

NOVEMBER 11, 2018

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

74-109 Larrea Street

Palm Desert, California 92260

Website: www.go-stgeorge.org

Email: stgeorgepd@aol.com

THE LADDER



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 Kontaxis,
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 OIL AND THE WINE

We can understand our Lord's Parable of the Good Samaritan in the context of our unity with Christ our God. Christ is the Good Samaritan. We are the wounded travelers, who are cared for by the Good Samaritan in His "Inn," which is the Church. As members of His Church, we are "innkeepers," who help in bringing about the full recovery of others who are wounded in their travels through life. In doing so, each of us, like our Savior becomes a Good Samaritan.

Something must be said, however, about the medicines used to cure the wounded traveler so that he could be brought to the inn and be made well for the purpose of himself becoming a Good Samaritan. These medicines are *forgiveness* and *repentance* - the "oil" and the "wine" that the Good Samaritan poured over the wounds of the traveler.

Application of these medicines require the exposure of the wounds

Continued on Page 2

A PRAYER FOR VETERANS DAY

Omnipotent Father, we thank You for the soldiers who fought for our independence. Thank You for the men and women who are presently fighting now to maintain our freedom and independence. We ask that You will continue to strengthen them and help them to remain strong in battle. O Lord, hide our troops and allies beneath the shadow of Your wings until the danger passes. By the grace of the Holy Spirit, touch the hearts of our nation's leaders to trust in You with all their hearts and not lean to their own understanding. Help them to seek Your will in all that they do as You direct their paths. Remind us all that You have given us the grace to walk in righteousness and peace through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is of the same essence with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. We acknowledge that You are the place of safety for this nation and as a result we are able to dwell in freedom and security. We declare that when the enemy comes against our nation, like a flood, You continue to raise up a standard against him so that we may lead peaceful lives in piety, glorifying Your Holy Name for the salvation of all of humanity

Amen.

--Taken from the National Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Independence of America



Μπρούμεν να κατανοήσουμε την Παραβολή του Κυρίου περί του Καλού Σαμαρείτου στο πλαίσιο της ενοχής μας με τον Θεόν. Ο Χριστός είναι Ο Καλός Σαμαρείτης. Εμείς είμεθα οι τραυματισμένοι ταξιδιώτες, οι οποίοι λαμβάνουμε βοήθεια από τον Καλό Σαμαρείτην στο <πανδοχείο> Του, που είναι η Εκκλησία Του. Είμεθα οι <ξενοδοχοί> οι οποίοι βοηθούν τους άλλους να θεραπευθούν από τις πληγές των καθώς ταξιδεύουν τους δρόμους της ζωής. Με αυτόν τον τρόπο, ο καθένας από εμάς, όπως είναι ο Κύριος, γίνεται καλός Σαμαρείτης.

Ωστόσο, πρέπει να ειπώμε κάτι σχετικά με τα φάρμακα που χρησιμοποιούνται για την θεραπεία του πληγωμένου ταξιδιώτη έτσι ώστε να γινή και αυτός καλός Σαμαρείτης. Αυτά τα φάρμακα είναι η συγχώρησις και η μετανοία... δηλαδή, <το λάδι> και <το κρασί> που ο Καλός Σαμαρείτης έριξε επάνω στις πληγές του τραυματισμένου. Η εφαρμογή αυτών των φαρμάκων απαιτεί την εκθέση αυτών των πληγών, αναγνωρίζοντας την υπαρξήν των και των πόνων των. Λαμβάνοντας αυτό υποψη, ξωδιπλώνεται σε αυτήν την Παραβολή μια εικόνα της Αγίας Εξομολογήσεως.

Το πρώτο βήμα προς την θεραπεία είναι να επιτρέψουμε τον Καλό Σαμαρείτην να ειδεί τις πληγές—με άλλα λόγια, να εξομολογήσουμε τις αμαρτίες μας με θλίψη και με ειλικρινείαν. Το δεύτερο βήμα είναι να κάνουμε ασκήση που απαιτείται για την μετανοίαν.

Ο καθένας από εμάς έχουμε ανάγκη από <το λάδι> και <το κρασί> τα οποία είναι η συγχώρησις και η μετανοία για την σωτηρίαν μας.
+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

that need to be treated. Taking this into account, we see unfolding in this Parable an image of the Sacrament of Holy Confession.

According to this Parable, the traveler on the road to Jericho was overcome by robbers. The Saints commonly view “the robbers” as the demons who attack us throughout our road in life with temptations and deceptions. They beat us up with fantasies and assumptions that too often have nothing to do with reality. Hence, the fantasies and assumptions that are caused by temptations and deceptions cause stress and anxiety, which, in turn, take a toll on the health of our bodies, while, at the same time leading us to commit sin, taking a toll on the health of our souls.

The wounds that need bandaging are the sins that we commit as a result of the deceptions and temptations brought on by demons. From the time of Adam and Eve, deceptions and temptations have been the main ingredients behind sins. Yet, another deception that is thrown at us by demons is that each one of us feels embarrassed for our sins, not because we committed them, but because we think that we are the only ones who commit sins, while everyone around us goes without sinning. Again, this is a deception. Everyone without exception, is in need of cure; in need of forgiveness and repentance.

The first step to cure is to allow the Good Samaritan to see the wounds - that is, to confess our sins with sorrow and contrition. Strictly speaking, a sin consists of motives, words and deeds that are clearly devoid of love for *both* Christ our God *and* our neighbor. Having sinned, our souls are bruised. Forgiveness from our Lord is the oil that soothes our souls. But, forgiveness can be applied only when it is sought.

Seeking forgiveness is effort. This effort requires everything from simply correcting a mishap to subjecting one’s self to some therapy in order to deal with issues that draw them into behaviors that constantly harm themselves and others. This effort is the “wine” - that antiseptic that stings by cleaning out the impurities of the wound. This is the effort that is required for repentance, which is the complete “change of mind” that gives way to voluntarily rejecting sinful ideas and ways in favor of being at peace with God.

Every one of us is in need of “oil” and “wine,” though many refuse to acknowledge it, living out their lives in denial.

Let us all stop kidding ourselves and enjoy the oil *and* the wine of forgiveness and repentance so that, together, our Church can remain a vibrant force for the healing of our society in general.

+FR. THEODORE

HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S CELEBRATION OF THE DIVINE LITURGY:

ANTIPHON I: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou..." (By the prayers of the Theotokos...)

Verse 1— Bless the Lord O my soul and everything within me; Bless His Holy Name.

Refrain: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou, Soter, soston imas."

Verse 2— Bless the Lord O my soul and forget not all His rewards.

Refrain: "By the prayers of the Theotokos, Savior, save us."

Verse 3— The Lord prepared His throne in heaven and His Kingdom rules over all.

Refrain: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou, Soter, soston imas."

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages.

Refrain: "By the prayers of the Theotokos, Savior, save us."

ANTIPHON II: "Soston imas Ie Theou..." (Save us, O Son of God...)

Verse 1— Praise the Lord O my soul! I shall praise the Lord while I live; I shall sing to my God as long as I exist.

Refrain: "Soston imas Ie Theou, O Anastas ek nekron, psallontas si alleluia."

Verse 2— Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob; his hope is in the Lord his God.

Refrain: "Save us, O Son of God, Who arose from the dead, we sing to You, Alleluia."

Verse 3— The Lord shall reign forever; your God O Zion, to all generations.

Refrain: "Soston imas Ie Theou, O Anastas ek nekron, psallontas si alleluia."

Doxa Patri ke Io ke Aghio Pnevmati ke nin ke aei ke eis tous eonas ton eonon. Amin

People: "O Monogenis Ios ke Logos tou Theou..." (O Only-Begotten Son and Word of God...)

ANTIPHON III This is the day the Lord has made; let us greatly rejoice and be glad therein.

Sunday Resurrection Hymn: *Katelisas to Stavro Sou ton thanaton (Tone 7)... (O Lord by Your sacred Cross You abolished death and granted unto the thief blessed paradise. The Myrrh-bearers ceased lamenting and turned to joy. The Apostles did preach the good news at Your command that You had risen from the dead, O Christ our God, be-stowing Your mercy upon the world evermore.)*

Hymn for the Martyrs Sts. Menas of Egypt, Victor and Stephanie: *Ee martyres Sou Kyrie... (Your Martyrs, O Lord, were worthily awarded by You * the crowns of incorruption, in that they contested for You our immortal God. * Since they possessed Your power, they defeated the tyrants, * dashing the demons' powerless displays of defiance. * O Christ God, at their fervent entreaties, save our souls.)*

Hymn for St. George: *Os ton ehmaloton eleftherotis... (Since you are a deliverer of captives and a defender of the poor; a physician for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, O Great among the Martyrs and Glorious George: intercede with Christ our God that He may save our souls.)*

Kontakion Hymn for this Sunday: *O katharotatos na-ohs tou Sotiros ... (The Savior's most pure and immaculate temple, the very precious bridal chamber and Virgin, who is the sacred treasure of the glory of God, on this day is introduced into the House of the Lord, and with herself she brings the grace in the divine Spirit. She is extolled by the Angels of God. A heavenly tabernacle is She.)*

READINGS: EPISTLE -- 2 Corinthians 4: 6-15 / GOSPEL – St. Luke 10: 25-37

Megalinarion: Axion Estin

Communion Hymn: Enite ton Kyrion (*Praise the Lord*)...pg. 64 in the Divine Liturgy Books

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VETERANS DAY PROGRAM TODAY – The reception honoring veterans:
Hosted by AHEPA Chapter 528.**

PHILOPTOCHOS -- Tomorrow, Monday, Nov. 12 is our General Meeting where all parishioners and guests are invited to our Book Reading by Dr. John Manesis. We hope you made your reservation. A percentage of sales of his book will be donated to Philoptochos. On Saturday, Nov. 17 is the Light The Path Luncheon for the Bishop Anthony fund for Adopt-a-Students. Call Metropolis to make your reservation. Mark your calendars to come help make our bake goods for the Christmas Bake Sale. The week of Nov. 26 we will be making cookies and the week of Dec. 3 we will be making bread. There are no orders for bake goods this year. It will be first come, first serve on the sales days of December 9 and 16. If you have any questions, see Rhonda Latkovic. Last week we passed a tray for the Ecumenical Patriarch; we sent a check to the Metropolis for \$339.00. Thank you for your donations.

NEW TABLE-CHAIR SETS- A sample of our new **parish hall table & chair sets** is available now in our parish hall. Please check it out.

ARMENIAN FESTIVAL- Today at **St. Garabed Armenian Apostolic Church** on Monterey.

AHEPA THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON - Reservations will be taken today for joining in the annual AHEPA Thanksgiving Luncheon at Towne Center Café on **Sunday, November 18th**.

STREET-LIFE...FEEDING THE HOMELESS – Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at Miles Park in Indio. See the enclosed flier for details. Sign up to help on the “Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet” posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

ST. GEORGE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CARD -- St. George Community Christmas Card Participation Forms are available in our parish hall. We encourage everyone to consider sharing blessings of our Savior with their fellow parishioners.

PARISH FALL GENERAL ASSEMBLY-Save the date: Sunday, December 9, 2018.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Monday, November 12th.....Philoptochos General Members Meeting - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, November 13th.....ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
Orthros-8:30 a.m. / Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
Bible Study-11:00 a.m.

Friday, November 16th.....ST. MATTHEW THE EVANGELIST
Orthros-8:30 a.m./ Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

*“Do not remember the sins of my youth, nor of my ignorance;
but, remember me according to Your mercy, because of Your
loving-kindness, O Lord.”*

– Psam 25::7

We encourage all of our parents to sit in the church with their entire family as they participate in the beauty and mysteries of the Divine Liturgy. For those with young children, feel free to sit near an aisle in order that you may easily take your children for a break, as needed. If necessary, we have a “crying room” in the vestibule for your use. God Bless.



GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF SAN FRANCISCO
ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΑΓΙΟΥ ΦΡΑΓΚΙΣΚΟΥ

Encyclical for Veterans Day 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

On Sunday November 11, our nation will celebrate Veterans Day, honoring all living men and women that have served and serve today in all the branches of the military. They courageously serve our nation, ready to answer the call to go into harm's way in foreign lands to defend our nation and its values. I hope that each parish of our Metropolis will find a way to honor those in the parish who have served in the past and serve today so that each member of the community may offer the simple words, "Thank you for your service."

While those in military service are trained for war, they pray for peace more fervently because they know the brutality and destruction that war causes and scars our world. We should join them in praying for peaceful times, echoing the words of the prophet Micah who prophesied a time when we shall beat *"swords into plowshares," "spears into pruning hooks,"* and *"nation shall not lift up sword against nation"* (Micah: 3:3-4). Let us not forget that in many of our liturgical services, we pray for those in the military and ask God to protect all of us from armed invasions.

Our Lord Jesus Christ calls us to be peacemakers, saying, *"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."* (Matthew 5:9). Saint Gregory of Nyssa says that a peacemaker is one who works to *"cast out hatred and abolish war, to exterminate envy and banish strife, to take away hypocrisy and extinguish from within resentment of injuries smoldering in the heart."* (On the Lord's Prayer and Beatitudes). The saint is challenging us to work at the causes of war itself, the dispositions that dwell within each of us that could lead us to violence. The saint is challenging us to become active in the world as peacemakers so that *"justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream"* (Amos 5:24).

This year, we celebrate Veterans Day on the one hundredth anniversary of the end of World War I. Nearly 20 million people died – military and civilian – in a conflict that lasted four years, and ended in stalemate. In the aftermath, the world was changed dramatically: empires fell, new nations were created. Our ancestral homelands – in Greece, Anatolia and the Balkans – were also dramatically affected, through political upheaval and population exchanges. Our Ecumenical Patriarchate was also affected and today it still lives under conditions imposed at that time. Today, we can trace the origins of many of the world's greatest challenges to that terrible war and its aftermath. In our prayers this Sunday, let us remember those who perished in that "great" war, beseeching Almighty God to give them rest *"in a place of light, in a place of green pasture, in a place of refreshment, from where pain, sorrow, and sighing have fled away."*

May the God of peace and justice guide you always.

With Love in Christ,

✠ GERASIMOS

Metropolitan of San Francisco

PHILOPTOCHOS GENERAL MEETING

All Parishioners are invited to our Philoptochos Meeting for a book reading and talk from the newly published book by Dr. John Manesis:

[With Steadied Hands](#)

When: Monday, November 12

Time: 11:45 a.m.

Where: Church Hall

A hearty lunch will be served for a donation of \$10.00.

Please RSVP at the Philoptochos table so we can determine how much food to order or call Rhonda or Emily.

You will be able to purchase a signed copy of [With Steadied Hands](#). For each book sold, Dr. Manesis will donate \$5.00 to Philoptochos.

We are looking forward to this exciting event.

The Streetlife Project Feeding the Homeless for Thanksgiving 11/20/18 Miles Park, Indio, CA

Who: Volunteers from St. George needed to drive food to the location, serve the food, help with clean-up & spread God's love to those less fortunate.

What: St. George Philoptochos will be sponsoring the turkey dinner for 400-500 homeless on this day.

When: Tuesday, Nov. 20th from 6:00-8:30 PM

Where: Miles Park in Indio, CA.

How: See Rhonda Latkovic to volunteer. Sign-up sheet on bulletin board in the church hall.

THANKSGIVING HOMELESS PROJECT

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

Help needed:

- Pick up food at Towne Center Café around 5:30 p.m. (two SUV-type cars are needed)
- Arrive at location by 6:00 p.m.
- Transfer pans of turkey and gravy to designated tables for distribution
- Assist with distribution of food to approximately 400-500 people
- Bus tables, help clean –up, etc.
- Finish up approximately 8-8:30 p.m

Materials needed: Aprons, gloves and sanitizers for each volunteer; serving utensils and 2 rolling carts

Volunteer by signing the "Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet" posted on the bulletin board in the parish hall.

ST. GEORGE GREEK
ORTHODOX CHURCH

THANKSGIVING
LUNCH

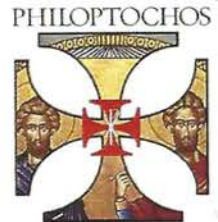
Let's Celebrate God's Goodness

SUNDAY, 12:30 P.M.
NOVEMBER 18th, 2018



Town Center Cafe

44491 Town Center Way
Palm Desert, CA



\$25.00

Children \$12.00 *under 12*

Tickets can be purchased from Philoptochos or AHEPA 528

**All proceeds go to Fr. Theophilos Theophilos
Memorial Scholarship Fund**

Donations accepted at www.ahepa528.org or mailed to:

AHEPA 528 Scholarship fund

PO Box 1735 Palm Desert, CA 92261-1735

contact@ahepa528.org

Please make any checks to AHEPA Chapter 528 or pay online ahepa528.org
Scholarship awards benefit members of Saint George Church and the AHEPA 528 Family

Deadline for Reservations: Sunday, November 11, 2018

Thank You for your Continued Support!



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 P.O. Box 4755, Palm Desert, CA 92261.

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: December 3, 2018



St. George Greek Orthodox Church of the Desert
Contact our parish office - 760-568-9901
74109 Larrea Street-Post Office Box 4755
Palm Desert, CA 92261
St. George Greek Orthodox Church is a 501(c) 3 Exempt
Organization

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

