

APRIL 21, 2019

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE DESERT

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Palm Desert, California 92260

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# THE LADDER

PALM SUNDAY - Entrance of Christ into Jerusalem



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.

## HOSANNA! REJOICE IN THE LORD!

Today Jesus enters Jerusalem so that He can be with us through everything that we endure every day in our lives. As Christ is with us, we are to be with Him in His passion and to find ourselves with Him at the Resurrection. The icon of today's feast day teaches us a lot.

Historically, the Palm Sunday Icon appeared in the Orthodox Church for the first time during the fourth century. According to the Holy Tradition of our Church, the icon depicts Christ on "the colt of a donkey", as the Prophet Zacharias prophesied (Zacharias 9:9). There

are two important mountains in Christ's ministry: Mt. Tabor, where Jesus was transfigured, revealing His Divinity 40 days prior to His crucifixion, and the Mount of Olives, where Jesus frequently went to pray and from where He voluntarily entered into the city of Jerusalem. Opposite the Mount of Olives, as we see the icon, we recognize the city walls of Jerusalem and this shows that, in Christ, Heaven and earth are joined together. Alfredo Tradigo writes in his book, *Icons and Saints of the Eastern Orthodox Church*,  
*Continued on page 2*

## PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF PALMS ON PALM SUNDAY

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, Have mercy.

Priest: O Lord our God, Who rests upon the Cherubim and has reaffirmed Your power and sent forth Your Only-Begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to save the world through His Cross, Burial and Resurrection: Who when He drew near to Jerusalem for His voluntary Passion, the people that sat in darkness and the shadow of death took as tokens of victory boughs of trees and branches of palms, thus foretelling His Resurrection. Do You Yourself, O Master and Lord, keep and preserve us also, who, following their example, on the pre-feast of that day, we carry in our hands palms and branches, and who, like the crowds and children cry out unto You, saying: "Hosanna!" That with hymns and spiritual songs we may be accounted worthy to attain the life-giving Resurrection on the third day: in Jesus Christ our Lord, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your All-Holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.



Σήμερα εισέρχεται ο Ιησούς στην Ιερουσαλήμ για να περάσει μαζί μας όλα όσα υπομένουμε κάθε ημέρα στην ζωή μας. Ομως, εμείς από σήμερα, θα περάσουμε μαζί Του τα πάθη και θα βρεθούμε μαζί Του στην Ανάστασις.

Ιστορικάς, η εικόνα της Κυριακής των Βαΐων επαρουσιάσθηκε στην Εκκλησίαν για πρώτη φορά κατά την διάρκεια του τετάρτου αιώ- νος. Σύμφωνα με την Ιεράν Παρά- δοξιν της Εκκλησίας, η εικόνα δείχνει τον Χριστόν <επί πάλον ὄνου> όπως προφήτευσε ο Προ- φήτης Ζαχαρίας (Ζαχ. 9:9). Παρη- στάνεται ένα βουνό στην εικό- ναν το οποίο είναι το Ορος των Ελαιών όπου ο Χριστός προσευ- χόταν συχνά, και από όπου εισ- ήλθε εθελοντικά στην Ιερουσα- λήμ. Απέναντι, καθώς βλέπομεν την εικόνα, τα τείχη της πόλεως της Ιερουσαλήμ απεικονίζονται – και αυτό δείχνει ότι στον Χριστόν, ο ουρανός και η γη συγχωρεύ- ονται. Ανάμεσα στο Ορος των Ελαιών και την πόλιν είναι τα φοινίκα με ένα παιδί το οποίο κόβει ένα κλαδί για να υποδεχθεί τον Ιησούν ως Βασιλεύς. Τα παι- διά έστρωσαν τα ιμάτιά των, κα- θώς έκραξαν το <Ωσαννά!> Ομως, οι πατέρες τους διεμέρησαν τα ιμάτια του Χριστού καθώς εφώνα- ξαν το <σταύρωση Αὐτόν!> Εζήτησαν την σταύρωση του Χριστού, επειδή δεν έμειναν ευχ- αριστημένοι από όλα που ο Χριστός έκανε για να γνωρίσουν την πραγματικήν Θεϊκήν αγάπην Του.

Ας έχουμε εμείς φλογερήν αγάπην και σταθεράν πίστιν, έτσι ώστε να μπορέσουμε να υποδεχθούμε τον Χριστόν στις ψυχές μας από σήμερα και εις το εξής.

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

*“Christ...bridges the gap between the Mountain of God and the city of man.”* (pg. 130). Between the Mount of Olives and the city of Jerusa- lem there is a palm tree with a young boy cutting down a palm branch in order to welcome Jesus as King. The children are “pre- figures” of the “catechumens” who grow from spiritual childishness to spiritual maturity. Ideally, we should want to see ourselves in their company as we grow in faith.

To the one side of the icon, the Disciples are depicted; they will later abandon Jesus. On the other side, the citizens of Jerusalem are depict- ed – among them, the Pharisees who would convince them to call for His crucifixion. Children are seen spreading garments along Jesus’ path – much like a “red carpet”. The innocent children welcome Him with “Hosanna in the highest...” Their fathers will divide Christ’s garments among themselves at the crucifixion after rejecting Him with “Crucify Him...”

“Crucify Him?” These people were so very ungrateful to our Savior, although, in fact, they had much for which to be grateful. He healed their sick and raised the dead. He gave them peace of soul through sound teachings for a joyful way of life. All they had to do was to glo- rify God. Let us, unlike the Pharisees who called for the crucifixion of our Lord, be grateful to God for His infinite love by which He gives us eternal life. We know *gratitude* as The Eucharist (the Divine Litur- gy), which is to be lived as a daily life-style, with Christ our God dwelling in our souls.

Holy Week is a week dedicated to training us to direct our minds to- ward living every day with Christ our God in our midst. St. Paul ex- plains the world-view of those living the life of gratitude to God: *“Rejoice in the Lord always; I say rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with all thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the God of peace, Who transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus...Whatever is true; whatever is noble; whatever is right; whatever is pure; whatever is lovely; whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.”* (Philippians 4: 4-8).

+FR. THEODORE

*“A great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him and cried out: ‘Hosanna! Blessed is He Who comes in the Name of the Lord! King of Israel!’ Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it, as it is written, ‘Fear not, daughter of Zion: Behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt.’ His disciples did not understand these things at first; then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him. The people with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness.” - St. John 12: 12-16*

HYMNS FOR THIS SUNDAY'S CELEBRATION OF THE DIVINE LITURGY

ANTIPHON I:

**Verse 1:** I have loved, because the Lord shall hear the voice of my supplication. The pains of death surrounded me; the dangers of Hades found me.

*Response: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou, Soter, soston imas."*

**Verse 2:** The pains of death surrounded me. Then I called upon the Lord's name.

*Response: "By the prayers of the Theotokos, Savior, O save us."*

**Verse 3:** I shall be well pleasing before the Lord in the land of the living.

*Response: "Tes presvies tis Theotokou, Soter, soston imas."*

Chanter(s): Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, both now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

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

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ANTIPHON II:

**Verse 1:** I believed; therefore, I spoke; I was greatly humbled. To the saints on His earth, in them the Lord magnified all His will.

*Response: "Soston imas Ie Theou, o epi pollou ohnou kathestheis, psallontas si: Allilouia."*

**Verse 2:** I will take up the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord.

*Response: Save us, O Son of God, Who sat upon a donkey's colt, we sing to You: Alleluia.*

**Verse 3:** I shall pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all His people.

*Response: "Soston imas Ie Theou, o epi pollou ohnou kathestheis, psallontas si: Allilouia."*

Chanter(s): "Doxa Patri ke Io, ke Ayio Pnevmati, ke nin ke ai ke is tous eonas ton eonon. Amin."

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

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**ANTIPHON III:** Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever. Let the house of Aaron say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever. Let all who fear the Lord say that He is good, for His mercy endures forever.

**Sunday Resurrection Hymn:** Tin Kineen Anastasin... (To confirm the general Resurrection before Your Passion, You resurrected Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore, imitating the children carrying the symbols of victory, we cry out to You, the Victor over death: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You, the One, Who comes in the Name of the Lord.)

At the Entrance with the Gospel: **Evloghimenos o Erchomenos...o epi polou onou kathesthis...** (Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord, and He revealed Himself to us. Save us, O Son of God, who sat on a donkey's colt, as we sing to You, Allelouia)

Repeat the Hymn, "Tin Kineen Anastasin," followed by the **Special Hymn for this day:** Syntafendes Soi dhia tou vaptismatos... (We were buried with You through Baptism, O Christ our God, and thus by Your Resurrection we have been granted immortal life, and extolling You we cry aloud, "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are You the One Who comes in the Name of the Lord.)

**Kontakion Hymn:** To throno en ourano, to polo epi tis ghees... (In heaven upon the throne, on earth upon the colt, You were carried, O Christ our God; and the praise of Angels and the hymns of the children You received as they cried out to You: "Blessed are You, Who is coming to call Adam back again.)

**READINGS:** Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 / Gospel: St. John 12:1-18

*The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is celebrated.*

Instead of "Axion Estin," Theos Kyrios kai epephanen imeen" ... (God is the Lord, and He appeared to us. O Christians, appoint a feast, and with exultant joy come and let us magnify the Christ, waving our palm-leaves and branches, crying aloud in hymns: "Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord our Savior.)

**Communion Hymn:** Evloghimenos o Erchomenos en onomati Kyriou... (Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Alleluia.)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Palm Sunday Luncheon Today - Join us following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy for our annual Palm Sunday Luncheon: \$15 per person.**

**PHILOPTOCHOS** - Today is the **last day of the Easter Bake Sale** to buy your bread and cookies. We need Coffee Hour Sponsors for May and June. Speak with **Pat Dalkas**. Enclosed is a special **St. George Philoptochos Insert** which serves to bring everyone up to date with our Philoptochos elections and final meeting before the summer break.

**ALTAR FLOWER BOUQUETS** – **The following is the contribution and dedication for the Altar Flowers (both bouquets) lovingly donated for the glory of God:**

*–Mr. and Mrs. Tony Dalkas -"In loving memory of Peter and Maria Dalkas, parents of Tony Dalkas, and Stanley and Helen Venetos, parents of Pat Dalkas."*

**GOLF TOURNAMENT-** Time is running out to register and/or make reservations to participate in this year's St. George Golf Tournament and Tournament Awards Dinner, which is scheduled for May 4th at Desert Falls Country Club: Registration: 11:00 a.m./ Tee-off: 12 noon. Dinner: 6:00 p.m. at our parish hall. See the enclosed registration and reservation Golf Tournament form.

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

### April 21-April 28 with St. George Feast Day (April 29th)

**Palm Sunday, April 21st**

Nymphios Service--6:00 p.m.

Royal Hours -- 9:00 a.m.

*Sunday School Retreat --11:00 a.m.*

**Holy Monday, April 22nd**

Nymphios Service --6:00 p.m.

Descent from the Cross (Apokathilosis)--12 noon

*Assembly of men for the Epitaphio and the Myrrbearers - 6:15 p.m.*

**Holy Tuesday, April 23rd**

Nymphios Service (Kassiani) --6:00 p.m.

Epitaphio Service --7:00 p.m.

**Holy Wednesday, April 24th**

Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy--9:00 a.m.

Holy Unction Service --6:00 p.m.

**Holy Saturday, April 27th**

Divine Liturgy --9:00 a.m.

Service of Paschal Preparation --11:00 p.m.

**Holy Thursday, April 25th**

Divine Liturgy --9:00 a.m.

*Dying of Easter Eggs - 11:00 a.m.*

Service of the 12 Gospels --6:00 p.m.

**Sunday-The Resurrection from the dead of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ -April 28th**

Service of the Anastasis -- 12:00 a.m.

Divine Liturgy --12:30 a.m.

Agape Vesper Service -- 4:00 p.m.

**Holy Friday, April 26th**

*Preparation of Epitaphio -8:00 a.m.*

**April 29th - St. George Feast Day**

Orthros- 8:30 a.m.

Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

*The Ladder for April 2019 is lovingly sponsored by:*

*Matushka Gloria Lehman*

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 so that you may easily take your children for a break, as needed. If necessary, we have a "crying room" in the narthex for your use. God Bless.

# SAVE THE DATE!

Monday, May 13th at 11:30 AM

*The Terrace*  
at Desert Willow Golf Resort



Desert  
Willow

Golf Resort

Firecliff & Mountain View

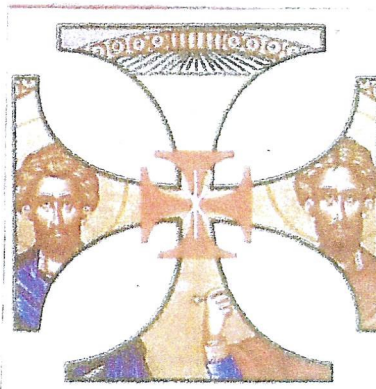
*One Legendary Location Two  
Unforgettable Courses*

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38-995 Desert Willow Drive

Palm Desert, CA 92260

Our last Philoptochos general members meeting before the summer break. More info to follow.



## Philoptochos News-April 2019

We wish to offer our thanks and gratitude to President Ms. Linda Kallis for her leadership over the past four years. Linda will continue to serve on the board as advisor for the next term.

Thank you to the election committee chaired by Presvytera Petula Pantels and consisting of Ann Boukidis-Michas, Terry Ayanopolis, & Bess Heinrich.

Congratulations to our newly elected board members for the 2019-2021 term:  
Officers-Rhonda Latkovic, President;  
Athena Snarskis, 1st Vice-President;  
Linda Petalas, 2nd Vice-President;  
Pam Zaverdas, Treasurer; Tina Veroulis,  
Ass't Treasurer; Olympia Pilafidis-Fick,  
Recording Secretary; Gloria Lehman,  
Corresponding Secretary.

Additional Board Members-Pat Dalkas,  
Alexandra Dymond, Pauline Latkovic,  
Emily Tcharos, and Alice Pulos.

Advisor-Linda Kallis.

We look forward to continued philanthropic service to the community.

# ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

## ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

SATURDAY • MAY 4 • 2019

### EVENT REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company (Organization) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

PLAYER NAME(S)	INDEX
1 _____	_____
2 _____	_____
3 _____	_____
4 _____	_____

#### PAYMENT INFORMATION

Individual Player(s) \_\_\_\_\_ (# of players) x \$175 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tee Sponsorship (s) \_\_\_\_\_ (# of sponsorships) x \$100 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Traditional Greek Dinner \_\_\_\_\_ (# of dinners) x \$35 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

**Registration deadline:**

Friday, April 26, 2019

**Pay by credit card or make checks payable to:**

St. George Greek Orthodox Church

**Send check and registration form to:**

PO Box 4755 Palm Desert, CA 92261

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4 \_\_\_\_\_

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