



**St George the Great Martyr
Orthodox Church - Weekly Bulletin**

Sunday, July 08, 2018

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**6th Sunday after Pentecost/ Holy Greatmartyr Procopius of
Cæsarea**

Tone 5 Troparion (*Resurrection*)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal
with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the
Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, /
to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious
Resurrection.

Tone 4 Troparion (*Martyr Procopius*)

Thy holy martyr Procopius, O Lord, / through his suffering has
received an incorruptible crown from Thee, our God. / For
having Thy strength, he laid low his adversaries, / and shattered
the powerless boldness of demons. // Through his intercessions
save our souls!

Tone 5 Kontakion (*Resurrection*)

Thou didst descend into hell, O my Savior, / shattering its gates
as Almighty, / resurrecting the dead as Creator, / and destroying
the sting of death. / Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse,
O Lover of man, // and we cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

Tone 2 Kontakion (*Martyr Procopius*)

Set ablaze by divine zeal for Christ and protected by the might
of the Cross, / thou didst cast down the insolence and boldness
of the Enemy, O Procopius, / Thou didst exalt the honorable
Church, // excelling in faith and giving light to us all!

Matthew 9:1-8 (Gospel)

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

Great Martyr Procopius — July 8

The Holy Great Martyr Procopius, in the world Neanius, a native of Jerusalem, lived and suffered during the reign of the emperor Diocletian (284-305). His father, an eminent Roman by the name of Christopher, was a Christian, but the mother of the saint, Theodosia, remained a pagan. He was early deprived of his father, and the young child was raised by his mother. Having received an excellent secular education, he was introduced to Diocletian in the very first year of the emperor's accession to the throne, and he quickly advanced in government service. Towards the year 303, when open persecution against Christians began, Neanius was sent as a proconsul to Alexandria with orders to mercilessly persecute the Church of God.

On the way to Egypt, near the Syrian city of Apamea, Neanius had a vision of the Lord Jesus, similar to the vision of Saul on the road to Damascus. A divine voice exclaimed, "Neanius, why do you persecute Me?" Neanius asked, "Who are you, Lord?" "I am the crucified Jesus, the Son of God."

At that moment a radiant Cross appeared in the air. Neanius felt an inexpressible joy and spiritual happiness in his heart and he was transformed from being a persecutor into a zealous follower of Christ. From this point in time Neanius became favorably disposed towards Christians and fought victoriously against the barbarians.

His mother, went to the emperor to complain that her son did not worship the ancestral gods. Neanius was summoned to the procurator Judaeus Justus, where he was solemnly handed the decree of Diocletian. Having read through the blasphemous directive, Neanius quietly tore it up before the eyes of everyone. This was a crime, which the Romans regarded as an “insult to authority.” Neanius was held under guard and in chains sent to Caesarea of Palestine, where the Apostle Paul once languished. After terrible torments, they threw the saint into a dark prison. That night, a light shone in the prison, and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself baptized the suffering confessor, and gave him the name Procopius.

Repeatedly they led Saint Procopius to the courtroom, demanding that he renounce Christ, and they subjected him to more tortures. The stolidity of the martyr and his fiery faith brought down God’s abundant grace on those who witnessed the execution.

Struck by the great faith and courage of the Christians, and seeing the firmness of her son in bearing terrible sufferings, Theodosia became repentant and stood in the line of confessors and was executed. Finally the new procurator, Flavian, convinced of the futility of the tortures, sentenced the holy Great Martyr Procopius to beheading by the sword. By night Christians took up his much-tortured body, and with tears and prayers, they committed it to the earth. This was the first martyrdom at Caesarea (303).

Calendar of Events – Starting today: July 08

Sunday	7/08	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy
Monday	7/09	
Tuesday	7/10	
Wednesday	7/11	1pm Office Hours
Thursday	7/12	
Friday	7/13	
Saturday	7/14	6:00pm Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday	7/15	9:10am - Hours 9:30am - Divine Liturgy

**Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers
during the week.**

For good health and healing:

Abram, Debrutu, Denise, Joseph, Souraya, Alice, Issa, Basil, Rania and the child born of her, Ghaleb, Majdlin, Jacob, Collette, Christina, Connie, Eddie, Fred, James, Peter.

For a new Job:

Mario, Jason, Janice.

Memory Eternal:

Daniel, Vincent.

Weekly announcements:

- ◆ July 15th Matushka will present what she learned about Catechesis of The Good Shephard.
- ◆ On August 1st the Myrrh Bearers of St George will meet to finalize plans for our car wash / hot dog bash fundraising event which is tentatively scheduled in August.
- ◆ Father and Matushka are away July 23rd - August 4th. No Vespers are scheduled July 28th or August 4th. Fr Arkadi will be serving on Sunday July, 29th.
- ◆ Please keep the OCA and our Bishop in your prayers as the entire OCA church will gather together in St. Louis Missouri, for the All American Council from July 23rd through the 27th.