



APRIL 21, 2024

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

Mailing Address:

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

- Fr. Theodore Pantels, M.Div. Proistamenos (Pastor)
- Deacon Euthym Kon-taxis, M.D. ,M.Div.

Holy Communion Or-der

- 1. Please remain standing while following the direc-tions of our ushers.
2. Ladies, kindly re-move lipstick be-fore receiving.
3. When receiving Holy Communion, make the Sign of the Cross, state your name (baptismal name) , and naturally re-ceive as if being fed.
4. Non-Orthodox Christians may not receive Holy Com-munion, but they may receive the Holy Bread at the end of the service.
5. All Orthodox Chris-tians must be spirit-ually prepared to receive the Sacra-ment of Holy Com-munion. Please see the priest if you have any questions.

THE LADDER
ST. MARY OF EGYPT



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

With the Entrance with the Gospel: 1) *"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 a Virgin for our salvation. Of His own Will, He went upon the Cross in the flesh and suffered death to raise the dead through His glorious Resurrection."/* Τον Συνάναρχον Λόγον...

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."/* Ἐν σοι μήτηρ ακβριβώς...[Hymn for St. Mary of Egypt]

3) *"Since You are a deliverer of captives and a protector of the poor; a physician for the sick; a noble attendant to kings, O Great among the martyrs and glorious George, intercede with Christ God that He may save our souls."/* Ως των αιχμαλώτων ελευθερωτής...[Hymn for St. George]

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...

THE MEDICINE OF IMMORTALITY, REPENTANCE & ST. MARY OF EGYPT

St. Gregory the Theologian in his writing entitled, *"The Second Oration on Pascha,"* says, *"[Why] did the Blood of His Only-Begotten Son delight the Father, Who would not receive even the blood of Isaac, when he was being offered by his father?...because humanity was in need of being sanctified by the Humanity of God, that He might deliver us Himself and overcome the tyrant of death, drawing us to Himself by meditation of His Son..."* (Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, Second Edition, Vol. 7, pg. 431). The precious Body and Blood of Christ given to us from the Cross is the real forgiveness of God for each of us. It is given to us with these words at the Divine Liturgy: *"The servant of Godpartakes of the Holy and Precious Body and Blood of our Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ unto the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting."* In His forgiveness, we find the desire to repent of our sins, which is our thanksgiving to God.

Repentance means that we live for the glory of Christ our God and Savior. Living in this way involves our whole being, as is expressed when we offer the First Prayer of the Faithful in the Presanctified Divine Liturgy: *"O God, great and praised, through the life-giving death of Your Christ, You have borne us from corruption to immortality. Liberate all our senses from killing passion, setting over them as a benevolent sovereign our inner reason. Let the eye be averted from every evil sight, and the ear be deaf to idle talk. May the tongue be purged of unseemly speech. Purify these lips that praise You, Lord. Make our hands abstain from wicked deeds, doing only such things as are pleasing to You, thus sealing with Your grace all our members and our mind."/* (The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, Narthex Press, pg. 25).

A beautiful example of actually living in accordance with this prayer is that of St. Mary of Egypt, whose memory we commemorate today. It is the life-style of sainthood that makes us participants in the divine grace of God's love for all of humanity and for all of creation -- offering our "all" for all that is from God. +FR. THEODORE

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Tuesday, April 23rd.....Bible Study (with Online Orthodox Catechism on Zoom) -10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, April 24th.....PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY – 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 26th.....PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY – 9:00 a.m.

Continued on the next page ---->

WEEKDAY CALENDAR, Continued

HOLY WEEK 2024

Saturday, April 27th...SATURDAY OF LAZARUS – Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 28th ...PALM SUNDAY – Orthros-8:00 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
Bridegroom Service – 6:00 p.m.

Monday, April 29th...HOLY MONDAY – Bridegroom Service –6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 30th...HOLY TUESDAY – Bridegroom Service - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 1st...HOLY WEDNESDAY-PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY –9:00 a.m.
Holy Unction Service – 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 2nd...HOLY THURSDAY – DIVINE LITURGY –9:00 a.m.
Service of the Redeeming Passion of our Lord –6:00 p.m

Friday, May 3rd...HOLY FRIDAY – Royal Hours-9:00 a.m.
Service of the Unnailing of our Lord – 12:00 noon
Lamentation Service- 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 4th..HOLY SATURDAY – DIVINE LITURGY –9:00 a.m.
Vigil for the Resurrection of our Lord – 11:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 5th..GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA – Resurrection Service-12:00 midnight
Divine Liturgy – 12:30 a.m.
Agape Vespers-3:00 p.m

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON-Next Sunday, April 28th, everyone is invited to join in our **Palm Sunday Luncheon** following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. **The deadline to make reservations is April 23rd.** Please see the enclosed flyer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Last Sunday's Special Sunday School Class focused on following Christ Who is the Light of the world and becoming ourselves "the light of the world." **The Next Special Sunday School Class will be next Sunday – Palm Sunday, April 28 with their palm crosses.**

PHILOPTOCHOS – Easter Bake Sale...We will be selling sweet bread and koulourakia **this Sunday, April 21st** and next **Sunday, April 28th**. Bread is \$20 for a 2 and 1/4 pound loaf. Koulourakia is \$12 per dozen. Also available, a box of **4 unbaked spanakopitas** for \$8. See **Tina Veroulis** and **Rhonda Latkovic** in the parish hall during coffee hour.

AHEPA – May 19th- AHEPA Sunday. Applications for the AHEPA 528 Fr. T.P. Theophilos Memorial Scholarship due on May 1st.

BOOKSTORE - Now available: *Services for Holy Week and Easter.* (Narthex Press Publications).

GOLF TOURNAMENT - Saturday, May 18th at 12:15 p.m. at Eldorado Country Club. See enclosed flyer.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS FOR WORSHIP - Lessons are available to learn to prepare Altar Bread (Prosforo), Kollyva (boiled wheat) & "The Five Loaves" (Artoklasia). Contact our office to sign up.

PRAYER REQUESTS - Call Fr. Ted at (760) 880-5869. Please pray for: Evangelia, Nancy, Ann, Diane, Bess, Tanya, Michael, Mary, Athanasios, Nicholas.



ST GEORGE PARISH

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON

APRIL 28, 2024

Dear Parishioners

This year, St. George Greek Orthodox Church of the Desert will hold the annual Palm Sunday Luncheon. We are certain that all of you will want to participate in this meaningful holiday celebration.

We thank God for the generosity of an anonymous donor, who has allowed us to offer our Palm Sunday Luncheon at no charge to those who wish to attend. We would appreciate your presence at this event. **The deadline for making a reservation is April 23, 2024.**

Please print your name on the line below.

NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

NUMBER OF RELATIVES/FRIENDS WHO WILL BE ATTENDING _____

SAINT GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saturday, May 18, 2024 | 12:15pm Shotgun Start | Eldorado Country Club



ENTRY INFORMATION

Saturday, May 18, 2024

- \$185 per player (includes Golf and Awards Dinner)
- 12:15 PM Shotgun Start at Eldorado Country Club
- 5:00 PM Social Hour at St. George Greek Orthodox Church
- 6:00 PM Traditional Greek Dinner at St. George Greek Orthodox Church | Silent Auction and Live Music

ENTRY INFORMATION

- Individual Player(s) ____ (# of players) x \$185 \$ _____
- Tee Sponsorship(s) ____ (# of sponsorships) x \$100 \$ _____
- Traditional Greek Dinner ____ (# of dinners) x \$50 \$ _____
- Donation \$ _____
- Total Amount \$ _____**

CREDIT CARD (please mark one) VISA MASTER CARD

ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____

EXP. DATE: ____/____ 3-DIGIT SECURITY NO: _____
(CHECKING OR SAVINGS CARD)

CARD HOLDER NAME: _____
(PLEASE PRINT NAME)

BILLING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (____) _____-____ FAX: (____) _____-____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EVENT REGISTRATION

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PLAYER NAMES

1. _____	INDEX _____
2. _____	INDEX _____
3. _____	INDEX _____
4. _____	INDEX _____

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

Sign up online at www.go-stgeorge.org/Events/Golf/

Mail Checks and Registration Form to:
74109 Larrea Street | Palm Desert, CA | 92260

Make Checks Payable To:
"Saint George Greek Orthodox Church"