

July 8, 2018
SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Greatmartyr Procopius of Caesarea, in Palestine

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). 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, a pagan herself, 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.

Inspired by the example of Procopius, many of the holy martyr's former guards and Roman soldiers went beneath the executioner's sword together with their tribunes Nikostrates and Antiochus. Twelve Christian women received martyr's crowns, after they came to the gates of the Caesarea Praetorium.

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).

Text (adapted) and Image from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2018/07/08/101966-greatmartyr-procopius-of-caesarea-in-palestine>



**ST. PHILIP
ORTHODOX
CHURCH**

A Parish of the
Antiochian Archdiocese

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH



His Grace Bishop THOMAS



Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor
215-954-9286 (text preferred)



Father James Thayer
215-692-0890

July 8, 2018

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

COMMEMORATIONS:

GREAT-MARTYR PROCOPIUS OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE
NEW-MARTYRS THEOPHANES AND ANASTASIOS OF
CONSTANTINOPLE
VENERABLE THEOPHILOS THE MYRRH-STREAMING OF ST.
BASIL KELLI ON ATHOS
PROCOPIUS OF USTUG, FOOL-FOR-CHRIST

Tone 5 - Eothinon 6
Matins Gospel: St. Luke 24:36-53
Epistle: Romans 12:6-14
Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 9:1-8

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 5 - Let us believers praise and worship the Word, coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation; for he took pleasure in ascending the cross in the flesh, to suffer death, and to raise the dead by his glorious resurrection.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. PROCOPIUS THE GREAT-MARTYR - Tone 4 - Thy Martyr, O Lord, in his courageous contest for Thee * received as the prize the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. * For since he possessed Thy strength, he cast down the tyrants * and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. * O Christ God, by his prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

TODAY: Orthros, 8:45 am & Divine Liturgy, 10 am
Coffee Hour, 11:45 am
Women of St. Philip, 12 pm
Choir Rehearsal, 12:30 pm

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Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00; Friday 10:00 - 3:00

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.

Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (July 15):
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Tadesse	---
EPISTLE READER:	Greg Howanetz	Catalin Tinjala
ALTAR CANDLES:	The Gohls	---
GREETERS:	Todd & Kristi M.	Don & Maryann R.
CLEANING TEAM:	Christ & Natalia	Kim, Todd & Kristi
COFFEE HOUR:	---	Burial Ministry Donation

Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments after the Divine Liturgy. Your assistance in cleanup is appreciated.

COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS NEEDED! Many upcoming weeks do not have sponsors - can you take a turn?

SPECIAL APPEAL

Please consider being a part of our **Church Cleaning ministry!** We currently have 6 teams, and are looking to expand to a 9-team rotation. Can you help? Please contact Todd Moore to volunteer or for more information.

Mark Your Calendar:

Mini-Retreat w/ Fr David Sommer
July 21 after Vespers

Vacation Church School
July 30 - Aug 3

Dormition Fast
Aug 1 - Aug 15

Feast of the Transfiguration
August 6

Feast of the Dormition
August 15

Beheading of St. John the Baptist
August 29

Sunday School Resumes
September 9

International Food Festival
September 21-22

Pray For:

Living	Departed
Baby Simeon	R. Herman
Natalie	Alexandra
Paul (H)	George
Paul (M)	
James E	
Christine S	
Angela G	
Mary K.	
R. Maxime	
Lasha B	
Otari B	
Daniel H	St. Nina's List
Elizabeth D	Catechumens
Stephanie	New & Ex-
M. Emiliani	pectant Mothers
Mebrat	& children
Gregory	Couples prepar-
	ing for marriage
Thomas, Elizabeth & all Missionaries	Joseph G.
	Faith
	Mary
	Michael
Suffering in Syria, Ethiopia, Egypt & unstable lands	

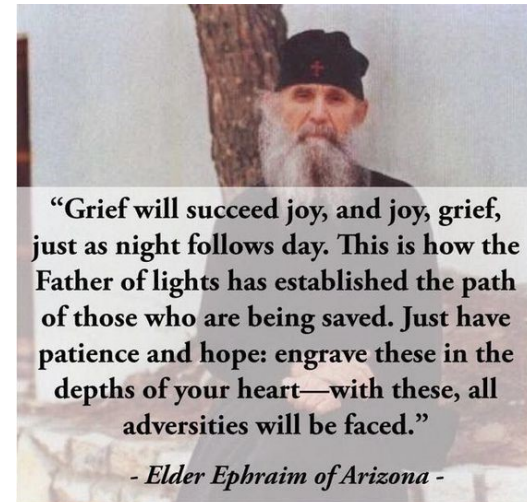
Everyday Evangelist

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

"Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none" (Lk 3.11)

This Week:

Monday, July 9:	SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon
Tuesday, July 10:	Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 11 a.m. SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon
Wed, July 11:	SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon
Thurs, July 12:	SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon
Friday, July 13:	SIXTH HOUR, 12 noon
Saturday, July 14:	Sacrament of Marriage (Kyriakos), 2 pm VESPERS 6 p.m., Confession 7 p.m.
Sunday, July 15:	ORTHROS 8:45 a.m., Divine LITURGY 10 a.m. Coffee Hour, 11:45 am



"Grief will succeed joy, and joy, grief, just as night follows day. This is how the Father of lights has established the path of those who are being saved. Just have patience and hope: engrave these in the depths of your heart—with these, all adversities will be faced."

- Elder Ephraim of Arizona -

OUTREACH COLLECTION: Oral Care Products.

WISDOM FROM FATHER B.: "The devil's favorite lie is, 'there is plenty of time to repent.'"

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Jun 30: 22 Divine Services on Jul 1: 136
OFFERINGS: Candles, \$384.05. Collections, \$445. Camping Fund, \$250. Stewardship, \$5,194. Total received: \$6,301.55.
GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!