



OCTOBER 8, 2023

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

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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 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.

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 9:6-11

Brethren, the point is this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures for ever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your resources and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for great generosity, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.

GOSPEL –St. Luke 7:11-16

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. PELAGIA

Today we commemorate St. Pelagia. She was a prominent actress of the city of Antioch, and a pagan, who lived a life of unrestrained prodigality and led many to perdition. Instructed and baptized by a certain bishop named Nonnus (St. Nonnus is commemorated Nov. 10), she departed for the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem, where she lived as a recluse, feigning to be a eunuch called Pelagia. She lived in such holiness and repentance that within three or four years she was deemed worthy to repose with a fragrance of sanctity, in the middle of the fifth century. Her tomb on the Mount of Olives has been a place of pilgrimage ever since.

– Taken from www.goarch.org

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 the 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 alone are the Loving One.'" / Του λίθου σφραγισθέντος...

2) "The image of God was faithfully preserved in you, O Mother. For, you took up the Cross and followed Christ. By your actions you taught us to look beyond the flesh for is passes, rather than to be concerned about the soul which is immortal. Wherefore, O venerable Pelagia, your soul rejoices with the angels." / Εν σοι Μητηρ ακριβώς...

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

4) **Kontakion:** "Champion of Christians not put 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...

LIFE IS PRECIOUS!

Through today's passage of St. Paul's 2nd Epistle to the Corinthians, we are reminded to have faith in Christ our God, through Whose Love we are called to be valuable co-workers in *sharing* His divine love. As co-workers of Christ, He gives His life so that we can live. This is the greatest of all blessings, both seen and unseen – and for which we thank Him during the Divine Liturgy with the Eucharistic Prayer which follows our proclamation of the Creed. We are grateful to our Lord be able to repent. Thus, our Church does not seek the death of sinners, but rather that we turn to God and live.

Today's Gospel passage reminds us of the miracle whereby Christ resurrected the widow's son back to life. Not only does this incident tell us that Christ is God, Who is the Giver of life, but that His Resurrection from the dead is our resurrection from the dead, also.

In the context of Christ's Resurrection, then, it is a sin to express notions that our own lives, or the lives of others in general have little or no value. Our human life is a gift from God and it is, therefore, most precious at any stage - whether in the womb or on the respirator. To promote the idea that human life is not precious nullifies the essential value of our prayers. Indeed, we pray for the whole world and for all of us as individuals "to be spared all afflictions, wrath, danger and want." Let us remember that our prayers reflect the core of our mentality. Therefore, let us be careful of how we think so that we can always pray correctly.

+FR. THEODORE

Δια μέσου της 2ας Επιστολής του προς τους Κορινθίους, ο Αγ. Παύλος μας υπενθυμίζει ότι πρέπει να έχουμε πίστη στον Χριστό, γιατί καλούμεθα να είμεθα πολύτιμοι συνεργάτες Του και να *συμμεριζόμεθα* τη θεϊκή Του αγάπη. Ως συνεργάτες του Χριστού, μας δίνει τη ζωή Του για να ζούμε εμείς αιωνίως. Αυτή είναι η μεγαλύτερη από όλες τις ευλογίες, ορατές και αόρατες – και για την οποία Τον ευχαριστούμε κατά την Θείαν Λειτουργία με την Προσευχή της Ευχαριστίας μετά την ανάγνωση του «Πιστεῶ.» Είμεθα ευγνωμονες στον Χριστο που μπορούμε να μετανοήσουμε. Ετσι, η Εκκλησία μας δεν επιδιώκει τον θάνατο των αμαρτωλών, αλλά την μετάνοιά μας μέσω της οποίας στρεφόμεθα προς τον Θεό.

Η σημερινή περικοπή του Ευαγγελίου μας θυμίζει το θαύμα με το οποίο ο Χριστός ανέστησε τον υιό της χήρας. Αυτό το περιστατικό μας λέει ότι ο Χριστός είναι ο Θεός, ο Οποίος είναι ο Δωρητής της ζωής, και ότι η Ανάστασή Του είναι και η δική μας ανάσταση εκ των νεκρών.

Στο πλαίσιο της Αναστάσεως του Χριστού, είναι αμαρτία να εκφράζουμε αντιλήψεις ότι η δική μας ζωή ή η ζωή του πλησίον μας δεν έχει αξία. Η ανθρώπινη ζωή μας είναι ένα δώρο από τον Θεό και,

Συνέχεια στην επόμενη σελίδα-- -->

επομένως, είναι το πιο πολύτιμο δώρο μας σε οποιοδήποτε στάδιο - είτε στη μήτρα είτε στον αναπνευστήρα. Η προώθηση της ιδέας ότι η ανθρώπινη ζωή δεν είναι πολύτιμη ακυρώνει την πραγματική αξία των προσευχών μας. Μάλιστα, προσευχόμεθα για ολόκληρο τον κόσμο και για τον καθέναν ξεχωριστά: «Υπέρ του ρυσθήναι ημάς από πάσης θλίψεως, οργής, κινδύνου και ανάγκης...» Ας έχουμε στον νου ότι οι προσευχές μας αντανakλούν την ουσίαν της νοοτροπίας μας. Επομένως, ας προσέχουμε πώς σκεφτόμεθα για να μπορούμε πάντοτε να προσευχόμεθα σωστά.
+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

MEMORIAL - Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Rest and Salvation for the servants of God **Elaine Kontaxis (40 days)**, as well as for the servants of God, **George Dariotis** and **Soteria (Rhea) Brunner**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal life and Salvation to **Elaine Kontaxis, George Dariotis, and Soteria (Rhea) Brunner** and may He grant peace and comfort to Deacon Euthym and the entire family. **MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!**

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

- Tuesday, October 10th - Bible Study - 10:00 a.m./ AHEPA Meeting – 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday, October 14th - "Paint El Paseo Pink" Walk for Cancer Research - 8:00 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PHILOPTOCHOS**-Today, **Sunday, October 8th**, is the **last day** to register for the "Paint El Paseo Pink Walk". Walk registration donation is \$35 & includes a walk tee-shirt. Donations benefit Desert Cancer Foundation. For more details please visit the Philoptochos sign-up table set up in the church hall.
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** – Let us bring our students together to learn about living the Orthodox Faith and for fellowship! Mark **Sunday, October 22nd on the calendar**. This is designated as "**Sunday School 'Bring a Friend Sunday' and Pumpkin Painting Pizza Party!**" To ensure that each child will have supplies, lunch and more, please R.S.V.P. to Mrs. Athena Snarskis at athna2@aol.com or text 219-313-6940. See the enclosed flyer.
- **OCTOBER SPIRITUAL RENEWAL**
 1. **Our Adult Bible Study sessions originally scheduled for every Wednesday evenings beginning on October 11th is to be rescheduled.** Those who are unable to attend our Tuesday morning Adult Bible Study and are interested in joining an evening or weekend Adult Bible Study are asked to send their email addresses to our parish office at pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com, so that a Zoom link can be provided. Please indicate a preference as to day and evening time that would be convenient. Those who would like to attend an evening or weekend Bible Study in person, inform Fr. Ted accordingly.
 2. **St. George Fall Spiritual Retreat - Saturday, October 28th.** Fr. Josiah Trenham, pastor of St. Andrew Antiochian Orthodox Church in Riverside, California, and founder of Patristic Nectar Publications will be our speaker on the theme, "*The Theotokos, Mother of the Light.*" It will be a two-part presentation: 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Luncheon will be provided. Q and A to follow at 2:30 p.m. Plan to join us! See enclosed flyer!



Pictured above are our **beautiful new Gold Altar Coverings**. Those who would like to donate toward the cost of these beautiful new Altar Coverings in prayer for the health of family members and/or in memory of family members or friends, **please see Fr. Ted**. We are grateful to **Annette Laskaris** and to an anonymous donor who have recently contributed to the cost of these beautiful Altar Coverings. Contributions are still most welcome!



PAINT EL PASEO PINK!

The 17th Annual "Paint El Paseo Pink" Breast Cancer Awareness Walk & Fundraiser will take place on Saturday, October 14, 2023.

Join our Saint George Team!

Our Philoptochos has participated in the annual Desert Cancer Foundation Pink Walk every year since 2018 and donated thousands of dollars towards cancer care for local residents.

Registration Fee: \$35

The "Paint El Paseo Pink Walk" is this coming Saturday, October 14th at 8:00 AM. Registration is a \$ 35.00 donation and includes a walk tee-shirt. We will have a table set-up to take reservations today only.



**“THE
THEOTOKOS,
THE MOTHER
OF THE LIGHT”**



Father Josiah Trenham is the Pastor of St. Andrew Antiochian Orthodox Church, Riverside, California and he is the founder and director of Patristic Nectar Publications.

**ST. GEORGE
FALL SPIRITUAL RETREAT
Saturday, October 28, 2023
Father Josiah Trenham, Guest Speaker
10:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
St. George Greek Orthodox Church
74-109 Larrea Street
Palm Desert, California 92260
At will donation: \$15.00 (Lunch included)**

R.S.V. P. to: St. George Fall Spiritual Retreat:
St. George Greek Orthodox Church
74-109 Larrea St.
Palm Desert, California 92260

Telephone; (760) 568-9901/ email: pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com

Or, contact Fr. Theodore Pantels, pastor, St. George Greek Orthodox Church:
Telephone: (760) 880-5869




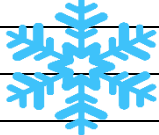
ST GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

74109 Larrea St, Palm Desert, CA – 760-568-9901

FR. Ted Pantels 760-880-5869 – Mrs. Athena Snarskis 219-313-6940

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2023/24 FAMILY CALENDER

*Sunday School Class – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month.
Outreach Project events – TBA each month see below*

Sept 10	Regular class schedule	
Sept 17	Regular class schedule for SERVICE PROJECT	
Sept 24	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Oct 1	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Oct 8	Regular class schedule	
Oct 15	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Oct 22	Regular class schedule – HARVEST PATIO PARTY!	
Oct 29	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Nov 5	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Nov 12	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Nov 19	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Nov 26	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Dec 3	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Dec 10	“LIVING ICONS OF THE NATIVITY” PROGRAM	
Dec 17	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Dec 24	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Dec 31	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Jan 7, 2024	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Jan 14	Regular class schedule	
Jan 21	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Jan 28	Regular class schedule – SERVICE PROJECT TBA	

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St. George Sunday School - Palm Desert, CA

BRING A FRIEND SUNDAY
and
PUMPKIN PAINTING
PIZZA PARTY!

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd, 2023

Join us immediately after receiving Holy
Communion in the hall near our classrooms!

MUST RSVP IN ORDER TO ATTEND!

(to assure each child will have supplies, lunch and more!)

MRS. ATHENA SNARSKIS

@ athna2@aol.com or text 219-313-6940

