

**NOVEMBER 13, 2022**

**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)**

**Mailing Address:**  
74-109 Larrea St.  
Palm Desert, CA.92260  
Tel: (760) 568-9901  
or: (760) 880-5869

– 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 -Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2**

Brethren, it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever. Now the point in what we are saying is this: we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven, a minister in the sanctuary and the true tent which is set up not by man but by the Lord.

**GOSPEL - St. Luke 10:25-37**

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read?" And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and

with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have answered right; do this, and you will live." But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was; and when he saw him, he had compassion, and went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; then he set him on his own beast and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' Which of these three, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

**ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM**—Today we commemorate **St. John Chrysostom** (347-407). He was Archbishop of Constantinople, serving as a notable Christian hierarch and preacher from the fourth and fifth centuries in Syria and Constantinople. He is famous for his eloquence in public speaking, his philanthropy, and for the Divine Liturgy attributed to him. Collections of his inspiring and educational sermons are available in both print and online editions. The Orthodox Church commemorates him as one of the Three Great Hierarchs, along with St. Basil the Great and St. Gregory the Theologian on January 30th every year.

### Liturgical Notes for Today

At the Entrance of the Gospel: **1) Entrance Hymn:** "O faithful let us sing a hymn of praise and worship to the Logos, Who is coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, Who was born of the Virgin for our salvation. Of His own free will, He went upon the Cross in the flesh, and suffered death to raise the death through His glorious Resurrection." / Τον Συναναρχον Λογον...; **2)** "The grace of Your words illuminated the universe like a shining beacon. It amassed treasures of munificence in the world. It demonstrated the greatness of humility, teaching us by your own words; therefore, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede to Christ the Logos for the salvation of our souls." / Η του στοματος σου...; **3) Hymn for St. George.** **4) Kontakion Hymn:** "Today the most pure temple of the Savior, the precious bridal chamber and Virgin, the sacred treasure of the glory of God enters this house of the Lord bringing with Her the grace of the Divine Spirit. The angels of God praise Her. She is the heavenly tabernacle." / Ο Καθαρωτατος ναος...

### OUR "WOUNDED HEALER"

In today's Epistle passage, St. Paul notes that our Lord is our "High Priest," Who offers Himself willingly as a sacrifice for our lives. In today's Gospel, we hear about the "Good Samaritan." This outsider "Samaritan" is Christ our God Who takes upon Himself the burden of caring for the man who was beaten on the road to Jericho. This "man" represents all of us who are beaten up by the trials and temptations in this present life.

Let us remember that our Lord ascended the Cross with wounds all over His Sacred Body – each wound spiritually representing the wounds that we endure in body and soul as we go through life. Truly, our Lord participates in our wounds, as well as in our death, which means that the wounds of Christ our God heal our wounds and His death gives us life. Christ is with us in our pain and with us in our trials. We are not alone! In His presence, we find healing peace and strength.

As Christ endures our wounds with us, we are called to help heal the spiritual and even the physical wounds of one another. This begins with prayer; for, we are all created to be like God in the Spirit of love. In this reality, we can understand the prayer of the Divine Liturgy, recalling the words of our Lord, "Where two or three are gathered together in My Name, I am in the midst of them." Gathering together in the Lord's Name, i.e., participating together in the Divine Liturgy, places each of us in the presence of Christ our God – our "Wounded Healer." +FR. THEODORE

Στην σημερινή Ευαγγελικήν περικοπήν, ακούμε για τον «Καλόν Σαμαρείτη». Αυτός ο ξένος «Σαμαρείτης» είναι ο Χριστός που παίρνει επάνω Του το βάρος να βοηθήσει τον άνθρωπο που ξυλοκοπήθηκε στην οδό προς την Ιερικώ. Αυτός ο «άνθρωπος» αντιπροσωπεύει όλους εμάς που έχουμε χτυπηθεί από τις δοκιμασίες και τους πειρασμούς σε αυτή την παρούσαν ζωή.

Μάλιστα, ο Κύριος ανέβηκε επάνω στον Σταυρό με πληγές σε όλο Του το Ιερό Σώμα – κάθε πληγή αντιπροσωπεύει κατά πνευματικό τροπό τις πληγές που εμείς υπομένουμε σωματικώς και ψυχικώς καθώς περνάμε από αυτήν την επίγειον ζωή. Πραγματικά, ο Κύριος υπομένει μαζί μας τις πληγές μας, καθώς και το θάνατό μας, πράγμα που σημαίνει ότι οι πληγές του Χριστου ιατρούν τις πληγές μας και ο θάνατός Του μας δίνει ζωή. Ο Χριστός είναι μαζί μας στον πόνο μας και μαζί μας στις δοκιμασίες μας. Δεν είμεθα εγκαταλελειμμένοι! Στην παρουσία Του, βρίσκουμε θεραπευτική ειρήνη και ενίσχυση.

Καθώς ο Χριστός υπομένει τις πληγές μας μαζί μας, καλούμεθα να βοηθήσουμε ο ένας τον άλλον προς την θεραπείαν των πνευματικών και σωματικών πληγών μας. Αυτό χρειάζεται προσευχή, γιατί, όλοι μας είμεθα πλασμένοι να ομοιάσουμε τον Θεό εν Πνεύματι αγάπης. Σε αυτή την πραγματικότητα, μπορούμε να κατανοήσουμε την προσευχή της Θείας Λειτουργίας, υπενθυμίζοντας τα λόγια του Κυρίου, «Ο και δυοί και τρισί συμφωνούσιν επί τω Ονόματι Μου, είμαι κα' Εγώ εν τω μέσω αυτών.» Το να συγκεντρωνόμεθα εν Ονόματι του Κυρίου, δηλαδή να συμμετέχουμε μαζί στη εκτέλεση της Θείας Λειτουργίας, θέτει τον καθένα μας στην παρουσία του Χριστού, ο Οποίος είναι ο Αληθινός Θεός και ο «Πληγωμένος Θεραπευτής» μας. +Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

**MEMORIAL** – Today’s Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation for the servant of God, **Helen Dilberakis (6 months)**, the beloved mother of **Anastasia Dilberakis and Sophia Dilberakis**. Also today’s Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation for the servant of God **Anastasia Rellos, (3 years)**, the beloved daughter of **Maria and Bill Rellos**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Life and Salvation to **Helen Dilberakis and Anastasia Rellos** and may He grant peace and comfort to **Anastasia and Sophia Dilberakis**, as well as to **Maria and Bill Rellos**. **MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!**

### **WEEKDAY CALENDAR**

Monday, November 14th.....Philoptochos General Members Meeting – 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, November 15th.....Bible Study – 10:00 a.m.

### **UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**“SOCK-TOBER” - The Sock-Tober” Philoptochos socks-drive ends today.** We are taking donations of new men’s & women’s socks to be distributed to the homeless through The Narrow Door and the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. A \$20 donation buys 18-20 pairs of socks!

**FAMILY SUNDAY & GREEK FOLK DANCE GROUP – Today is “Family Sunday” Sunday School** following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Along with lessons showing how our Church worship services are expressions of thanksgiving to God for His blessings, we will introduce the topics for our annual Christmas Program, which will take place in December. **Following “Family Sunday” all students are invited to join our Greek Folk Dance group. Lunch will be provided for parents and students.**

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY** - Please note that our **St. George Fall General Assembly** will be held **next Sunday, November 20, 2022** following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. To participate, we ask one and all to be sure that their **2022 Stewardship Commitment is up to date.**

**ST. GEORGE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD** - Enclosed is a **“St. George Community Christmas Card Participation Form.”** Deadline for submission is November 25th.

**PHILOPTOCHOS CHRISTMAS PARTY** - **December 10, 2022** at the **Sun City Club House, 38180 Del Webb Boulevard -- 11:30 a.m.** See enclosed flyer.

### PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS

o **Monday, November 14th at 11:30 AM** - The Philoptochos General Members Meeting will be held this Monday with lunch served at 11:30 am and the meeting to follow beginning at 12:00 pm. This will be the last meeting for the year!

Please attend!

o **The Narrow Door Food Bank** is in desperate need of **1 and 2 pound bags or boxes of rice** before Thanksgiving! Please drop off at the church hall from today through November 20th.

o We are looking for volunteers to help with **Koulourakia baking** on **Tuesday & Thursday, November 15th & 17th**. There will be two shifts...morning shift 8:00am-12:00 pm & afternoon shift 1:00 pm-5:00 pm. Please contact Tina Veroulis or Rhonda Latkovic.



**GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA**  
**ARCHEPISCOPAL ENCYCLICAL**

Prot. No. 252/2022

**Archiepiscopal Encyclical for National Philoptochos Sunday**

November 13, 2022

*Commemoration of the Parable of the Good Samaritan (8th Sunday of Luke)*

Unto...the entirety of the Christ-named Plenitude of the Holy Archdiocese of America:

*Is there no balm in Gilead, is there no physician there? (Jeremiah 8:22)*

Beloved Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We celebrate National Philoptochos Sunday on the day that we remember the parable of the “Good Samaritan,” when mercy and unconditional compassion are manifest as the highest Christian virtues. A stranger was robbed and wounded, left for dead. And another stranger, a Samaritan, changes the course of the man’s life. He refuses to pass by, as did the so-called religious figures in the parable. The Samaritan answers the question that the Prophet Jeremiah poses: “Is there no balm in Gilead?” And he answers in a resounding “Yes, there is!”

So it is also with our Philoptochos societies from coast to coast. They apply the balm of love and compassion to all who come their way, and particularly to the vital philanthropic ministries of the Mother Church of Constantinople. Especially in this year when the Balıklı Hospital has experienced such a devastating fire, I encourage all of you to be generous with Philoptochos, who never fail to provide for these charitable causes.

The Philoptochos knows the essence of the American Spiritual, “There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole.” They know how to bring healing to individuals and communities who have experienced trauma. Let us give thanks to the Lord that these “Good Samaritans” are in our midst – making our Church even more loving and merciful every day – and offer to them our support, our resources and our cooperation.

With paternal love in our Lord Jesus Christ,  
† ELPIDOPHOROS  
Archbishop of America

# FAMILY SUNDAY SCHOOL EVENT

(NOT ON NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> AS PLANNED)

**NEW  
DATE**

**TOMORROW**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2022**

**Sunday School  
Families & Friends  
Welcome!**

(immediately after Holy  
Communion until 12:00 p.m.)

## 2 SERVICE PROJECTS!

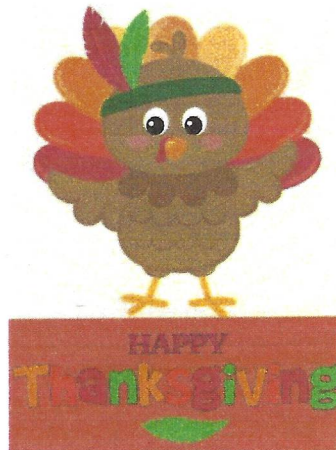
Thanksgiving project for  
homebound parishoners and  
SOCK-TOBER pacakaging (see below)

**TACO  
FIESTA  
LUNCH!**



***Give thanks to  
the Lord, for He  
is good: For His  
mercy endures  
forever. Amen +***

**Psalm 117**



## **"SOCK-TOBER"**

DONATION EVENT for the HOMELESS  
October 2nd-23rd

Extended until Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>

- o Did you know that the number 1 needed clothing item for a homeless person is a pair of socks?
- o Please help the St. George Ladies Philoptochos provide new socks to Coachella Valley Rescue Mission for the in-program residents & homeless population in the east valley.
- o Deposit new socks in the bins provided that are located in the church hall. Monetary donations can be made & we will do the shopping if you are not able.
- o Both women & mens socks are needed in Casual or Dress styles. Please donate only new socks!

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## **PLEASE RSVP:**

MRS. ATHENA - [Athna2@aol.com](mailto:Athna2@aol.com) or 219-313-6940



Dear Parishioners,

Once again, our community of St George Greek Orthodox Church of the Desert will be preparing a Parish Christmas Card. We are certain that all of you will want to participate in this very popular and meaningful Christmas Blessing.

Please join the many families of our parish in expressing Christmas Greetings to fellow members and friends by completing this form. A donation of \$20.00 should be enclosed along with this form and made payable to St. George Greek Orthodox Church of the Desert. You can mail it to 74109 Larrea St., Palm Desert, CA 92261 or give to Tina Veroulis in the office. We would appreciate the return of the form by November 25, 2022.

Please print your name, as you would like it to appear on the card on the line below. (PLEASE PRINT)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline: November 25, 2022

# *Philoptochos Christmas Party*

**12/10/22 11:30 AM**

**Sun City Clubhouse**

**38180 Del Webb Blvd, Palm Desert**



*Please Join Us! Bring a Friend!*

Luncheon Price \$45.00 per person includes:

Appetizers, buffet luncheon with tri-tip steak & baked fish, salad, potatoes & rice pilaf, seasonal vegetables, & bread plus a surprise dessert along with a sheet cake. (coffee, iced tea & water included.) \*Vegan or vegetarian meal option is available.

***Cash Bar! Music! Hostess Gift! Raffle!***

\*\*\*\*\*

I am attending: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

I am bringing a guest: (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Total Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Type: (Cash) \_\_\_\_\_ Check \_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer a: Vegan Meal/Vegetarian Meal (circle one)

\*\*\*\*\*

**\*RSVP by December 4th**



# Christmas "Unwrapped"



A fast-paced three-part mini series  
on the theology, history,  
and traditions of the Christmas season  
with Father Angelo Maginas

Monday evenings

7:30-8:30 pm via Zoom

Nov 28, Dec 5, Dec 12

Register at:

[Orthodoxy.com/Register](https://Orthodoxy.com/Register)

