



## 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:

P.O. Box 4755

Palm Desert,

CA.92261

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 - 2 Corinthians 6:16-18; 7:1

GOSPEL - St. Luke 7-11-16

Brethren, you are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will live in them and move among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Therefore come out from them, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch nothing unclean; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty." Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, and make holiness perfect in the fear of God.

At that time, Jesus went to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow; and a large crowd from the city was with her. And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." And he came and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And the dead man sat up, and began to speak. And he gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all; and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!"

**ST. JAMES THE APOSTLE, SON OF ALPHEAUS** – The Holy Apostle James was the son of Alphaeus and one of the twelve. He was the brother of the holy Evangelist Matthew. The Church commemorates the Apostle James every year on October 9th – today. After the Descent of the Holy Spirit the Apostle James, Alphaeus, and the Apostle Andrew the First-Called (November 30) made missionary journeys throughout Judea, Edessa, Gaza, and Eleutheropolis, proclaiming the Gospel, healing all sorts of sickness and disease, and converting many to the path of salvation.

-- Taken in part from: [https://orthodoxwiki.org/Apostle\\_James\\_\(son\\_of\\_Alphaeus\)](https://orthodoxwiki.org/Apostle_James_(son_of_Alphaeus))

**MEMORIAL** - Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Rest and Salvation for the servant of God, **Emily Tcharos (40 days)**, the beloved wife of our departed brother in Christ, **George Tcharos** and mother of **Nicholas Tcharos** and **Stephanie Kourakis**, as well as the grandmother of **Theoharis** and **Alexander Tcharos** and **Jacob** and **Anisia Kourakis**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Life and Salvation to **Emily Tcharos** and grant peace and comfort to **Nicholas Tcharos** and **Stephanie Kourakis** and the entire family.  
**MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**





### 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. O Lord, You are our life and our resurrection, glory to You/Εξ υψους κατηλθες...; **2)** "O Holy Apostle Iakovos, intercede to our merciful God that He may grant our souls forgiveness of sins."/Αποστολε Αγιε Ιακωβε...**3) Hymn for St. George.** **4) Kontakion Hymn:** "Champion of Christians put not to shame, advocate before the Maker always steadfast, do not spurn sinners' voices raised in prayer. In your goodness respond to bring help to us who devoutly petition you. Hasten you intercession and urgently make entreaty; for you unfailingly defend, Theotokos, those who honor you."/Προστασια των Χριστιανων...

### TOWARD THE HEALING OF OUR SOULS

The ultimate evil is death itself, the cause of which is sin (estrangement from God through thoughts, words and deeds). In today's Gospel, the young man who died was the only son of a widow. Our Savior chose this occasion to emphasize His own ministry for the salvation of humanity. Just as the widow wept because her only son had died, so the whole world weeps at the loss of loved ones. Even the Most Holy Theotokos wept at the foot of our Lord's Cross. However, by raising the young man back to life, our Lord tells us that He is our Life-Giving God, Who Himself will conquer death by His own death, and raise us to life with Him in His Holy Resurrection. As the widow's sorrow turned to joy with the life of her son, so the sorrow of the Holy Theotokos (and of all of humanity) will turn to joy with the Resurrection of Christ our God.

In that death is the result of sin, St. Paul urges us to "cleanse ourselves of every defilement of soul and body." (2 Corinthians 7:1). I like what we read in the *Orthodox Study Bible* regarding these words: "An escape from filthiness requires more than thinking repentant thoughts. For, we are enmeshed in a spiritual war zone, entrenched in patterns of sin that become habitual. Often, darkness becomes imprinted in our souls and bodies so that even our wills are bypassed and we sin automatically. To cleanse ourselves means that, by the promises of God, we embark on a sustained struggle for holiness. This cleansing includes genuine sorrow for our sins, confession, and repentance. It means a willful avoidance of sin-arousing situations, reconciliation with those we have wronged, the resolute practice of Christian virtue, and cleaving to God through faith and prayer. It calls us to participation in the holy Sacraments...It is the Holy Spirit Who cleanses us from every stain and heals our infirmities..."

+FR. THEODORE

Το απόλυτο κακό είναι ο ίδιος ο θάνατος, αιτία του οποίου είναι η αμαρτία (αποξένωση από τον Θεό μέσω σκέψεων, λόγων και πράξεων). Κατά την σημερινή Ευαγγελική περικοπή, γνωρίζομε το περιστατικό της αναστάσεως ενός νεαρού — υιός μιάς χήρας. Ο Ιησούς διάλεξε αυτή την ευκαιρία για να τονίσει τη δική Του διακονία προς σωτηρίαν της ανθρωπότητας. Όπως η χήρα έκλαψε επειδή απέθανε ο μόνος υιός της, έτσι και όλος ο κόσμος κλαίει για την απώλεια αγαπημένων προσώπων. Ωστόσο, αναστώντας τον νεαρό στη ζωή, ο Χριστός διδάσκει ότι είναι ο Ιδιος ο Ζωοδόχος Θεός μας, ο Οποίος ενίκησε τον θάνατο με τον δικό Του θάνατο για να μας αναστήσει στη ζωήν της Αιωνίου Βασιλείας Του. Όπως η λύπη της χήρας μετατράπηκε σε χαρά με τη ζωή του υιού της, έτσι και η λύπη της Υπεραγίας Θεοτόκου (και όλης της ανθρωπότητας) θα μετατραπεί σε χαρά με την Ανάσταση του Χριστού.

Ο Αγ. Παύλος μας προτρέπει να «καθαρίσουμε τους εαυτούς μας από κάθε μόλυσμα ψυχής και σώματος». (2 Κορ. 7:1). Οι Ορθόδοξοι θεολόγοι γράφουν στο *Orthodox Study Bible*: «Η απόδραση από τη βρωμιά απαιτεί περισσότερα από το να σκέπτεσαι μετανοιωμένες σκέψεις. Διότι, βρισκόμεθα μπλεγμένοι σε μια πνευματική εμπόλεμη κατάσταση, εδραιωμένη σε πρότυπα αμαρτίας που γίνονται συνηθισμένα. Συχνά, το σκοτάδι αποτυπώνεται στις ψυχές και τα σώματά μας, έτσι ώστε ακόμη και η δική μας θέληση παρακάμπτεται και αμαρτάμε αυτόματα. Το να καθαρίσουμε τον εαυτό μας σημαίνει ότι, με τις υποσχέσεις του Θεού, ξεκινάμε έναν διαρκή αγώνα για αγιότητα. Αυτή η κάθαρση περιλαμβάνει γνήσια θλίψη για τις αμαρτίες μας, εξομολόγηση και μετάνοια. Σημαίνει ηθελημένη αποφυγή καταστάσεων που προκαλούν αμαρτία, συμφιλίωση με αυτούς που αδικήσαμε, αποφασιστική άσκηση της χριστιανικής αρετής και προσκόλληση στον Θεό μέσω της πίστεως και της προσευχής. Μας καλεί να συμμετάσχουμε στα ιερά Μυστήρια... Το Αγ. Πνεύμα είναι που μας καθαρίζει από κάθε κηλίδα και θεραπεύει τις ασθένειές μας...»

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ



Tuesday, October 11th.....Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.

AHEPA Meeting – 6:00 p.m. (Bible Study), 6:30 p.m. (Meeting)

#### **PHILOPTOCHOS ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1). Our “Sock-Tober” event runs the month of October. We are taking donations of new men’s & women’s socks to be distributed at month end to The Narrow Door and Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. A \$20 donation buys 18-20 pairs of socks!

2). Philoptochos will offer a special coffee hour next Sunday, October 16th for the “Bring a Friend” stewardship event. Anyone interested in helping out please contact Rhonda.

3). SAVE. THE. DATE. November 4, 2022. Philoptochos is sponsoring a “Welcome Back to the Desert” cocktail party from 4-6 pm. More info to follow.

**BRING-A-FRIEND-TO-CHURCH SUNDAY** – Sunday, October 16th is our Fall “Bring-a-Friend-to-Church” Sunday. All parishioners of St. George are asked to invite a friend to join us for worship in our beautiful St. George Church temple. We look forward to introducing our visitors to our congregation during our special coffee hour held in their honor. (See enclosed flier.)

**“SUPER SUNDAY” SUNDAY SCHOOL** – Next Sunday, October 16th (and adult religious discussion group) Lunch will be provided! – See enclosed flier.

**PROJECT MEXICO SUNDAY: OCTOBER 23rd** – Fr. Nicholas Andruchow, executive director of Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage, will be joining us to co-celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, October 23rd and will speak about the Orthodox Christian ministry to orphans in Mexico, many of whom have grown to become members of our Greek Orthodox Church throughout our country and the world. Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage is a ministry under the auspices of our Holy Greek Orthodox Archdiocese. Fr. Nicholas will also offer a special informational program during our coffee hour.

**WELCOME BACK TO THE DESERT RECEPTION** – We want to welcome back our snowbirds with a special reception on Friday, November 4th. Our parish Philoptochos is organizing a “Greek-Style” welcome back reception at our parish hall from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited. Please R.S.V.P. by texting or calling Rhonda Latkovic or our parish office at (760) 568-9901.

**PAN-ORTHODOX CELEBRATION OF THE DIVINE LITURGY** – The Sts. Michael and Gabriel Romanian Orthodox parishioners from Palm Springs will be joining us for the celebration of the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, November 6, 2022. Their fundraiser for construction of their new church edifice on Vella Rd. in Palm Springs will be held in our St. George parish hall.

**ST. GEORGE PARISH FALL SPIRITUAL RETREAT** – Please reserve Saturday, November 12, 2022 to join in our St. George Parish Fall Retreat. The theme is: “Understanding, the Divine Liturgy.” The day will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m., with a superb lunch being served for all in attendance....Our speaker for our Fall Retreat is Dr. Eve Tibbs. Dr. Tibbs received her PhD from Fuller Theological Seminary and she is the affiliate assistant professor of theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. She just recently authored a most educational book about our Greek Orthodox Faith, entitled, *A Basic Guide to Eastern Orthodox Theology*. In addition, Eve Tibbs is the director of our Metropolis of San Francisco Christian Education Ministry.

**PHILOPTOCHOS CHRISTMAS PARTY** – December 10, 2022 at Sun City Clubhouse 38180 Del Webb Blvd. – 11:30 a.m ....See enclosed flier!

# Bring A Friend Sunday

*You're Invited!*

October 16, 2022  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy  
10:30 AM Social Hour & Meet-n-Greet

St. George Greek Orthodox Church of the  
Desert  
74109 Larrea St., Palm Desert, CA 92260





# St. George Greek Orthodox Church

## Fall Parish Retreat

Saturday, November 12, 2022

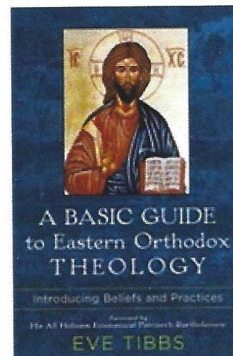
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Luncheon included\*)

OUR THEME FOR THE YEAR:  
UNDERSTANDING THE DIVINE LITURGY

**Our Speaker is Dr. Eve Tibbs**

**Dr. Tibbs is the celebrated author of the newly published book, *A Basic Guide to Eastern Orthodox Theology*.**

Copies of Dr. Eve Tibbs' book will be available in our parish book store. In addition, Dr. Tibbs is the affiliate assistant professor of theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. and the director of our Metropolis of San Francisco Christian Education Ministry.



**The Topics for the day:**

- 1) "Why Do We Worship the Way We Do?"
- 2) "Understanding the Great Feasts Through Icons and Hymns"

**Dr. Tibbs' presentations are fast-moving, interactive, visually interesting, and accessible!**

St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 74-109 Larrea Street, Palm Desert, California 92260  
Phone: (760) 568-9901

\*Registration: \$10.00 payable to St. George Greek Orthodox Church

ST GEORGE SUNDAY SCHOOL

# FAMILY SUNDAYS

**SAVE THE DATES**

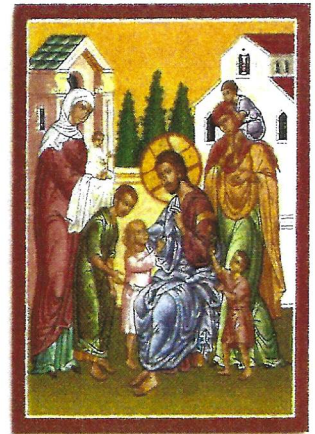
**September 25<sup>th</sup> – Sunday School begin!**

**October 16<sup>th</sup> – Bring a friend Sunday & Pumpkin painting!**

**November 20<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving event**

**December 11<sup>th</sup> – Christmas event**

- Immediately after receiving Holy Communion proceed to classrooms for a one-hour session to include religious education, activities and lunch for all students and their families.
- This also includes Special Service Projects with guidance from our Philoptochos.
- In addition to these Family Sundays, a Sunday School lesson will be mailed each week for the purpose of growing in God's love together as a family.



**PLEASE RSVP to:**

Fr. Ted Pantels

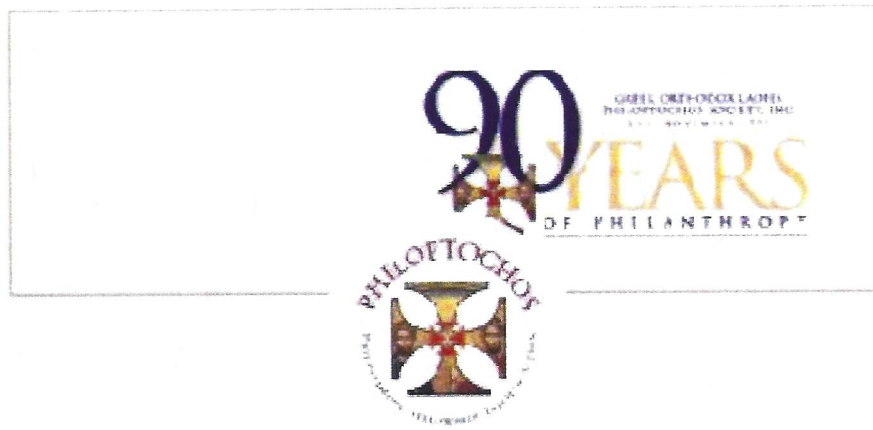
[frt.j.pantels@gmail.com](mailto:frt.j.pantels@gmail.com) or (760) 880-5869

Presbytera Petula Pantels [limonatahugo@gmail.com](mailto:limonatahugo@gmail.com) or (909) 539-7542

Mrs. Athena Snarskis

[athna2@aol.com](mailto:athna2@aol.com) or (219) 313-6940





## **“SOCK-TOBER”**

### DONATION EVENT for the HOMELESS October 2nd-23rd

- 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!



# ***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**