

MARCH 27, 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



THE LADDER

THE VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

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 CROSS OF REPENTANCE

On the Third Sunday of Great Lent, we are called by our Holy Church to venerate the Holy Cross of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ. The first two Sundays of Lent proclaimed our Faith that God became Man so that we can become like God, being united with His energy of love.

From the Cross, God’s energy of love continues to flow to us. To this day, the Sign of the Cross is enough to terrify demons. Such is the power and the love of

our God. God’s powers are infinitely greater than our own, which in itself makes us humble. Throughout His earthly ministry, every time God performed His miracles, through which He proclaimed His infinite love, people gratefully wanted to follow Him and, “picking up their crosses,” they ultimately give their lives for Him.

In essence, they repented of sins. To repent of our selfishness, hatred, prejudices, and delusions is the cross of repentance. But this cross is one given
Continued on page 2

SERVICE OF THE VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS --Following the Prayer, “*Save, O Lord Your people and bless Your inheritance...*” (following Holy Communion), the choir / chanters sing: “Aghios o Theos, Aghios Ischyros, Aghios Athanatos, eleison imas.” “Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy upon us.” as the priest carries in procession the tray holding the Holy Cross, which is decorated with many flowers and/or basil plants. The procession includes the deacon and Altar Boys as it continues around the interior of the church temple. When the procession arrives at the center of the church, in front of the Holy Altar, the priest raises the tray with the Holy Cross high and exclaims: “**Wisdom! Let us attend!**” The priest then sets the Holy Cross on a table arranged for this service and censes the Holy Cross as he proceeds around the table and chants: “Soson Kyrie ton laon Sou” ... “*Save, O Lord, Your people and bless Your inheritance, granting victory to the faithful over adversaries and, by Your Cross, protecting Your commonwealth.*” This hymn is repeated twice by the choir/chanters. Then, as the priest and deacon venerate the Holy Cross, the priest chants: “Ton Stavron Sou proskinoumen, Despota” ... “*We venerate Your Cross, O Master, and we glorify Your Holy Resurrection.*” This hymn is also repeated twice by the choir/chanters.

Proverbs - “Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in your power to act.” (Proverbs 3:27)





Saint George Greek Orthodox Church Golf Tournament

Saturday, April 30, 2022 | 12:30 PM Shotgun Start | Desert Willow Golf Resort



ENTRY INFORMATION

Saturday, April 30, 2022

- \$185 per player (includes Golf and Awards Dinner)
- 12:30 PM Shotgun Start at Desert Willow Golf Resort
- 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

INDIVIDUALS AND SPONSORSHIPS

Individual Player(s) ___ (# of Players) x \$185 \$ _____

Tee Sponsorship(s) ___ (# of Sponsorships) x \$100 \$ _____

Traditional Greek Dinner ___ (# of Dinners) x \$45 \$ _____

Donation \$ _____

Total Amount \$ _____

EVENT REGISTRATION

Name _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

PLAYER NAMES

1. _____ GHIN# _____

2. _____ GHIN# _____

3. _____ GHIN# _____

4. _____ GHIN# _____

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2022

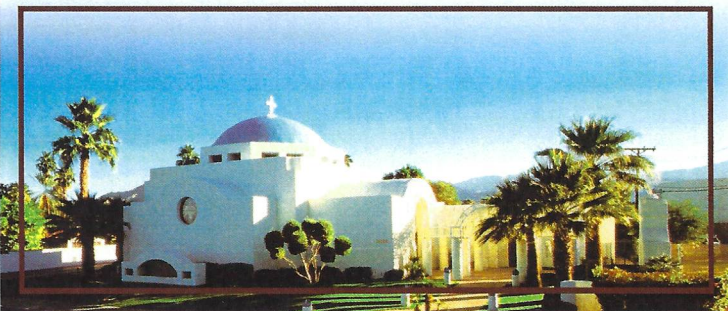
Sign up online at www.desertwillow.com/StGeorge

Make Checks Payable To:

“Saint George Greek Orthodox Church”

Send Checks and Registration Form to:

PO Box 4755 | Palm Desert, CA | 92261



What We Need:

Canned

Soups;

Vegetables;

Rice;

Beans;

Peanut Butter



Food Pantry Donations St. George Ladies Philoptochos

Donations To Benefit:

The Narrow Door, an Indio-based non-profit committed to helping families in need and the homeless.

When: March 28th - April 11th

Where: Parish Hall

*Meet David Ramirez, Operations Mgr. for the Narrow Door on 3/28/22 @12:00 pm, Guest Speaker Philoptochos General Mtg.



2022 ST. GEORGE LENTEN & HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 27th.....Veneration of the Holy Cross - Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m./
Veneration of the Holy Cross - 10:30 a.m. (approximately)

Wednesday, March 30th....Presanctified Liturgy - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 1st.....Presanctified Liturgy -9:00 a.m. /4th Salutations - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 2nd.....St. George Parish Lenten Retreat - 9:00 a.m

Sunday, April 3rd.....St. John of the Ladder. Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 6th.....Presanctified Liturgy -6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 7th.....Canon of St. Andrew - 6:30 p.m.

Friday, April 8th.....Presanctified Liturgy - 9:00 a.m./Akathist Hymn - 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 10th.....St. Mary of Egypt. Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 13th.....Presanctified Liturgy - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 16th.....SATURDAY OF LAZARUS -Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy- 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 17th.....Palm Sunday - Orthros-8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m./ Bridegroom
Service - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, April 18th.....Holy Monday - Bridegroom Service -6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 19th.....Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Service -6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 20th.....Holy Wednesday - Presanctified Liturgy -9:00 a.m./ Sacrament of Holy
Unction - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 21st.....Holy Thursday -Divine Liturgy-9:00 a.m./ Service of the 12 Gospels-6:30
p.m.

Friday, April 22nd.....Holy Friday - Royal Hours-9:00 a.m./ Apokathelosis-12 noon/ Lamentations
- 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 23rd.....Holy Saturday- Divine Liturgy -9:00 a.m./ Canon of the Resurrection -11:00
p.m.

**Sunday, April 24th.....Holy Pascha - Resurrection Service -12:00 a.m. followed by the Paschal
Divine Liturgy/ Agape Vespers - 12:00 noon**

Monday, April 25th.....ST. GEORGE - Orthros -8:30 a.m./Divine Liturgy-9:30 a.m.



Philoptochos Lenten Food Item Sale



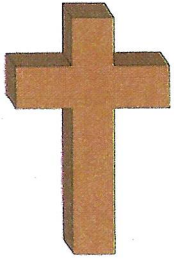
The Philoptochos is offering for sale several imported foods for the Lenten season while supplies last.

We have Halva in three flavors of plain vanilla, marbled (chocolate & vanilla), or pistachio. We also have canned Gigantes (beans) & Dolmas (grape leaves).

All items are \$7.00 each.

(Payable via cash or check to Ladies Philoptochos.)





Luminary Candles to Light the Church on Holy Friday

Let's light the path around our Church during Holy Friday Evening services with the names of our loved ones who have passed on or our wishes for the health of our family and friends.

Each candle-lit bag will be personalized with: In Memory of (name) or In Health of (name)

There is a minimum \$10 donation for each luminary bag and up to two names maximum may be displayed on each bag.

Luminary Orders will be taken beginning Sunday, March 27th to Palm Sunday, April 17th.

Please complete your form, make your check payable to St. George Ladies Philoptochos and either mail back the form & your check or give it in person to the church office or a Philoptochos board member. Project Chairperson: Margarita Pagoulatos.

If you would like more than two luminaries please write the additional names on the back of this form.

Total Bags _____ **Donation Amount** _____ **Check** _____ **Cash** _____

Luminary #1	Luminary #2
Ordered By: _____	Ordered By: _____
Contact Info: _____	Contact Info: _____
"In Memory" or "In Health" (Please circle one)	"In Memory" or "In Health" (Please circle one)
Name: _____	Name: _____

Την Τρίτη Κυριακή της Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστής η Εκκλησία μας παρακαλεί να να προσκυνήσουμε τον Τιμίο Σταυρό του Θεού και Σωτήρος μας Ιησού Χριστού. Οι δύο πρώτες Κυριακές της Μεγάλης Τεσσαρακοστής ediakήρυξαν την Πίστη μας ότι ο Θεός έγινε Άνθρωπος για να γίνουμε όμοιοι με τον Θεό, ενωμένοι με την ενέργεια της αγάπης Του.

Από τον Σταυρό, η ενέργεια της αγάπης του Θεού συνεχίζει να μας σώσει. Μέχρι σήμερα, το Σημείο του Σταυρού τρομοκρατήσει τους δαίμονες. Τέτοια είναι η δύναμη και η αγάπη του Θεού μας. Οι δυνάμεις του Θεού είναι απείρως μεγαλύτερες από τις δικές μας, η οποία αλήθεια μας κάνει ταπεινούς. Σε όλη τη διάρκεια της επίγειας διακονίας Του, κάθε φορά που ο Θεός έκανε τα θαύματά Του, μέσω των οποίων ediakήρυξε την απέραντη αγάπη Του, οι άνθρωποι ήθελαν με ευγνωμοσύνη να Τον ακολουθήσουν και, τελικά, να προσφέρουν τη ζωή τους προς δόξαν Αυτού.

Ουσιαστικά εμετανόησαν για τις αμαρτίες τους. Το να μετανοήσουμε για τον εγωισμό, το μίσος, τις προκαταλήψεις και τις απάτες μας είναι ο σταυρός της μετάνοιας. Αλλά αυτός ο σταυρός είναι ένας που προέρχεται από την αγάπη μας για τον Θεό και που, ταυτόχρονα, προσφέρει την ψυχική μας χαρά. Ο Thomas Hopko, στο βιβλίο του, *Η Σαρακοστιανή Ανοιξη*, γράφει τα εξής: «[Εμείς] πρέπει να σηκώσουμε τον Σταυρό στη ζωή [μας]. Πρέπει να συνσταυρωθούμε με τον Χριστό για να μοιραστούμε τη δόξα Του με άλλους και να βιώσουμε, ακόμη και σε αυτόν τον κόσμο, την ομορφιά και τη δύναμη -- την ειρήνη και τη χαρά -- της Βασιλείας του Θεού».

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

to God out of gratitude and which, and the same time, gives us joy. Fr. Thomas Hopko, in his book, *The Lenten Spring*, writes the following: “[We] must take up the Cross in [our] own lives. We must be crucified with Christ in order to share His glory, and to experience, even in this world, the beauty and power; the peace and joy of the Kingdom of God.” (pg. 146)

Through the Cross we inherit the Kingdom of God. Thus, the Cross is the central theme of the Divine Liturgy, which is our expression of gratitude to God; for, it is from the Cross that we partake of Christ’s Body, which was broken for us, and His Blood, which was shed for us. While the Cross is Christ’s victory over death, our heart-felt repentance is the cross that we carry for victory over sin. We carry our cross of repentance with the divine help of the Cross of Christ.

The Cross teaches us that God loves each one of us. God’s love is Eternal Life itself. We venerate the Cross of our God and Savior, Jesus Christ, because we are grateful. We are grateful, because, through His love, we can repent of sins and turn to our God, Who forgives us and Who is always there to guide us in the life of His glorious Resurrection.

+FR. THEODORE

MEMORIAL -- Today’s Memorial Service is for the Eternal Life and Salvation for **Apostolos Soumalias (6 months)**, the beloved brother of **Tasia Richards, Sultana Soumalias (1 year)**, the beloved mother of **Tasia Richards, J.J. (Demetrios) Richards (4 years)**, the beloved wife of **Tasia Richards**, and **Bernice Kuz (40 days)**, the beloved sister of **J.J. (Demetrios) Richards**. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Life to **Apostolos Soumalias, Sultana Sumalias, J.J. (Demetrios) Richards, Bernice Kuz** and may He grant peace and comfort to **Tasia Richards**. **MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE ETERNAL!**

SUNDAY SCHOOL -- Today Sunday School class will be in the church. Fr. Ted will explain the liturgical items in the Holy Altar.

PHILOPTOCHOS - Luminary Candles-the Philoptochos will have a table set up after church to sell **Luminary Candles for Holy Friday**. (see flier).

Philoptochos will hold a general members meeting on **Monday, March 28th** beginning with lunch at 11:30 AM. Please bring a canned or boxed food item to donate to the food bank and receive a free lunch! Guest speaker is David Ramirez, founder of The Narrow Door.

Lenten Food Sale-- the Philoptochos is selling several Lenten food items including gigantes, dolmas, & halva. (see flier) Our **Easter Bake Sale** will begin **April 10th** offering bread, koulourakia, paximathia, kourembiethes, melamakarona, baklava, & karidopita.

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 4:14-16; 5:1-6

Brethren, since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed

by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

GOSPEL - St. Mark 8:34-38; 9:1

The Lord said: "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."

WEEKDAY CALENDER

Monday, March 28th.....Philoptochos General Members Meeting--11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, March 29th.....Bible Study - 10:00 a.m. (No Zoom available)

Wednesday, March 30th.....Presanctified Divine Liturgy - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 31st.....Choir Practice - 1:00 p.m.

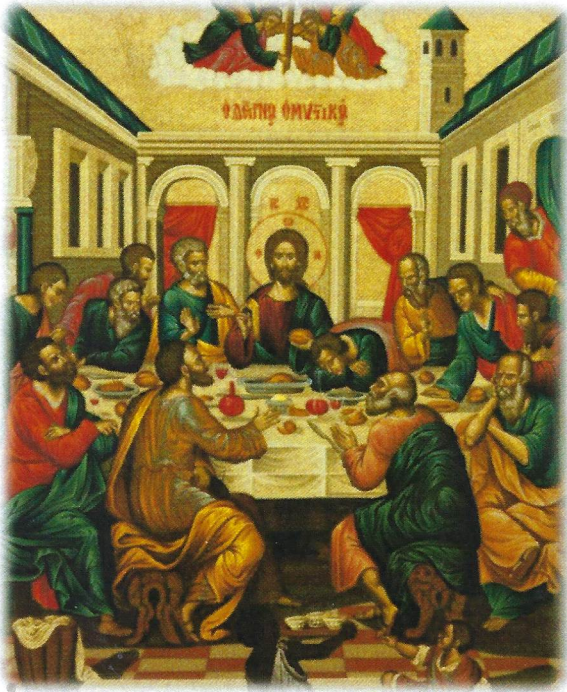
Friday, April 1st.....Presanctified Divine Liturgy - 9:00 a.m. /Salutations (4th Sanza) - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 2nd.....St. George Parish Lenten Retreat -10:00 a.m. (luncheon provided by the members of our parish Philoptochos Chapter)

SUNDAY SCHOOL RETREAT - Our **Sunday School Lenten Retreat** will take place on **Friday, April 15th, at our St. George church, beginning at 10:00 a.m.** All of the children of our parish are most welcome to join in the activities of this educational experience, through which they will learn about Great Lent and our Holy Orthodox Christian way of life. Many thanks to our Sunday School teachers, **Athena Snarskis, Melissa Hawkins and Ana Storton** for all that they do for our Sunday School students.

ST. GEORGE PARISH LENTEN RETREAT - This **Saturday, April 2nd**, beginning at **10:00 a.m.**, our **St. George Parish Lenten Retreat** will be held at our parish hall, with **Fr. Philip Zymaris, ThD.**, professor of liturgics at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Seminary. The topic deals with putting **the prayers and hymns of the Divine Liturgy into action in our daily lives**. The **luncheon** for this event is at 12 noon and it is graciously offered by our **St. George Philoptochos Chapter**. Following the luncheon, a special presentation by Fr. Zymaris and a "Question and Answer" session will be held. See the enclosed flier.

ST. GEORGE GOLF TOURNAMENT - Our **St. George Golf Tournament** will be held on **Saturday, April 30, 2022 at the Desert Willow Golf Resort in Palm Desert**. Enclosed is the registration and reservation form. We ask everyone to help make this event successful by having golfers register for the tournament and making reservations for the awards dinner which will follow. We are in need of silent auction items. Please contact **Fr. Ted** to arrange for delivery of silent auction items to the church office.



**ST. GEORGE
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
SATURDAY & SUNDAY,
APRIL 2ND & 3RD, 2022**

74-109 LARREA STREET, PALM DESERT, CA

SATURDAY, APRIL 2ND - 10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

(ST. GEORGE PARISH HALL)

SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD -

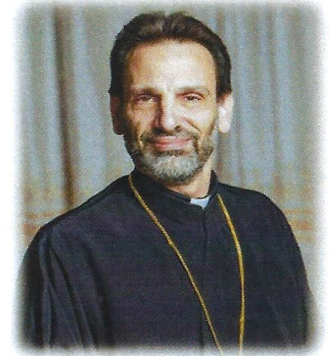
ORTHROS - 8:30 A.M./ DIVINE LITURGY - 9:30 A.M.

(St. George Greek Orthodox Church)

"THE DIVINE LITURGY: THE EXPERIENCE OF HUMAN FLOURISHING"

**SPEAKER: FR. PHILIP ZYMARIS, THD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LITURGICS
HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL**

- "THE MEANING BEHIND THE LITURGICAL MOVEMENTS"
- "BECOMING CITIZENS OF THE KINGDOM: THE PRAYERS, HYMNOLOGY, ARCHITECTURE AND ICONOGRAPHY THAT FORM US."



R.S.V.P BY: FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022

TO: PDSAINTEGEORGE@GMAIL.COM

760.568.9901 [HTTPS://WWW.GO-STGEORGE.ORG/](https://www.go-stgeorge.org/)

REGISTRATION: \$20 (INCLUDES LUNCH)

NAME _____

CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

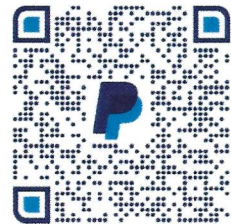
OR PAYPAL LINK BELOW

[HTTPS://WWW.PAYPAL.COM/CGI-BIN/WEBSOCR?CMD=_S-XCLICK&HOSTED_BUTTON_ID=MBEUBAVL2F66S](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=MBEUBAVL2F66S)

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: IN MEMO, WRITE: "PARISH RETREAT."

MAILING ADDRESS:

ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
PO BOX 4755
PALM DESERT CA 92261



PAY BY PAYPAL WITH ABOVE QR

Mar. 25, 2022

2022 Stewardship Report

<u>Month</u>	<u>'22</u>	<u>'21</u>	<u>'20</u>	<u>'19</u>
January \$	10,600	13,940	21,430	24,110
February	32,766	27,335	13,717	5,700
March	*9,272	24,705	9,110	23,897
<hr/>				
1st QTR. \$	*52,638	65,980	44,257	53,707

Comments:

*partial month

-As of this week, **86 Pledge Cards** have been turned into the office totaling **\$128,640** in pledges. For comparison, a year ago as of March 25th we had 87 stewards totaling \$110,715 in pledges.

-Jan/Feb 2022 (\$43,366) vrs. 2021 (\$41,275) **increased +5%**, which is good! We need to achieve \$25,000 this March in stewardship income to beat last year's 1st quarter.

-By the end of 2021 we had 113 stewards, totaling \$146k, so we can expect to receive about 30 more stewards pledges this year.

-Our 2022 stewardship goal should be to achieve a minimum of \$165k this year, especially with the loss of festival income & now the rental income from the property next door. If we can achieve total steward numbers of 115-120 then we **should** beat our total stewardship from last year.

-Thank You to all who have promptly turned in your pledge cards! We are grateful for your support of St. George!