

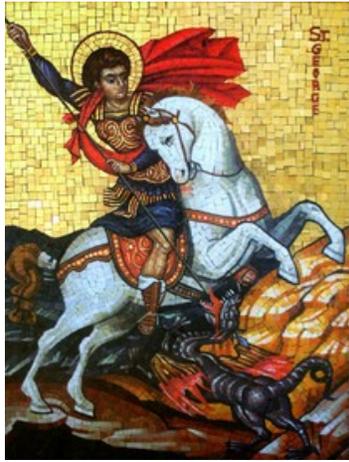
APRIL 17, 2022

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street
Palm Desert, California 92260

Website: www.go-stgeorge.org

Email: pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com



THE LADDER

PALM SUNDAY

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.

OUR JOURNEY WITH CHRIST

Today is the beginning of our journey with Christ our God into the city of the "old" Jerusalem, only to become members of the "New Jerusalem," which is the Kingdom of God. In sum, it is the beginning of our journey through Holy Week.

The prayers; the hymns; the Scriptural passages throughout Holy Week call me to look into myself and contemplate the divine, eternal magnitude of God's love, on the one hand, and the fallible, imperfect being that I have become as life has

gone by. I see myself as being blessed by God to travel His road to the Cross with Him, while, at the same time, I see myself as potentially one among the crowds that called for His crucifixion. While identifying myself as Jesus' fellow-traveler, I can see in myself the faulty thinking and attitudes of those who betrayed Him.

It is, if we contemplate long and hard enough, with a sense of sincere humility that a vivid awareness of the sufferings of our Lord come to light in my mind, reminding me that the God

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ORTHODOX PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF PALMS

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Faithful: Lord, have mercy.

Priest: Lord our God, enthroned above the Cherubim, You have stirred up Your power and sent Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to redeem the world through His Cross, His burial and His Resurrection. When He came to Jerusalem to His voluntary Passion, the people, living in darkness and the shadow of death, taking up the symbols of victory, boughs of trees and palm branches, foretold the Resurrection. Master as we too imitating them, carry Palms and branches on this eve of the feast, watch over us. And as we offer You Hosanna, like those multitudes and the children, safeguard us, so that in hymns and spiritual songs we, too, may worthily witness the life-giving Resurrection on the third day, in Christ Jesus our Lord, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit now and always and forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn for St. George: "As the liberator of captives and the defender of the poor; as physician of the ailing; the champion of kings -- beseech Christ our God, O great Martyr George, Standard-Bearer, for the Salvaton of our souls."



Σήμερα είναι η αρχή της πορείας μας μαζί με τον Χριστό προς στην πόλη της «παλιάς» Ιερουσαλήμ, μόνο για να γίνουμε μέλη της «Νέας Ιερουσαλήμ», που είναι η Βασιλεία του Θεού. Είναι η αρχή των βημάτων μας καθώς μπαίνουμε στη Μεγάλη Εβδομάδα.

Οι προσευχές -- οι ύμνοι, και οι περικοπές της Αγίας Γραφής κατά τη διάρκεια της Μεγάλης Εβδομάδας με κάνουν να κοιτάξω μέσα μου και να συλλογισθώ το θείο και αιώνιο μέγεθος της αγάπης του Θεού, αφενός, και το βλαμμένο ον που έχω γίνει ως αποτέλεσμα των αδυναμιών μου. Καταλαβαίνω τις ευλογίες δια μέσων των οποίων ο Θεός έχει ανοίξει για εμένα τον δρόμο Του προς τον Σταυρό, ενώ, την ίδια στιγμή, θεωρώ τον εαυτό μου δυνητικά ένα από τα πλήθη που εξήτησαν την σταύρωσή Του. Ενώ αναγνωρίζω τον εαυτό μου ως «συνταξιδιώτη» του Ιησού, μπορώ να δω μέσα μου τις εσφαλμένες σκέψεις και τις λανθασμένες στάσεις εκείνων που Τον επρόδωσαν.

Οι προσευχές, οι ύμνοι και τα αναγνώσματα που ακούμεν κατά την διάρκεια της Μεγάλης Εβδομάδος με συγκινούν για να εκτιμήσω ταπεινά τη μεγάλη αγάπη του Θεού για μένα και για τον καθέναν από εσάς. Καθώς ο Κύριος εσυγχώρεσε τον Πέτρο και τον Θωμά (και πιστεύω ότι θα είχε συγχωρήσει ακόμη και τον Ιούδα, αν ο Ιούδας εμετανοούσε), δεν μπορώ να κάνω απολύτως τίποτα μόνος μου -- ούτε εσείς ατομικώς -- παρά μόνο να ζητήσω το πνεύμα της ταπεινότητας και την αγάπη που έχει ο Θεός για όλο τον κόσμο καθώς προσκυνούμε μαζί τον Σταυρό Του και δοξάζουμε την Αγία Του Ανάσταση.
+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

of all submitted Himself to the humiliation; the beatings, and finally the Cross for me. There truly is no god as great as is our God! In that God loves me so much, I must realize that God loves every person that is found beside me and before me. For, who am I? A particle of dust in the grand scope of all of the creation made by the God of love, Who is present in the Person of Jesus Christ, Who offers His life in exchange for my life -- and for yours. Great, indeed, is our God.

I, like each of you, face the challenges of life, many of which are brought on by the "Pharisees and scribes" of our era. Others are brought on by me, myself, due to my own imperfections, causing me to wonder if, in essence, I am not much different from the Pharisees, and even the Apostles, of Jesus' time. I am no stranger to the pride of the Pharisees; my personality is not all that much different than that of Judas the Betrayer, Peter the "Denier," or the Doubting Thomas. Doubt, denial, and a desire for more material things are common distractions. Yet, I hear the words of Christ our God, saying, "*Forgive them; for they know not what they do.*" The "them," however, includes you and me, as well. Our gratitude can only be expressed by carrying our cross bearing the arms of patience and repentance.

Thus, the prayers, hymns and Scriptural passages of Holy Week move me to humbly appreciate God's great love for me and you. As our Lord forgave Peter's denial and Thomas' doubts (and I believe He would have even forgiven Judas' betrayal, if Judas repented), I know that I can do absolutely nothing by myself -- nor can you by yourself -- except to pray for God's forgiveness; the spirit of humility, and the love of God for ourselves and for the whole world as we venerate His Cross and glorify His Holy Resurrection .

+FR. THEODORE

PHILOPTOCHOS - Today after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy is the last day to purchase items from our St. George Philoptochos **Easter Bake Sale**. Also, today is the last day to submit requests for the **Holy Friday Luminaria**, which will light the path for our **Epitaphio Procession**. (See the fliers in our parish hall.)

MYRRH-BEARERS -- We thank God for the efforts of **Ana Storton** for organizing our **Myrrh-bearers** for this year's Holy Friday Lamentation Service. (See the enclosed flier.)

PASCHAL PREPARATIONS - Those who want to participate in the **dying of Easter Eggs** and the **Decoration of the Epitaphio**, please note: Easter Egg dying - Holy Thursday following the Divine Liturgy/Epitaphio decoration - 8:00 a.m. on Holy Friday.

HOLY CONFESSION -- Holy Confession is to be scheduled with Fr. Ted for **Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, and Holy Wednesday mornings between 10:30 a.m. and 12 noon**. Call him for an appointment at (760) 880-5869.

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 - Philippians 4:4-9

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL - St. John 12: 1-18

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for

three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 17th.....PALM SUNDAY: Tonight: The Bridegroom Service - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, April 18th.....HOLY MONDAY: The Bridegroom Service - 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 19th.....HOLY TUESDAY: The Bridegroom Service - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 20th..HOLY WEDNESDAY: Presanctified Liturgy - 9:00 a.m. /Holy Unction- 6:30 p.m.

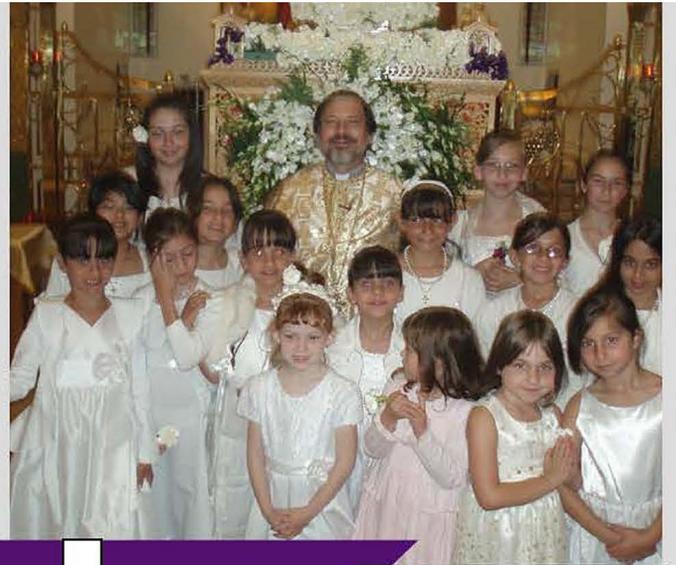
Thursday, April 21st...HOLY THURSDAY:Divine Liturgy -9:00 a.m./Service of The 12 Gospels - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 22nd.....HOLY FRIDAY: Royal Hours - 9:00 a.m. /Service of Taking Down of Christ from the Cross (Apokathilosis) - 12 noon / Lamentations Service - 7:00 p.m.

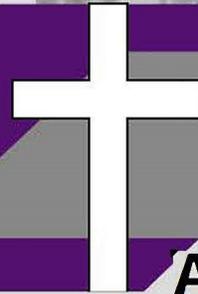
Saturday, April 23rd.....HOLY SATURDAY - Divine Liturgy - 9:00 a.m. / Preparatory Prayer Service for the Resurrection of Christ- 11:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 24th.....GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA (HOLY RESURRECTION OF CHRIST): Resurrection Service- 12 midnight / Divine Liturgy - 12:30 a.m. / Agape Vesper Service- 12 noon

SPECIAL NOTICE: CHANTERS, ALTAR SERVERS & READERS: Plan to meet with Fr. Ted 30 minutes before each Holy Week Service for final review of the Church Service to be performed. Those who want to help carry the Epitaphio, confirm with Fr. Ted by Holy Thursday and please arrive at Church by 6:45 p.m. on Holy Friday to meet with George Argyros



GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY – LAMENTATIONS



ST GEORGE GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH
Palm Desert

April 22nd 7:00 pm



EPITAPHIOS PROCESSION & MYRRH-BEARERS



Inviting well-behaved Girls ages 4-13, the opportunity to participate as Myrrh-bearers in the Great & Holy Friday night, Epitaphios procession. Practice: Friday April 15th at Kid's Retreat 9-1pm, & Sunday 4/17 after Sunday school class. Dress Rehearsal & Line -up 4/22 @ 6:30pm



- ✓ Arrive 6:30 PM for Dress Rehearse & Line up
- ✓ Modest White Dresses & Shoes
- ✓ Reserved Family seats in 2nd/3rd row behind Myrrh-Bearers
- ✓ Hair up or tied back for Candle Safety

📞 760-832-2824

🏠 Contact : Ms. Ana Storton or Director: Ms. Athena Snarskis

✉ ana.storton@gmail.com

athna2@aol.com



Saint George Greek Orthodox Church Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 30, 2022 | 12:30 PM Shotgun Start | Desert Willow Golf Resort



ENTRY INFORMATION

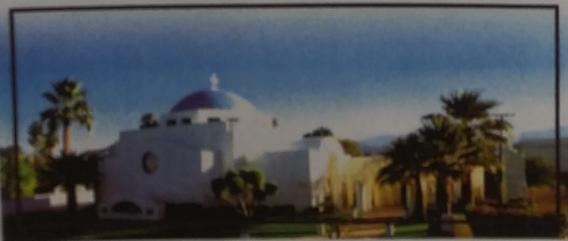
Saturday, April 30, 2022

- \$185 per player (includes Golf and Awards Dinner)
- 12:30 PM Shotgun Start at Desert Willow Golf Resort
- 5:00 PM Social Hour at St. George Greek Orthodox Church
- 6:00 PM Traditional Greek Dinner at St. George Greek Orthodox Church | Silent Auction and Live Music

INDIVIDUALS AND SPONSORSHIPS

- Individual Player(s) ___ (# of Players) x \$185 \$ _____
- Tee Sponsorship(s) ___ (# of Sponsorships) x \$100 \$ _____
- Traditional Greek Dinner ___ (# of Dinners) x \$45 \$ _____
- Donation \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____



EVENT REGISTRATION

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PLAYER NAMES

1. _____ GHIN# _____

2. _____ GHIN# _____

3. _____ GHIN# _____

4. _____ GHIN# _____

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2022
 Sign up online at www.desertwillow.com/StGeorge
 Make Checks Payable To:
 "Saint George Greek Orthodox Church"
 Send Checks and Registration Form to:
 PO Box 4755 | Palm Desert, CA | 92261

Desert Willow Golf Resort | 38-995 Desert Willow Drive | Palm Desert, CA | 92260 | 760.340.7060 | www.desertwillow.com

GOLF TOURNAMENT - The tournament is getting close to being sold out. At this point, gift certificates are the best silent auction items to donate... rounds of golf and dinner vouchers to local restaurants are good examples of gift certificates to offer for people to bid for.

Proverbs: "Wisdom opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy" (Proverbs. 31:25)