



JULY 24, 2022

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:

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 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 - Romans 12:6-14

Brethren, having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; he who teaches, in his teaching; he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who contributes, in liberality; he who gives aid, with zeal; he who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with brotherly affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

GOSPEL - St Matthew 9:1-8

At that time, getting into a boat Jesus crossed over and came to his own city. And behold, they brought to him a paralytic, lying on his bed; and when Jesus saw their faith he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven." And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say 'Rise and walk?' But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins," he then said to the paralytic—"Rise, take up your bed and go home." And he rose and went home. When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

ST. CHRISTINA THE MARTYR -- Saint Christina was from Tyre in Syria, the daughter of a pagan named Urban. Enlightened in her heart to believe in Christ, she broke her father's idols, made of gold and silver, and distributed the pieces to the poor. When her father learned this, he punished her ruthlessly, then cast her into prison. The rulers subjected her to imprisonments, hunger, torments, and finally impalement, in the year 200, during the reign of the Emperor Septimius Severus.

The liturgical hymn (*Apolytikion*) chanted in the Orthodox Church in honor of St. Christiana is as follows: *"Your ewe-lamb, O Jesus, cries out with a loud voice: 'I yearn for You, my Bridegroom, and I strive in search of You. I am crucified with You and buried in Your baptism. I suffer for You that I may reign with you, die for You that I may live in You. Accept as a spotless offering the one who with love is sacrificed for You.' By her intercessions, as the merciful One, save our souls."*

--Taken from our Archdiocese website: www.goarch.org and Narthex Press

Liturgical Notes for Today

At the Entrance of the Gospel: 1) "Let us worship the Word who is unoriginate * with the Father and the Spirit, and from a Virgin was born * for our salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. * For in His goodness He was pleased * to ascend the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, * and to raise up those who had died, * by His glorious Resurrection." (Tone 5)/ Τον Συναναρχον Λογον..., 2) Hymn for St. Christiana; 3) Hymn for St. George, 4) Kontakion - "Protection of Christians.../Προστασία των Χριστιανών...

THE HEALING OF THE SOUL

St. John Chrysostom, in his 9th Homily on the Gospel of St. Matthew, points out that the main message of today's Gospel passage is that Jesus Christ is God. As God, He knows the secrets that lie in each person's heart, as was indicated when He knew the thoughts of the Scribes who were present at the miracle by which the paralytic was cured. In addition, because He is God, He has authority to forgive sins, indicating that healing the soul is accomplished through faith in God.

On a human level, it is indeed easier say, "Your sins are forgiven," than to heal a paralytic. However, healing the soul is a bigger miracle than healing the body, because many of the body's ailments are related to the ailments of the soul. When the soul is at peace, the body is more at rest and able to accept healing therapy. At the same time, healing the wounds of the soul that has been afflicted by thoughtless, self-centered sins over time can take years, because the wounds of the soul can run deep into our subconscious mind.

There is a big difference between modern-day counseling or psychoanalytic therapies and Holy Confession. Modern techniques focus on the maladies of the soul (or, as they say, "the personality") from the point of view of illnesses which have developed as the result of a "tainted society," or "biological flaw." As a result, the sense of personal responsibility is under-emphasized. In Holy Confession, one is encouraged to unburden the mind by accepting personal responsibility and to humbly, acknowledge the fact that, regardless of our sins, God is a loving God, Who does not despise the sinner, but Who has set repentance as the way of salvation. As such, the healing of our soul depends on our willingness to join in God's Will and to seek God's grace, because we have shown down through history that we cannot do it on our own. Indeed, Jesus Christ is God, Who is our Savior!

+FR. THEODORE

Ο Αγ. Ιωάννης ο Χρυσόστομος, στην 9η Ομιλία του περί του Ευαγγελίου του Αγ. Ματθαίου, σημειώνει ότι το κύριο μήνυμα της σημερινής Ευαγγελικής περικοπής είναι ότι ο Ιησούς Χριστός είναι Θεός.

Φαίνεται πως είναι πράγματι πιο εύκολο να πεις, «Οι αμαρτίες σου συγχωρούνται», παρά για έναν άνθρωπο να θεραπεύσει έναν παράλυτο. Ωστόσο, η θεραπεία της ψυχής είναι μεγαλύτερο θαύμα από τη θεραπεία του σώματος, επειδή πολλές από τις ασθένειες του σώματος σχετίζονται με τις ασθένειες της ψυχής.

Υπάρχει μεγάλη διαφορά μεταξύ της σύγχρονης ψυχαναλυτικής θεραπείας και της Θείας Εξομολογήσεως. Οι σύγχρονες «τεχνικές» επικεντρώνονται στις ασθένειες της ψυχής από την άποψη των ασθενειών που έχουν αναπτυχθεί ως αποτέλεσμα μιας «μολυσμένης κοινωνίας» ή «βιολογικού ελαττώματος». Ως αποτέλεσμα, δεν τονίζεται η αποδοχή της προσωπικής ευθύνης. Στην Εξομολόγηση, ενθαρρύνεται ο άνθρωπος να αποφορτίσει το νου του αναλαμβάνοντας προσωπική ευθύνη για τον τρόπο που περνά τη ζωή του και να αναγνωρίσει ταπεινά ότι, ανεξάρτητα από τις αμαρτίες μας, ο Θεός αγαπά τον άνθρωπο και δεν περιφρονεί τον αμαρτωλό, αλλά έθεσε τη μετάνοια ως δρόμο προς τη σωτηρία. Ως εκ τούτου, η θεραπεία της ψυχής μας εξαρτάται από την προθυμία μας να συμμετάσχουμε με πίστη στο Θέλημα του Θεού και να αναζητήσουμε τη χάρη του Θεού. Πράγματι, ο Ιησούς Χριστός είναι ο Θεός, ο οποίος είναι ο Σωτήρας μας!

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

ANNOUNCEMENTSS

UPDATED PARISH DIRECTORY -- We are most grateful for those who have returned their Parish Directory Participation Forms. Forms are still available for those who have not yet returned them. Be reminded that each parishioner may indicate if he or she does not want to be listed, or only wants a phone number listed and/or email address listed. **Please contact our parish at (760) 880-5869 or: pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com** for more information regarding participation in our upcoming new parish directory. **We have extended the deadline for return of Directory Participation Forms to August 6th!**

WELCOME VISITORS AND NEW PARISHIONERS -- A **Welcome Committee** is in the process of being formed, especially in preparation for the **New Ecclesiastical Year**. Visitors and new parishioners are to be welcomed into the life of our parish. This includes introducing them to our parishioners and visiting with them during our "coffee hour." We would also like them to receive our parish **Welcome Packets**, with information about the Greek Orthodox Faith and the life of our St. George parish.

WEEKDAY CALENDAR

Tuesday, July 26th..... ST. PARASKEVI
Orthros-8:30 a.m./ Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.
Note: Bible Study - 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday, July 27th..ST. PANTELEIMON
Orthros-8:30 a.m./ Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

ST. GEORGE MASTER CALENDAR

Our **St. George 2022-2023 Master Calendar** is taking shape! Below are the events that are currently scheduled up to November 2022, even though events are now already scheduled through April 2023, as we ask that our parishioners **save the date of April 22, 2023 to participate in our annual St. George Golf Tournament at Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Desert.** Please make sure to check with our office before scheduling baptisms or weddings so that scheduling conflicts can be avoided.

August 1 - 15, 2022 -- The Fasting Season in honor of the Most Holy Theotokos

August 1-8, 2022 -- Philoptochos Food and Clothing Drive

September 17, 2022- Philoptochos /Parish volunteers for preparing hygiene kits and food boxing

September 18, 2022 - Meeting with those interested in participating in our Divine Services as chanters, readers and/or choir members (following the Divine Liturgy).

October 2, 2022 - Informal "Coffee Hour" meeting to present to all our parishioners proposals for Orthodox Christian Spiritual Renewal and reports from our delegates at the Archdiocese Clergy-Laity Assembly and National Philoptochos Convention...also, the kick-off of our Philoptohos "SOCKtober" drive.

October 8, 2022 - St. George participation in "Paint El Paseo Pink" Walk for the cure for breast cancer

October 16, 2022- "Bring-a-friend-to-Church" Sunday

November 12, 2022 - St. George Parish Fall Spiritual Retreat

TODAY'S THE DAY!

JOIN OUR AHEPA 528 "SUMMER CELEBRATION" LUNCHEON FOLLOWING THE CELEBRATION OF THE DIVINE LITURGY! DONATIONS TOWARD THE AHEPA 528 FR. T.P. THEOPHILOS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND ARE MOST APPRICIATED!

CELEBRATE TRADITIONS!

On Sunday, July 24th, 2022, after church services, the local AHEPA Brothers of St George will be serving a Chicago Style Vienna Beef Hot Dog luncheon.



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

**AHEPA 528
Attn: Scholarship Fund
PO Box 1735 Palm Desert, CA 92261**

contact@ahepa528.org

Scholarship awards benefit members of
Saint George Church and the AHEPA 528 Family

ABOUT VIENNA BEEF HOT DOGS

It's Not a Chicago Dog Without Vienna Beef

In 1893, two Austrian-Hungarian immigrants debuted their Vienna Beef hot dog at the World's Columbian Exposition, much to the wonder and delight of its over 27 million visitors. Over a century later, few foodstuffs are as worshiped on a national and local level more than the iconic Chicago-style hot dog. Fiercely prideful of America's most popular sausage, Chicagoans are downright religious when it comes to the dog: about 700,000 are made daily at the Vienna Beef headquarters to supply the more than 1,800+ local hot dog vendors who sell them,



'cuz a dog just ain't a dog made any other way!

***** NO KETCHUP ALLOWED *in deference to our Chicagoans***