



AUGUST 14, 2022

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

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Tel: (760) 568-9901

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– Fr. Theodore Pantels,

Proistamenos (Pastor)

– Deacon Euthym Kon-

taxis, M.D.

Holy Communion Or-
der

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 - 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

Brethren, we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder, I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it. Let each man take care how he builds upon it. For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—each man's work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire. Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? If any one destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and that temple you are.

GOSPEL - St. Matthew 14:22-34

At that time, Jesus made the disciples get into

the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was many furlongs distant from the land, beaten by the waves; for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out for fear. But immediately he spoke to them, saying, "Take heart, it is I; have no fear." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, bid me come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus; but when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "O man of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they entered the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God." And when they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret.

THE DORMITION OF THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD – On the third day after the burial of Her sacred body, the Apostles were eating together. As they raised the artos (bread) to worship our Savior, as was their custom, the Holy Mother of God appeared in the air, saying "Rejoice" to them. Thus, they knew that the Holy Mother of God was translated into the Heavens. We celebrate Her assumption into Heaven tomorrow, as "The Dormition of the Holy Mother of God." Through many generations, history documents Her intercession for the blessing of God's people and their salvation. (see: www.goarch.org for more details.)



Liturgical Notes for Today

At the Entrance of the Gospel: **1) Entrance Hymn:** *O merciful One, You came from on high, and condescended to You three-day burial to save us from passions. You are our life and our Resurrection, O Lord. Glory to You./ Εξ υψους κατηλθες...; 2) O people, anticipate and leap for joy now with faith, and longingly congregate today applauding with joy, and all of you cheerfully shout now in exultation; for the Theotokos is preparing for her departure from the earth to the heavens with glory; and we sing hymns to her and glorify her as the Mother of God./ Λαοι προσκίρτησατε...; 3) Hymn for St. George; 4) **Kontakion:** *On this day, your glorious memory, the whole world by the Holy Spirit's grace has been noetically adorned. With joy and gladness we cry to you, "Rejoice, O Virgin, the pride and joy of Christians all!"/ Τη ενδοξω μνημη Σου...**

“YOU ARE THE TEMPLE OF GOD”

For St. Paul, the words, “*You are the temple of God*” (1 Corinthians 3:16) mean that we are collectively and individually temples of God. We are temples of God, because the Mother of God is Herself the Temple from where Christ came into the world. As a Church, and as individual families who make up the Church, we are, together, the Temple from where Christ is brought into our world today. Just as the Holy Spirit dwelled in the Holy Mother of God in order for Christ to come into the world, we can allow the Holy Spirit to dwell in us for the same purpose, and, like Her, be co-workers with God.

Our identity is to be nurtured from within our family, which is the “house church” --a unit of the whole Church. This is why the intercession of the Mother of God at the Marriage in Cana of Galilee is so important to our lives. We remember that tomorrow is the Feast Day of the Dormition of the Mother of God.

The Sacrament of Marriage is the ideal context for co-workship with God. Joined together in marriage with Christ in our midst, the “Image of God” in the man is united to the “Image of God” in the woman, to create new temples of God, who are our children. This is why we must raise them in the life of the Church.

As temples of God, created in His Image and Likeness, human beings are deemed from Apostolic times to be sacred. Our bodies and souls are not to be desecrated by abuse, murder, corruption or cremation. Hence, in so far as sin corrupts the Image of God’s love in us, we are subjected to evil. The reason for constant prayer and sincere worship is for us to maintain the sanctity of our “temple,” by protecting it from evil from outside of us, as well as from evil from inside of us. The purpose of constant prayer and sincere worship is for us to maintain the sacredness of our “temple” for the glory of God.

+FR. THEODORE

Για τον Άγιο Παύλο, οι λέξεις «είστε ο ναός του Θεού» (Α' Κορινθίους 3:16) σημαίνουν ότι είμεθα συλλογικά και ατομικά ναοί του Θεού. Είμεθα ναοί του Θεού, γιατί η Μητέρα του Θεού είναι η Ίδια ο Ναός από όπου ήρθε στον κόσμο ο Χριστός. Ακριβώς όπως το Άγιο Πνεύμα κατοίκησε στην Αγία Μητέρα του Θεού για να έρθει ο Χριστός στον κόσμο, μπορούμε να επιτρέψουμε στο Άγιο Πνεύμα να κατοικεί μέσα μας για τον ίδιο σκοπό και, όπως Αυτή, να είμεθα συνεργάτες του Θεού.

Αυτή η ταυτότητά μας πρέπει να γαλουχηθεί μέσα από την οικογένειά μας, που είναι η «οικιακή εκκλησία» -- μια μονάδα ολόκληρης της Εκκλησίας. Γι' αυτό η μεσιτεία της Θεοτόκου στον Γάμο στην Κανά της Γαλιλαίας είναι τόσο σημαντική για τη ζωή μας. Μαλιστα, αύριο είναι η εορτή της Κοιμήσεως της Θεοτόκου.

Το Μυστήριο του Γάμου είναι το ιδανικό πλαίσιο για συνεργασία με τον Θεό. Ενωμένη με τον Χριστό, η «Εικόνα του Θεού» του ανδρός ενώνεται με την «Εικόνα του Θεού» της γυναίκας, για να δημιουργηθούν νέοι ναοί του Θεού, που είναι τα παιδιά μας. Για αυτό πρέπει να τα αναστήσουμε ως μέλη της Εκκλησίας.

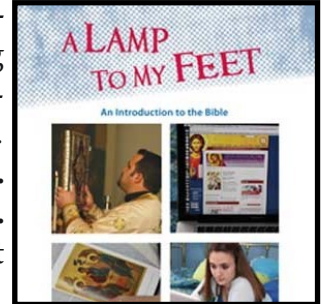
Ως ναοί του Θεού, τα σώματα και οι ψυχές μας δεν πρέπει να βεβηλώνονται από κακοποίηση, φόνο, διαφθορά ή καύση. Ως εκ τούτου, στο βαθμό που η αμαρτία διαφθείρει την Εικόνα της αγάπης του Θεού μέσα μας, είμεθα υποκείμενοι στο κακό. Ο λόγος για συνεχή προσευχή και ειλικρινή λατρεία είναι να διατηρήσουμε την ιερότητα του «ναού» μας προς δόξαν Θεού.

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATED PARISH DIRECTORY - Wednesday, August 17th is the **absolute last day** for our office to receive the Parish Directory Participation Form from parishioners. We will be going to print within the week. On the Participation Form, each parishioner may indicate if he or she does not want to be listed, or only wants a phone number listed and/or email address listed. **Please contact our parish at: (760) 568-9901 or pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com** for more information regarding participation in our upcoming new parish directory.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RENEWAL WITH OPEN ARMS - We look forward to sharing our **Sunday School "Renewal Program"** on Sunday, August 21st following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. New materials & Sunday School lesson structure will be introduced. All parents, grandparents and children are welcome. Lunch will be provided. **Please R.S.V.P. by Friday, August 19th** by contacting **Fr. Ted** at ftr.j.pantels@gmail.com; **Presbytera Petula** at limonatahugo@gmail.com, or **Mrs. Athena Snarskis** at athna2@aol.com. R.S.V.P. can also be made by calling at (760) 568-9901.



PHILOPTOCHOS – Our St. George Philoptochos has partnered with The Narrow Door, an Indio-based non-profit committed to helping families in need and the homeless. Donations of food (non-perishable and within the expiration dates) may be dropped off at our parish hall throughout this month. A \$40 donation will provide a food box for a family of four. Please see our "Food Pantry Donations" flier in our parish hall for more details.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Tonight.....Great Vespers - 6:00 p.m.

Monday, August 15th.....THE DORMITION OF THE MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS
Orthros -8:30 a.m./ Divine Liturgy - 9:30 a.m.

Tuesday, August 16th.....Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, August 17th. Last day for Parish Directory Participation Forms.

SPECIAL NOTE & "SAVE THE DATES"

SPECIAL NOTE: *PARISH CHANGE OF ADDRESS* Beginning in **September 2022**, our parish Post Office Box 4755 will no longer be in use. **Regular postage mail** will be delivered to our **new parish mail box** with all mail being addressed to:

*St. George Greek Orthodox Church
74-109 Larrea St.
Palm Desert, California 92260*

SAVE THE DATES!

St. George Greek Festival - February 18-19, 2023--Our **2023 St. George Greek Festival** is scheduled to be held on **Saturday, February 18, 2023** and **Sunday, February 19, 2023**. More details are to follow. Plan from now on volunteering time, treasure and talent for the success of our Greek Festival!

St. George Golf Tournament - April 22, 2023--On **Saturday, April 22, 2023**, our annual **St. George Golf Tournament** will be held at **Desert Willow Golf Resort** in Palm Desert. We are grateful for the great number of golfers who participated in our tournament this past year. Let us each do our part to continually make our St. George Golf Tournaments a great success!

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

OUR PARISH MASTER CALENDAR 2022-2023 IS TAKING SHAPE! – As we enter the months of August and September 2022, we find the St. George Parish Master Calendar for 2022-2023 taking shape. Below are the dates and events scheduled for the remainder of 2022 and into 2023. Please consult our parish office or Fr. Ted with regard to baptism and wedding requests for the months ahead.

August 1- 31, 2022 – Philoptochos August Food & Clothing Drive

August 21, 2022– Sunday School Renewal With Open Arms (following celebration of the Divine Liturgy)

Sunday, September 17, 2022– Philoptochos Hygiene Kits & Food Boxing for the Hungry

Sunday, September 18, 2022 – Chanters, Readers and Choir Members: Introductory Session (following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy).

Sunday, September 25, 2022 – Sunday School Begins

Sunday, October 2, 2022 – St. George Parish “Coffee Hour” Open Meeting for Parish Spiritual Renewal for 2022-2023; Philoptochos “Socktober” Drive Begins.

Saturday, October 8, 2022–St. George joins in “Paint El Paseo Pink” Walk for cure of breast cancer.

Sunday, October 16, 2022 – “Bring-a-Friend-to-Church” Sunday

Saturday, November 12, 2022 – St. George Parish Fall Retreat

Saturday, December 3, 2022 – Philoptochos Christmas Luncheon, Holiday Party

Sunday, December 18, 2022 -- Sunday School Christmas Program (following celebration of D. Liturgy)

Saturday, December 31, 2022– AHEPA 528 New Year’s Eve Dinner

Sunday, January 8, 2023 – Philoptochos Vasilopita

Saturday, January 21 or 28th – AHEPA District 20 Mid-Winter Conference

February 18-19, 2023 – St. George Greek Festival

Monday, February 27, 2023– Great Lent Begins

Saturday, March 18, 2023 – St. George Parish Lenten Retreat

Saturday, April 9– Sunday, April 16, 2023 – Holy Week and Pascha

Saturday, April 22, 2023 – St. George Golf Tournament

Sunday, April 23, 2023 – St. George Feast Day