



SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

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 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 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—2 Timothy 3:10-15

Timothy, my son, you have observed my teaching, my conduct, my aim in life, my faith, my patience, my love, my steadfastness, my persecutions, my sufferings, what befell me at Antioch, at Iconion, and at Lystra, what persecutions I endured; yet from them all the Lord rescued me. Indeed all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceivers and deceived. But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings which are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

GOSPEL— St. Luke 5:1-11

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And he saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one

of the boats, which was Simon's, he asked him to put out a little from the land. And he sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when he had ceased speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord." For he was astonished, and all who were with him, at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men." And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed him.

ST. THEKLA THE PROTOMARTYR & EQUAL-TO-THE-APOSTLES

Today is the Feast Day of St. Thekla the Martyr. St. Thekla was from the city of Iconium. When she was eighteen years of age, she was instructed in the Faith of Christ and the hope of the resurrection by the Apostle Paul, whom also she followed, forsaking her betrothed and espousing a life of virginity for the sake of the Heavenly Bridegroom. Having preached Christ in various cities and suffered many things, she reposed in Seleucia of Cilicia at the age of 90.
– Taken from goarch.org

### Liturgical Notes for Today

At the Entrance of the Gospel: 1) **Entrance hymn:** *"By Your Cross O Christ our God You destroyed death. You opened Paradise to the thief. You transformed the lament of the myrrh bearing women, and You commanded the Apostles to proclaim You are risen, granting the world Your great mercy."/*Κατέλυσας τῷ Σταυρῷ...

2) *"Come now O peoples, let us clap our hands in faith and sing songs to the Mother of God, fervently crying out, 'Rejoice Protection of all who entreat You. Rejoice Salvation of those who in fervor honor You. Rejoice O One Who awarded the Paralytic with healing.'"* / Λαοὶ νῦν κροτήσατε...

3) *"Set aflame by the yearning for your Maker through the teachings of the divine preacher, you proved the earthly to be fleetingly absurd. Braving retribution, you gave yourself to God as a sacred offering. O glorious Thekla, sojourner of Paul. Beseech your Bridegroom Christ to grant us great mercy."/*Θείου κήρυκος διδασκαλίας...

4) *"Since you are a deliverer of captives..."* [Hymn of St. George]/Ὡς τῶν αἰχμαλώτων ἐλευθερωτῆς...

5) **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 τῶν Χριστιανῶν...

**MEMORIAL** — Today's Memorial Service is for the Eternal Rest and Salvation for the servant of God, **Edith Wanda Canakis (40 days)**, the beloved sister-in-law of Evangelia Canakis, wife of George Canakis and mother of Phoebe and Philomon Canakis. May our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ grant Eternal Life and Salvation to **Edith Wanda Canakis** and may He grant peace and comfort to Evagelia Canakis and the entire family. **MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL!**

### LET US BE STEADFAST IN OUR FAITH

Even to this day, through his Second Epistle to Timothy, St. Paul urges all of us to imitate him in our lifestyle. His words are consistent with those found in First Corinthians, *"Be followers of me as I follow the example of Christ."* (1 Corinthians 11:1). He reminds us of his goal in life, which is to establish churches so that those who love Christ can worship Him. His conduct was a reflection of Christ's divine-human behavior. He was truly living with faith in Christ! In today's passage from his Second Epistle to Timothy, he admits that his way of life brought him tribulations and persecutions, but he also notes that our Savior rescued him from those tribulations and persecutions. Then, he reminds us that, his work truly gave glory to Christ our God and great blessings came upon people throughout the entire world.

Those who have been blessed - and those who still are blessed, as well as those who will be blessed throughout the ages - will know the love of God and know their divine value as human beings. In that respect, St. Paul's work was well worth it.

It is tempting to look at the world and wonder if all of his efforts -- as well as all of our efforts -- were not (or are not) in vain, since, as he reminds us, there will always be imposters and deceivers. There will continue to be evil people who do worse and worse evil works. Let us never be discouraged from trying to live according to God's teachings and expressing God's love. With patience and steadfastness we will help others to know that Christ our God will grant them inner peace; He will bless them and save them if they accept *and share* His divine love.

+FR. THEODORE

Ακόμη και μέχρι σήμερα, μέσω της Δευτέρας Επιστολής του προς τον Τιμόθεο, ο Άγ. Παύλος προτρέπει όλους μας να τον μιμηθούμε στον τρόπο ζωής μας, όπως έγραψε στους Κορινθίους...«Να είσαστε ακόλουθοί μου καθώς ακολουθώ το παράδειγμα του Χριστού». (1 Κορ. 11:1). Μας θυμίζει τον στόχο της ζωής του, που ήταν να ιδρύσει εκκλησίες για να Τον λατρεύουν όσοι αγαπούν τον Χριστό. Η συμπεριφορά του ήταν αντανάκλαση της θεανθρώπινης συμπεριφοράς του Χριστού. Εξούσε αληθινά με πίστη στον Χριστό. Στην σημερινή περικοπή της Δευτέρας Επιστολής του προς τον Τιμόθεο, παραδέχεται ότι ο τρόπος ζωής του έφερε θλίψεις και διωγμούς, αλλά σημειώνει επίσης ότι ο Χριστός τον έσωσε από αυτές τις θλίψεις και τους διωγμούς. Ωστόσο, μας υπενθυμίζει ότι, το έργο του έδωσε πραγματικά δόξα στον Χριστό και οι μεγάλες ευλογίες του Χριστού εφώτισαν ανθρώπους σε ολόκληρο τον κόσμο.

Όσοι ευλογήθηκαν στο παρελθόν - και όσοι είναι ακόμη ευλογημένοι, καθώς και αυτοί που θα έχουν τις ευλογίες του Θεού στο μέλλον - θα γνωρίσουν την αγάπη του Θεού και θα γνωρίσουν τη θεϊκή τους αξία ως άνθρωποι. Από αυτή την άποψη, το έργο του Αγ. Παύλου άξιζε τον κόπο.

Ο άνθρωπος μπορεί να εξαπατηθεί σήμερα και να πιστεύει ότι οι προσπάθειες του Αγ. Παύλου -- όπως και όλες οι προσπάθειές μας -- ήταν (ή είναι) μάταιες, αφού, όπως μας υπενθυμίζει ο Αγ. Παύλος, θα υπάρχουν πάντοτε απατεώνες και αμαρτωλούς. Θα συνεχίσουν να υπάρχουν κακοί άνθρωποι που κάνουν όλο και χειρότερα κακά έργα. Ας μην αποθαρρυνόμεθα ποτέ από το να προσπαθούμε να ζούμε σύμφωνα με τις διδασκαλίες του Θεού και να εκφράζουμε την αγάπη του Θεού. Με υπομονή και σταθερότητα θα βοηθήσουμε τους άλλους να ξέρουν ότι ο Χριστός θα τους χαρίσει εσωτερική γαλήνη -- θα τους δώσει ευλογίες και θα τους σώσει αν δεχθούν και μοιραθούν τη θεϊκή Του αγάπη.

+Ο ΠΑΤΗΡ ΘΕΟΔΩΡΟΣ

### WEEKDAY CALENDAR

- Monday, September 25th..... Festival Meeting – 4:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, September 26th..... Bible Study-10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, September 30th.....AHEPA Dinner Night Out – 6:00 p.m.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PHILOPTOCHOS**-The **Philoptochos General Meeting** planned for Monday, Sept. 25th is cancelled. We have **rescheduled our October meeting to the 23rd**, to allow time for our “snowbird” members to return to the desert.  
  
-The “**Paint El Paseo Pink Walk**” is coming up on **Saturday, October 14th @ 8:00 AM**. Registration is a \$ 35.00 donation and includes a walk tee-shirt. We will have a table set-up to take registrations for the walk over the next three Sundays.
- **2024 ST. GEORGE GREEK FESTIVAL MEETING** – Our first **planning meeting for our Greek Festival**, scheduled for **February 17-18, 2024**, will be held **tomorrow, September 25th at 4:00 p.m.** at our parish hall. Everyone is invited!
- **AHEPA** – On **Saturday, September 30, 2023** plan to attend the AHEPA “**Dinner Night Out.**” Proceeds to benefit AHEPA scholarships and philanthropic efforts. R.S.V.P. to: [contact@ahempa528.org](mailto:contact@ahempa528.org). See enclosed flyer.

• OCTOBER SPIRITUAL RENEWAL –

1. Our Adult Bible Study sessions originally scheduled for every Wednesday evenings beginning on October 11th is to be rescheduled. Those who are unable to attend our Tuesday morning Adult Bible Study and are interested in joining an evening or weekend Adult Bible Study are asked to send their email addresses to our parish office at [pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com), so that a Zoom link can be provided for those who cannot join in-person sessions. In sending an email address to our parish office, please indicate a preference as to day and time other than Tuesday mornings that would be convenient. Those who would like to attend an evening or weekend Bible Study in person, please inform Fr. Ted.

2. St. George Fall Spiritual Retreat - Saturday, October 28th. Fr. Josiah Trenham, pastor of St. Andrew Antiochian Orthodox Church in Riverside, California, and founder of Patristic Nectar Publications will be our speaker on the theme, "*The Theotokos, Mother of the Light.*" It will be a two-part presentation: 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Luncheon will be provided. Q and A to follow at 2:30 p.m. Plan to join us! See enclosed flyer!



2024  
GREEK FESTIVAL  
MEETING

Monday,  
September 25, 2023  
At  
4:00 p.m.





**“THE  
THEOTOKOS,  
THE MOTHER  
OF THE LIGHT”**



Father Josiah Trenham is the Pastor of St. Andrew Antiochian Orthodox Church, Riverside, California and he is the founder and director of Patristic Nectar Publications.

**ST. GEORGE  
FALL SPIRITUAL RETREAT  
Saturday, October 28, 2023  
Father Josiah Trenham, Guest Speaker  
10:00 a.m.—2:30 p.m.  
St. George Greek Orthodox Church  
74-109 Larrea Street  
Palm Desert, California 92260  
At will donation: \$15.00 (Lunch included)**

R.S.V. P. to: St. George Fall Spiritual Retreat:  
St. George Greek Orthodox Church  
74-109 Larrea St.  
Palm Desert, California 92260

Telephone; (760) 568-9901/ email: [pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com](mailto:pdsaintgeorge@gmail.com)

Or, contact Fr. Theodore Pantels, pastor, St. George Greek Orthodox Church:  
Telephone: (760) 880-5869



Paint El Paseo Pink is a beloved community walk that takes place on Oct. 14th to help raise awareness for breast cancer and to raise much needed funds for Desert Cancer Foundation (DCF). Your support and all funds raised will help provide for residents who need financial assistance with cancer care and treatment.

***Saturday, October 14th***

Please join our Saint George Team to support cancer care treatment through Desert Cancer Foundation's annual "Pink Walk" and celebrate our **6th year** of participation!

\$35 Donation

Registration closes Oct. 8th

(Event Tee shirts will be distributed a few days prior to the walk.)

You can register directly through this link:

<https://www.paintelpaseopink.org/join-a-team/saint-george-2023>

OR

Donate \$35 directly to Philoptochos and we will register you.  
(Indicate tee shirt size wanted.)







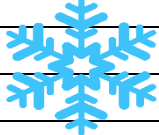
# ST GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

74109 Larrea St, Palm Desert, CA – 760-568-9901

FR. Ted Pantels 760-880-5869 – Mrs. Athena Snarskis 219-313-6940

## SUNDAY SCHOOL 2023/24 FAMILY CALENDER

*Sunday School Class – Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Month.  
Outreach Project events – TBA each month see below*

Sept 10	Regular class schedule	
Sept 17	Regular class schedule for SERVICE PROJECT	
Sept 24	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Oct 1	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Oct 8	Regular class schedule	
Oct 15	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Oct 22	Regular class schedule – HARVEST PATIO PARTY!	
Oct 29	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Nov 5	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Nov 12	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Nov 19	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Nov 26	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Dec 3	Regular class schedule - Nativity Practice	
Dec 10	“LIVING ICONS OF THE NATIVITY” PROGRAM	
Dec 17	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Dec 24	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Dec 31	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Jan 7, 2024	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Jan 14	Regular class schedule	
Jan 21	Family Worship Sunday (class not held)	
Jan 28	Regular class schedule – SERVICE PROJECT TBA	





**“THE  
THEOTOKOS,  
THE MOTHER  
OF THE LIGHT”**



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Telephone: (760) 880-5869



SEPTEMBER 30th 2023

# DINNER



# Night Out

*AHEPA Chapter 528 invites you*

Please, join us for a dinner night out  
cooked by your local AHEPA Chapter 528 brothers.  
Vegetarian Yemista with traditional sides  
Donation of \$25.00 requested, beer and wine available  
At St. George Church, Palm Desert, CA. Seating at 5:30pm



\$25

[ahepa528.org](http://ahepa528.org)

RSVP at [contact@ahepa28.org](mailto:contact@ahepa28.org) / Bill Rellos Chair; 818.371.7995  
Chapter 528 President, Wynn Storton; 760.832.2825

**All proceeds benefit AHEPA Scholarships and Philanthropic projects**