



APRIL 2, 2023

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street

Palm Desert, California 92260

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74-109 Larrea St.
Palm Desert, CA.92260
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—Hebrews 9:11-14

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) he entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

GOSPEL— St. Mark 10:32-45

At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death, and deliver him to the Gentiles; and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise." And

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him, and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant of James and John. And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Liturgical Notes for Today

At the Entrance of the Gospel: 1) **Entrance hymn:** "O Savior, Your tomb was sealed by the Jews with a stone; soldiers kept watch over Your Sacred Body. Yet, You rose on the third day giving life to Your world. Wherefore the powers of heaven cried out to You, O Giver of life: 'Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ; Glory to Your Kingdom; Glory to Your dispensation, Who are alone the loving One.'" /Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος...

2) "God's Image was perfectly preserved in you, O Mother. For, taking up the Cross, you followed Christ. You taught us by example to disdain the flesh, which is a passing thing, but to see the soul which is immortal. Wherefore, O Holy Mary, your spirit rejoices with the angels." /Εν σοι μήτηρ ακριβώς...

3) "Since you are a deliverer of captives..." [Hymn of St. George] /Ως των αιχμαλώτων ελευθερωτής...

4) **Kontakion:** "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 your intercession and urgently make entreaty; for you unfailingly defend, Theotokos, those who honor you." /Προστασία των Χριστιανών...

"FOR THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE SERVED BUT TO SERVE"

Meaning in life is not based on whether people serve our needs and desires; it is based on what we do for others. This notion is expressed in the motto quoted in various hospitals and clinics, reminding doctors and nurses of the basis upon which their identity is founded: "No one cares how much you know until they know how much you care." This motto applies to us clergy, as well as to each of you, regardless of your walk in life. To care means to serve. We cannot serve God or anyone if we do not care. Indeed, when we care, our energies are poured into putting our care into action. This is the whole motivation behind our quests to be trained or educated, so that we can be qualified to offer care.

Care is also a two-way street. The Church cares for our welfare and salvation. However, if we do not care, nothing happens. Today, the Church places before us the vivid image of repentance in the person of St. Mary of Egypt, whom we commemorate today. With this, the Church wants no one to despair of his or her salvation. Instead, we always have hope as long as we turn to Christ our God, Who opened for us the way of repentance for our salvation by voluntarily ascending the Cross. In caring more for God's Will to be done than for her own will, St. Mary teaches us, by example, that each and every one of us can become like the angels in heaven, while still bearing flesh. The question is this: Do we care enough to inspire others to glorify God by connecting ourselves to the love of Christ through His Holy Church? Like all of our saints, St. Mary of Egypt reminds us to this day that Orthodox Christianity is not a philosophy, nor an institution, but a God-centered mentality, or worldview, guiding us through our daily lives. Let us open our minds and hearts to embrace a saintly mentality. +FR. THEODORE

Ο σκοπός της ζωής μας δεν βασίζεται στο εάν οι άνθρωποι εξυπηρετούν τις δικές μας ανάγκες και επιθυμίες. Βασίζεται στην υπηρεσία μας προς συμφερον άλλων προσώπων. Αυτή η νοοτροπία εκφράζεται με το ρητόν που παρατίθεται σε διάφορα νοσοκομεία και κλινικές, υπενθυμίζοντας στους ιατρούς και στις νοσοκόμες την βάση επάνω στην οποία βασίζεται η ταυτότητά τους: «Ο άνθρωπος δεν ενδιαφέρεται να ξέρει τα δικά σου τάλαντα, μέχρι που να μάθει πόσο ενδιαφέρεσαι εσύ για την δική του υγείαν». Αυτό το ρητόν ισχύει για όλους μας. Δεν μπορούμε να υπηρετήσουμε τον Θεό ή κανέναν εάν δεν μας ενδιαφέρει να προσφέρουμε την κατάλληλη υπηρεσία. Πράγματι, όταν έχουμε επιμέλεια προς το όφελος του συνανθρώπου μας, οι ενέργειές μας τίθονται στην εφαρμογή της βοήθειας. Αυτό είναι το όλο κίνητρο πίσω από τις αναζητήσεις μας να εκπαιδευθούμε ή να μορφωθούμε, ώστε να έχουμε τα προσόντα να προσφέρουμε καλές υπηρεσίες σε άλλους.

Φροντίζοντας περισσότερο να γίνει το Θέλημα του Θεού παρά να γίνει το δικό της θέλημα, η Αγία Μαρία της Αιγυπτίας, την οποία μνημονεύουμε σήμερα, μας διδάσκει με το παράδειγμά της, ότι ο καθένας μπορεί να γίνει σαν τους αγγέλους, ενώ ευρίσκεται ακόμα στη δική του σάρκα. Το ερώτημα είναι το εξής: Μας ενδιαφέρει αρκετά να εμπνεύσουμε άλλους να δοξάσουν τον Θεό συνδέοντας τον

Συνέχεια στην επόμενη σελίδα - - - -->

εαυτό μας με την αγάπη του Χριστού δια μέσου της Αγίας Αυτού Εκκλησίας; Όπως όλοι οι άγιοι, η Αγία Μαρία της Αιγυπτίας μας υπενθυμίζει μέχρι σήμερα ότι ο Ορθόδοξος Χριστιανισμός δεν είναι απλώς μια φιλοσοφία, ούτε ένας θεσμός της κοινωνίας, αλλά μία ολόκληρη θεοκεντρική νοοτροπία που μας καθοδηγεί στην καθημερινή ζωή μας. Ας είμεθα ψυχικώς έτοιμοι να ασπαζόμεθα τη νοοτροπία των αγίων.
+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

MEMORIAL – Today’s Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation for **Christos P. Panopoulos** (1 year), the beloved husband of **Joan Panopoulos**. He is survived by his beloved wife, **Joan**; his 4 daughters: **Paula (late Mark) Hurd, Thania Panopoulos, Alicia (Evan) Magas, Christa (Jason) Bird**. He is also survived by 8 grandchildren: **Kelly (Tommy), Kathryn, Nicholas, Jenna, Christos, Sophia, Thano**; his great grandson, **Cooper**, and great granddaughter, **Carson**. Also, today’s Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation of **Chris Laskaris** (2 years), beloved husband of **Annette Laskaris**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Life to our beloved **Christos P. Panopoulos** and **Chris Laskaris** and may He grant peace and comfort to **Joan Panopoulos** and **Annette Laskaris** and to their entire families. **MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!**

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 4th...Bible Study - 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 5th..PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY – 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 7th.....PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY – 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 8th.....SATURDAY OF LAZARUS

Orthros -8:30 a.m./ Divine Liturgy -9:30 a.m.

Arrangement of Palm Crosses – 11:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Following a brief cup of coffee today after the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, parishioners are invited to join our once-a-month **Agiasmo Service (Holy Water)** in church, beginning at **11:15 a.m.**
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** -- This coming **Friday, April 7th** join us for our **Sunday School Holy Week Retreat**. See enclosed flyer
- **PHILOPTOCHOS**- Please note the enclosed April Outreach Project: We are collecting non-perishable food to benefit families in need. Also...the Philoptochos will have a table set up after church to sell **Luminary Candles for Holy Friday**. See enclosed flyers – one side is for health of family/friends; the other side is for eternal memory of family/friends who have departed this life.
- **AHEPA** - Our AHEPA Chapter 528 is accepting student applications for the **AHEPA 528 Fr. T. P. Theophilos Memorial Scholarship**. **Applications are due now**. **Do not delay another week!** Please see our AHEPA 528 website at ahepa528.org to download a copy of the application. Applications are also available in our parish hall. Scholarships will be announced and delivered on AHEPA Sunday in May.
- **BOOK STORE** - Holy Week Books are available in our parish book store.
- **ST. GEORGE GOLF TOURNAMENT** - Our St. George Golf Tournament will be held on **Saturday, April 22, 2023** at the **Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Desert**. Enclosed is the registration and reservation form. We ask everyone to help make this event successful by having golfers register for the tournament and making reservations for the awards dinner which will follow. In addition, we are in need of silent auction items for the awards dinner ceremony.

HOLY WEEK NEEDS

Holy Week begins one week from today, with the celebration of Palm Sunday. As we turn our attention to Holy Week preparations, parishioners may donate various liturgical needs for the performance of our Sacred Holy Week services:

- . The cost of flowers for the decoration of the Epitaphio and Holy Week Icons.
- . Altar Candles for Pascha
- . A white linen sheet for the Service of the Unnailing of Christ from the Cross on Holy Friday.
- . The cost for the candles and candle cups for Holy Friday and Holy Saturday night services.
- . The cost for Easter lilies on Pascha.
- . Rose water for the Epitaphio Service on Holy Friday night.
- . Those who want to serve as readers for Holy Week services are welcome to participate. In addition, volunteers are needed to carry the Epitaphio; to help decorate the Epitaphio and Holy Week Icons; to offer prosforo, etc.

Please see **Fr. Ted**, or **contact him at (760) 880-5869**, to indicate the items that you would like to offer to Christ our God in our celebration of His death and Resurrection for our Eternal Salvation.

ST. GEORGE SUNDAY SCHOOL, PALM DESERT, CA

YOU'RE INVITED TO OUR

LENTEN RETREAT

FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH 2023

PS - K 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

1st to HS 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**RSVP : Mrs. Athena
219.313.6940 or Athna2@aol.com**

COME JOIN

- **Fr Ted & Presb. Petula Pantel,**
- **Deacon Euthym & Deaconess Krisann Kontaxis,**
- **Mrs. Athena Snarskis & Mrs. Alex Pappas**

Easter BAKE SALE

Ladies Philoptochos Society, Chapter 4035



Koulourakia
\$10.00 per dozen
with or w/o sesame



Baklava
\$14.00 per 4 pcs.
box



Easter Bread
\$20.00 per 2 lb. loaf
with or w/o dyed
egg

Easter Bake Sale - Palm Sunday 4/9

We will be selling Greek pastries & bread after church services on Palm Sunday, April 9th.

We have limited quantities of Easter bake sale items available, so please plan on getting your pastries & bread on this day.

Contact Tina Veroulis @ (406) 431-9516 for alternate pick-up dates/times.

1

PALM SUNDAY SALE

April 9th-Available after church services in the hall.

2

ALTERNATE PICK-UP DATE/TIME

Contact Tina Veroulis
tel. (406) 431-9516

3

CASH, CHECK, OR CREDIT CARD

Pay any one of three ways.



Luminary Candles to Light the Church on Holy Friday

*Let's light the path around our Church during **Holy Friday Evening** services with the names of our loved ones who have passed on or our wishes for the health of our family and friends.*

Each candle-lit bag will be personalized with either: "In Memory" (name) or "In Health" (name) depending on your choice.

There is a \$10 donation for each luminary bag and up to two names maximum may be displayed on a bag.

Luminary Orders will be taken beginning Sunday, March 26th to April 9th.

Please complete your form, make your check payable to St. George Ladies Philoptochos and either mail back the form & your check or give it in person to the church office or a Philoptochos board member. Project Chairperson: Margarita Pagoulatos.

Total Bags _____ **Donation Amt. Total \$** _____
Check _____ **Cash** _____ **Credit Card** _____

\$10 Luminary "In Memory" (Max of 2 names for each luminary bag)

Ordered By: _____

Contact Info (Tel. or email): _____

Name 1: Last _____ First _____

Name 2: Last _____ First _____

PHILO STRONG

St. George Ladies Philoptochos | Palm Desert, CA | Chapter 4035

Next General Meeting April 24th

Our next General Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 24th at 11:30 AM in the church hall. Please plan on attending this important meeting as we will be holding Philoptochos board elections for the 2023-2025 term. See pg. 3/4 for election notice & list.

March Diaper Drive

This March we are taking donations for diapers and diaper wipes that will be given to the local Birth Choice of the Desert organization to benefit new moms and their babies. The most needed diaper sizes are 4 thru 6. The diaper drive ends on March 31st.

April Food Bank Drive

The month of April, we will be collecting non-perishable food to be donated to The Narrow Door Food Bank. The two most needed items are 1 pound bags of rice and beans.



Membership & Aloha!

Over 50 current & new Philoptochos members attended our annual membership event on Saturday, March 11th, 2023. The church hall was transformed into an Hawaiian Luau party with festive decorations and music. Each attendee received a lei and many got into the spirit wearing a floral Hawaiian shirt! After opening remarks from President Rhonda Latkovic and a prayer from Father Ted Pantels, guests dined on a Lenten food fare with an Hawaiian twist including pan-fried shrimp, veggie rolls, poached salmon, sushi, and salads. The afternoon ended with a fun basket raffle & 12 members going home with great prizes! (see pg. 2)





Luminary's to Light the Path on Holy Friday Evening

The Philoptochos will once again be offering luminary bags for a \$10 donation per bag. These bags will be placed along the path around the church on Holy Friday Evening. Luminary bags can be offered for "IN HEALTH OF" or "IN MEMORY OF" with a max of two names on each bag. Bags will be placed in alphabetical order along the path for ease in locating. Bags may be taken home after the service.

Proceeds benefit St. George church and the Kids-N-Cancer fund.

EASTER BAKE SALE

Easter Bread and koulourakia will be available for sale on Sunday, April 9th after church services. Call the office to make an appointment if you need to pick up bread & cookies during the week of April 2nd or 9th, Mon., Tues., or Thurs.

(Cont. pg. 1)

Our thanks to the Philoptochos Board members who assisted with the set up, food prep, raffle, clean-up, bar, & photography including Irene Stambolos, Linda Bozigian, Tina Veroulis, Linda Petalas, Pam Zaverdas, Margarita Pagoulatos, Kalitsa Xitco, & Nick Latkovic.

THANK YOU ALL FOR A WONDERFUL EVENT!

Previous Page Photos:

Left: Pam Zaverdas Middle: Kalitsa Xitco & Linda Petalas Right: Nick Latkovic, Pam Zaverdas, Irene Stambolos, Tina Veroulis, & Kalitsa Xitco

Below Photo: Carol Lyons and Mary Piggott making a selection from the dessert table with Nick Demetropoulos in the upper right corner.



ELECTION NOTICE TO ALL ELIGIBLE MEMBERS

DATE: April 24, 2023

TIME: 11:30 am

PLACE: St. George Greek Orthodox Church Hall

This is to notify you that Elections for the New Chapter Board of Directors will be held at the date, time and place mentioned above.

To vote in this election, you must be a member in good standing in accordance with the Bylaws of Philoptochos (Article V, Section 4, Paragraph 3) as follows:

Eligibility to Vote: Full members who have fulfilled financial commitment to the chapter for the current year are eligible to vote. New members may vote if enrolled at least three (3) months prior to the election meeting.

All candidates seeking election to the Chapter Board must qualify in accordance with the Philoptochos Bylaws (Article V, Section 3, Paragraph 2) as follows:

In order to be a candidate for election to the Chapter Board, a full member must have been a member in good standing with the parish **and** chapter for a period of at least one full year prior to the date of election to the Chapter Board and must have attended a minimum of four (4) meetings/ activities held in the previous year.

- All candidates must be present at the election meeting unless reasonable cause for such absence is provided.
- A member is qualified to serve on the Board of Directors of one chapter only.

Please make every effort to attend this meeting.

Chapter Secretary, Julia Hays

Election Committee:

Tasia Richards

Emmy Karas

Francine Vasilomanolakis

List of candidates running for election/re-election for the
2023-2025 term:

- 1-Linda Bozigian
- 2-Julia Hays
- 3-Linda Kallis
- 4-Rhonda Latkovic
- 5-Margarita Pagoulatos
- 6-Debbie Pousen
- 7-Athena Snarskis
- 8-Irene Stambolos
- 9-Tina Veroulis

*Anyone else interested in running for the board please
contact Rhonda Latkovic by April 2nd, 2023.