

THE EPISTLE

Thou, O Lord, wilt preserve us and keep us from this generation.

Save me, O Lord, for the Godly man hath disappeared.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the 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, and 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.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. (9:1-8)

At that time, Jesus got into a boat, 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 marveled, and they glorified God, Who had given such authority to men.



SAINT IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

A Parish of the Diocese of Los Angeles and the West of the Antiochian
Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of all North America

V. Rev. Dr. James Coles, Pastor

V. Rev. Father Basil Caldaroni, Retired

Rev. Deacon Christopher Purdef, Deacon

Tone 5 / Eothinon 6

July 8, 2018

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost & Sixth Sunday of Matthew

Great-Martyr Procopius of Caesarea in Palestine

New-martyrs Theophanes and Anastasios of Constantinople; Venerable Theophilus the
myrrh-streaming of St. Basil Kelli on Athos; Procopius of Ustug, Fool-for-Christ

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE

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 SAINT PROCOPIUS THE GREAT-MARTYR IN TONE FOUR

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.

APOLYTIKION OF SAINT IGNATIUS IN TONE FOUR

By choosing the Apostles' way of life, you succeeded to their throne. Inspired by God you
found the way to divine contemplation through the practice of virtue. After teaching the
Word of Truth without error, you defended the Faith to the very shedding of your blood.

O, Holy Martyr among bishops, Ignatius. Entreat the Lord our God to save our souls.

KONTAKION FOR ORDINARY SUNDAYS IN TONE TWO

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most
constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick,
O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and

speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect,

O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

CALENDAR

Sunday, July 8

7:55 am Orthros
9:00 am Divine Liturgy, Trisagion Prayers of Mercy for Metodija Purdef, Prayer Group, Coffee Hour

Tuesday, July 10

6:30 pm Men of St. Ignatius at Red Devil in Tempe

Thursday, July 12

9:00 am Church cleaning

Saturday, July 14

4:15 pm Confession
4:45 pm Jesus Prayer
5:00 pm Great Vespers, Book Club, Chapter 2, from *Bearing God*

Sunday, July 15

7:55 am Orthros
9:00 am Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour

Monday, July 16 - Friday, July 20

Clergy Symposium

Thursday, July 19

9:00 am Church cleaning

Saturday, July 21

4:15 pm Confession
4:45 pm Jesus Prayer
5:00 pm Great Vespers, Book Club, Chapter 3, from *Bearing God*

Sunday, July 22

7:55 am Orthros
9:00 am Divine Liturgy, Prayer Group, Coffee Hour

View the entire Saint Ignatius Church calendar at:
saintig.org/calendar

View sermons and content at our YouTube channel by searching Saint Ignatius Orthodox Christian Church

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeter(s)

Jon & Rahal Tuoti

Epistle Reader

Andrew Blanchard

Collectors

Tillie Berger, Kiki Yodis,
Rebecca & Matthew Cook

Coffee Hour Host(s)

The Bennetts

Ushers

John Benza, Ralph Clair,
Ron Berger, Matthew McDaniel

NEXT WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeter(s)

Jill K. Benza

Epistle Reader

Steven Allen

Collectors

Mike Stapleton, Silvia Ansara,
Betty Kehrle, Claudia Beatley

Coffee Hour Host(s)

The Alamir Family

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Happy Birthday

July 8- Skylar Ritchie
July 10- Jill K. Benza
July 10- Tresa Stapleton
July 12- Christian Gonzalez
July 12- Martha Panella

Happy Anniversary

July 11- Andrew & Ana Ward

PARISH COUNCIL

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Join Us

Great Vespers: Saturdays at 5:00 pm
Orthros: Sundays at 7:55 am
Divine Liturgy: Sundays at 9:00 am

New Here?

Welcome to Saint Ignatius. We're glad you're here and would love to meet you. Please join us for coffee hour following Divine Liturgy.

Holy Communion

The mystery of Holy Communion is given only to those baptized and Chrismated into the Orthodox Faith. After the dismissal, everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing, venerate the cross and have the antidoron (blessed bread).

At the end of the Divine Liturgy, we offer Prayers of Thanksgiving for receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. These prayers help us reflect on the mystery we have just received and prepares us for our transition back into the "world."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH-WIDE SUMMER BOOK CLUB

Bearing God: The Life and Works of St. Ignatius of Antioch the God-Bearer by Fr. Andrew Stephen Damick is our parish-wide summer reading. We will have brief discussions on Saturday evenings immediately following Great Vespers. You can get copies in our parish bookstore or on Amazon. Everyone is encouraged to attend Great Vespers this summer and to get copies of this book to know more about and grow closer to the patron and protector of our holy community! If you are traveling or unable to attend Great Vespers please get yourself a copy of the book and read along.

Saturday evening schedule is:

- July 14- Chapter 2, Salvation in Christ (pgs 66-83)
- July 21- Chapter 3, The Bishop
- July 28- Chapter 4, The Unity of the Church
- August 4- Chapter 5, The Eucharist
- August 11- Conclusion

CHRISTMAS IN JULY - It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

Haven't gotten your tag yet? There's still time to take a tag today after liturgy! The items listed on the tags will be used to assemble blessing bags for people experiencing homelessness on Sunday, July 29th. Please bring your items to church on or before Sunday, July 29th and place them under the palm tree. Thank you for spreading the love and making this summer a little brighter for those in our community! Please contact Shannon Dawson at shandaws@gmail.com or see Linda Pedersen after church with any questions.

BUILDING PRAYER

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lord, grant all our petitions that are for our unity, salvation and eternal life. Have mercy on Saint Ignatius and grant us the faith to rely on you for what we need. If it is your Holy will, grant all the funds and everything necessary for a proper Orthodox Church in Mesa for your glory and that of your Only-begotten Son, Our Sweetest Lord Jesus, and your Life-creating Spirit. Establish St. Ignatius firmly upon your Divine Word and grant us grateful hearts.

For Thou are a great God, always, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

SOUL FOOD

GREAT MARTYR PROCOPIUS OF CESAREA IN PALESTINE

Saint Procopius was born in Jerusalem and given the name Neanias by his parents, Christopher and Theodosia. Christopher was a prominent Roman and pious Christian man, but Theodosia was a pagan. Neanias lived in the early years of the fourth century, a time of violent persecution of Christians by the pagan emperors. After his father's death, his mother presented him to Emperor Diocletian, who was at Antioch in Syria. Diocletian made him Duke of Alexandria and sent him there to punish the Christians.

On the way to Alexandria, our Lord spoke to Neanias and turned this new persecutor to faith in Him. Neanias turned back to Scythopolis (Roman province) and preached Christ. He was betrayed by his mother and was arrested and tormented in Caesarea of Palestine. While he was in prison, the Lord appeared to him again and gave him the new name of Procopius (which is derived from the Greek word meaning "progress or advancement").

Procopius was brought out of prison and taken to worship the idols, but at his prayer, the idols fell. Many then believed in Christ and suffered martyrdom; among them Roman soldiers, twelve women of senatorial rank and the Saint's own mother, Theodosia. After further torments and imprisonment, Flavian, a procurator for Rome, realized these punishments were futile and ordered Procopius beheaded about the year 303.

In the dismissal of the marriage ceremony, Great Martyr Procopius is mentioned. It is somewhat surprising to find references to martyrs and the idea of martyrdom in the marriage ceremony of the Church. There's also the hymn, "O Holy Martyrs, who have fought the good fight and have received your crowns, entreat the Lord that He may have mercy on our souls."

Martyrdom involves sacrifice. It involves profound love. It involves a kind of crucifixion of self. Surely, such elements provide the bedrock for a truly Christian marriage. So it is no wonder that the Church invokes the name of one of the great martyrs of the faith, Saint Procopius, in the ceremony.