in chains, it was then that he humbled the judge [through Divine wisdom]...In the same way, when the three children were thrown into the burning furnace (the Book of Daniel, Chapter 3), it was then that God's power was manifested...," allowing others to begin worshiping Him. (Regarding the Second Epistle to the Corinthians, by St. John Chrysostom, Homily 26).

Spiritual life is a life of struggle for God's Will! Through this struggle, our Lord grants us wisdom, which is the source of enlightenment for others. If life had no challenges, people would have few (or no) learning opportunities. In fact, Jesus promised us: "In the world, you shall have tribulation." (St. John 16:33).

St. Paul's words from today's Epistle are important for us in order to comprehend meaning in suffering. He notes that the Light of God "has shone in our hearts to give the light of knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." (2 Corinthians 4: 7). He acknowledges the fact that this Divine power dwells within us. However, he reminds us that, without Christ, we have nothing: "We have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us." (2 Corinthians 4: 8). This notion that we are only "earthen vessels" was used by the Prophet Job: "Please remember that You molded me like an earthen vessel. Will You turn me to dust?" (Job 10: 9).

Job is a great example of patience and faith in the face of immense suffering. As part of his suffering, Job had little idea as to why he had to suffer in the first place. (See Job Chapters 31-33). Job even declared that God did not hear his prayers. It was the Prophet Nihu who answered Job, saying, "In this, you are not right...God is greater than you." Indeed, God has a purpose in what occurs to us, which ultimately is to teach us humility for our salvation, as He did in the case of Job, who repented of his sins, after understanding the greatness God. This is important: in the repentance of his pride Job humbly submitted himself to God's love and, in the end, "The Lord blessed the latter end of Job's life more than his beginning." (Job 42:12).

St. Paul reminds us, as does St. John Chrysostom (and as did Job) that, while not tempting God by bringing suffering upon ourselves carelessly, the pains and tribulations that do come upon us also come with future blessings. This fact will always be revealed to those who patiently endure, allowing their faith to be tested. May each of us pray for the wisdom and strength of faith in order to know the love that God has for each of us and to therefore experience the reality of God's power in our weakness.

+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, 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."

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

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

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 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: "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. 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: *Tou lithou sfraghisthendos [Tone 1]...(The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Judeans and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred Body, O Savior, the third day You arose and unto all the world did You give life, whereby all the heavenly powers proclaim that You are the Giver of Life. Glory unto our Resurrected Christ; glory unto Your Kingdom; glory to Your dispensation, O You alone Who loves all.)*

Hymn for St. Euthymios: *Efrenou errhimos ee ou tiktousa...(Sing, O desolate land that did not bear; be encouraged, you who have not been in labor. For a man, greatly beloved of the Spirit, has multiplied your children. He planted them in godliness, he reared them in self-control, and he raised them to perfection in virtue. At his intercession, O Christ our God, grant peace to our lives.)*

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 for this Sunday: *O Mitran Parthenikin aghiasas to toko Sou...(You sanctified the virginal womb by Your birth, O Lord, and blessed the hands of Symeon fittingly, O Christ God; and even now You came and saved us. Now, give peace to our Nation in time of war, and empower our Leaders, so loved by You, the only one who loves humanity.)*

READINGS- 2 Corinthians 4: 6-15 / Gospel St. Luke 17: 12-19

Communion Hymn – *Enite ton Kyrion..."Praise the Lord..."* page 64 in our Divine Liturgy books.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMORIAL - Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation for the servant of God, **Pauline Booras (1 year)**, the beloved aunt of Fr. Ted. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant to **Pauline Booras** Eternal Life and Salvation and may He grant peace and comfort to the entire family. **MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY - **Today is Stewardship Sunday.** 2019 Stewardship Pledge Cards will be made available to all members of our St. George Palm Desert Parish for 2019. Stewardship is a matter of supporting the ministry of our Church through participation in the Holy Sacraments and through sharing God's bountiful blessings for the salvation of others.

PHILOPTOCHOS - Thank you to all our parishioners attending our **Taverna Night** last Saturday. We had a great time eating, and dancing -- and some of us won prizes from our silent auction. Our **General Meeting will be this Friday, January 25 at 11:30 a.m.** There will be lunch for a donation of \$6.00 and our guest will be **Dr. Euthym Kontaxis** (our Deacon). We will have a short meeting and will discuss and vote on the budget.

ALTAR FLOWER BOUQUETS -The following are the Contributions and Dedications for this Sunday, January 20, 2019:

- *The Spanos Family, George, Angie, and Vasili Spanos: "For the love of our family"!*

- *Terry Ayanopolis: (John 16:13) "However, when He the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all Truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.*

Note: All parishioners that have signed up for Altar Flowers in January and February please see **Louise Dobbs Barringer** today!

FESTIVAL: YIAYIA'S ATTIC - Yiayia's Attic is in need of your donations: household items; kitchen items; costume jewelry; art work...all in **good condition**, cleaned and/or polished, please. Bring your donation to our parish hall. For details and more information, contact **Chris Delegans** at (650-207-5254).

AHEPA - Super Bowl Party: February 3rd. See flier in our parish hall.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 22nd.....Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.

Friday, January 25th.....ST. GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN
Orthros-8:30 a.m.
Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

*A Blessed and Happy New Year to one and all!
The Ladder for January 2019 is
lovingly sponsored by:
The St. George Ladies Philoptochos Society*

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.

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Today is Stewardship Sunday. Everyone is asked to prayerfully take into account their personal abilities in giving of themselves to financially support the ministry of our St. George parish, while at the same time offering their support with all of their love for our Savior Jesus Christ. In this way, together with our Lord – and as a community – we will maintain our Orthodox Christian faith and work for the salvation of the world around us.

(To be read by the priest and the faithful together):

O Christ our God, Who at all times and in every hour in heaven and on earth is worshiped and glorified; Who is patient, merciful and compassionate and Who loves the just, yet shows mercy to sinners; Who calls all to salvation through the promise of blessings to come, in this hour receive our prayers. Bless all of us as we give glory to you in all that we do. Bless our dealings in life; bless those who are around us in every capacity and bless our families, relatives and friends. Guide us in wisdom to offer proper Stewardship of time, talent and treasure for our St. George Greek Orthodox Church. Sanctify our souls, purify our bodies, correct our thoughts, cleanse our minds and deliver us from danger, evil and distress. Surround us with Your Holy Angels, so that guided and guarded by their might, we may all attain to the unity of the Faith and to the full knowledge of Your unapproachable glory.

For to You is due all glory, honor and worship: to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and forever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

(The Priest then blesses the faithful and their Stewardship Cards.)

Volunteer for the Festival

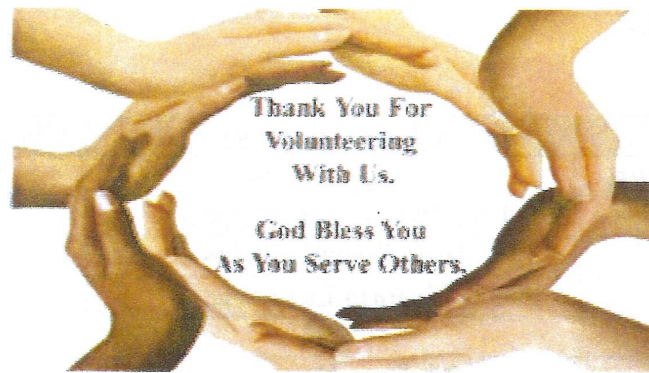
February 16th & 17th 2019

What Kind of Person Are You?

In this world there are four kinds of people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did.

Somebody got angry about it because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Somebody would do it, but Nobody realized it wouldn't get done by Anybody. It ended up that not only was the job not done, but Everybody accused Somebody, and Nobody accepted the responsibility.

Moral: Everybody's job is Anybody's. Nobody can be Somebody unless they are willing to do Anybody's work.



Please sign up to volunteer in the church hall after liturgy on any Sunday. You may also complete the information on the back and leave it with Jim Christopoulos or Father Ted. Finally, you may email or call Jim at goofy_328@yahoo.com (note “_” between goofy and 328) or 760-902-8460. God bless!

For those of you who are unable to volunteer, but want to help support the festival, you may want to consider “sponsoring” a shift. For a donation of \$60, you can sponsor a paid worker. If interested, please see Jim or Father Ted.

.....

Festival Volunteer Form

Friday & Saturday, February 16th & 17th 2019

»Name: _____

»Phone Number: _____ »Email Address: _____

»Availability (Please check all that apply):

Set Up Prior to Festival _____

Saturday 2/16: _____ 10:30-3:30 _____ 3:15-8:15

Sunday 2/17: _____ 10:30-3:30 _____ 3:15-8:15

Tear Down Following Festival _____

»Please check off all areas that you would like to volunteer (we will try to place you in one of these areas, if possible).

Area	Chairperson(s)	Check if Interested
Set-up/Tear down	Doug Lyons	
Front Gate	Lou & Penny Karagianis	
Back Gate	Jim Christopoulos	
Greek Store	Rhonda Latkovic	
Kafenio	Tbd	
Kids Area	Melissa Hawkins	
Loukoumathes	Krisann Kontaxis	
Bars	Nick Krespis	
Dinner Line	Tasia Richards	
Gyros	George Argyros & John Petalas	
Cooking	George Argyros & John Petalas	
Appetizers	Jim Christopoulos	
Yiayia's Attic	Chris Deleganis	
Accounting/\$ Run	Nick Kaperonis	
Kitchen/Food Run	George & Stacy Argyros	
Pastries	Lula Valissarakos	
Parking Lot Carts	Jim Christopoulos	



SAINT GEORGE 2019 GREEK FESTIVAL SPONSORSHIP & AD PROGRAM

Event Dates: Sat. & Sun., February 16th - 17th, 2019

Terms: Cash/Check/Credit

Attached is my check in the sum of:

Date: _____ \$ _____

Sponsorship/Ad Choice: _____

Sponsorship/Ad Choices Available:

Sponsorship Levels: (includes full color ad on outside back of Festival Program, Sponsorship listing on Festival Website, festival admission tickets, & goody bag)

Gold Sponsor Level - Corporate logo with name ----- \$ 1000

Silver Sponsor Level - Corporate logo with name ----- \$ 500

Advertising Choices: (includes black & white ad inside Festival Program, listing on Festival Website)

Corporate - Corporate logo with name ----- \$ 300

Personal - 2-line message with name ----- \$ 150

Business Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

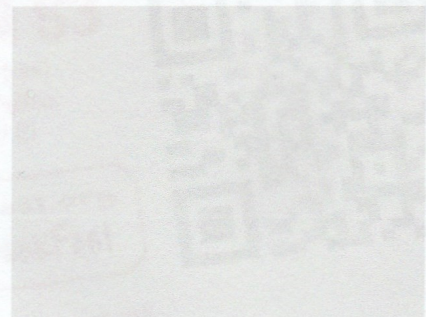
City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email Address: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

Make checks payable to:
St. George Greek Orthodox Church
P.O. Box 4755
Palm Desert, CA 92261
Phone: (760) 568-9901
Email: pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com
Fax: (760) 568-9492

Print personal ad below:



Absolute DEADLINE for Copy: January 20th, 2019

Electric submission of camera ready corporate logos & names are accepted in most formats.

- GYROS - GREEK LAMB - BAKLAVA - LOUKOUMADES -
 - GREEK CHICKEN - MOUSAKA - SPANAKOPITA - DOLMADE - PASTICHIO - SOULYAKI - BAKLAVA - DOLMADES - GYROS
 - GREEK CHICKEN - MOUSAKA - SPANAKOPITA - DOLMADE - PASTICHIO - SOULYAKI - BAKLAVA - DOLMADES - GYROS
 - GYROS - GREEK LAMB - BAKLAVA - LOUKOUMADES -



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 ART & SOUVENIRS
 RELIGIOUS ITEMS
 CHURCH TOURS
 KIDZ ZONE
 FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY



EL PASEO COURTESY CARTS available for festival attendee pick up & drop off. Route along El Paseo from San Pablo to Portola & church festival entrance.
ADDITIONAL PARKING AVAILABLE at Washington Charter School, and Hope Luthern Church & Spiritual Center.
SHUTTLE SERVICE PROVIDED.



We are pleased to provide assistance to anyone requesting it. If you need help, please ask.

Saint George
 Greek Orthodox Church
 Proudly presents the
 23ND ANNUAL
**GREEK
 FESTIVAL**

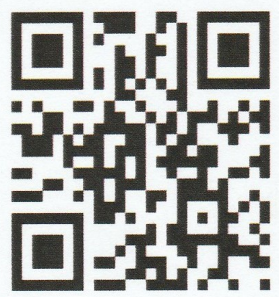
in Palm Desert, CA
Saturday & Sunday
February 16th & 17th 2019
11am to 8pm
 on the Church Grounds
 74-109 Larrea, Palm Desert, CA
(760) 568-9901

Experience Authentic Greek Food
Devour Heavenly Pastries
Dance to live Greek music, and
Be Greek for a Day!

ADMISSION \$3

(Children 12 & under free)
 Active Duty Military, Police,
 Fire & EMT Free w/ ID

www.PDGreekFest.org
 PDGreekFest





AHEPA 528 2nd ANNUAL

SUPER BOWL PARTY



FUN FOR EVERYONE

We will have doors open at 2pm.

Game starts at 3:30 pm

Saint George Greek Orthodox Church

74109 Larrea St Palm Desert, CA 92261

\$20 Donation requested

Refreshments and fun provided!



<https://www.facebook.com/AHEPA528/>

Livestream after each Quarter to announce winner!

\$10 pool squares available


Donate online, AHEPA528.ORG

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE EVENT WILL GO TO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Please make any checks to AHEPA Chapter 528 or donate online

Scholarship awards benefit members of

Saint George Church and the AHEPA 528 Family


SUPER BOWL
FEB 3rd 2019

\$20 DONATION

and you get

- 1 Square in the Football Pool
- Refreshments
- Appetizers
- Live Game
- Cash Prizes

\$10 pool square*

**After first donation*

**REFRESHMENTS
AND FUN
PROVIDED!**



**PLEASE SEE BROTHERS
WYNN STORTON,
HARRY LOUKATOS OR
NICK KRESPIS
FOR FURTHER DETAILS**

CONTACT@AHEPA528.ORG

760.832.2825