

St. George Orthodox Church

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Web Site: saintgeorgeflint.org

V. Rev. Father Joseph M. Abud, Pastor

Dn. Michael Bassett

July 8, 2012

5TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GREAT MARTYR PROKOPIOS OF CAESAREA IN PALESTINE

Tone – 4

5th Matins Gospel {*Luke 24:12-35*}

Altar Servers: **St. Paul** team {Devin Jones, captain}

Next Week – **St. Peter** team

Confessions

8:30-9:30am

Matins p.44

8:50am

Divine Liturgy p.91

10:00am

Memorial Service

Trisagion p.183

Welcome to St. George! Every Sunday we remember the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The word “*Liturgy*” means *work of the people* which means everyone participates through singing, praying, hearing the teaching, and opening our hearts to allow God’s grace to enter. For those who have committed themselves to the Orthodox Faith (through Baptism and/or Chrismation) it also means, if prepared, the reception of Holy Communion. Preparation includes the Sacrament of Confession (7 years and older) within the last 2 months, prayer, being on time for church, being at peace with others, attending the Divine Liturgy regularly, and fasting (no food or drink from midnight the night before). If you are new, just visiting, or have any questions, please introduce yourself to Father Joe. Please know that everyone is invited to venerate the Holy Gospel and receive Holy Bread at the end of Liturgy. All are welcome to our Coffee Fellowship in the hall after Liturgy.

In the **Divine Liturgy** of **St. John Chrysostom** {*The Golden-Mouth*}, we sing these special hymns:

Third Antiphon (during the Little Entrance)

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 4

When the women disciples learned the joyful message of the resurrection from the angel, they cast away parental sin, and proudly told the message to the disciples proclaiming that death hath been spoiled and Christ our God hath risen granting the world great mercy.

Hymns after the Entrance with the Gospel

Troparion of the Resurrection—Tone 4 (*as above*)

Troparion for St. Prokopios—Tone 4

Thy Martyr, O Lord, by his struggle has received from Thee, our God, the imperishable crown; because acquiring Thy strength, he demolished usurpers and crushed the powerless might of Satan. Therefore, through the intercessions of the Great-martyr Prokopios, O Christ God, save our souls.

Troparion of St. George—Tone 4

As deliverer of captives and defender of the poor, healer of the infirm, champion of kings: Victorious Great Martyr George, intercede with Christ our God, for our souls’ salvation.

بما أنك للمأسورين محرر ومعتق، وللفقراء والمساكين عاضد وناصر، وللمرضى طبيب وشاف وعن المؤمنين مكافح ومحارب أيها العظيم في الشهداء جاورجيوس الاليس الطفر تشفع إلى المسيح الإله في خلاص نفوسنا.

Kontakion for the Virgin Mary (on a normal Sunday)—Tone 2

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.

Epistle Reading: *Romans 10:1-10* {5th Sunday after Pentecost}

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 8:28-9:1* {5th Sunday of Matthew}

Holy Bread Offerings

- Anwar and Janet Abueita for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Alice Salomon** (40 days, Janet's mom).
- Karam and Aida Nassar for the health of their family and in loving memory of **Alice Salomon** (40 days).
- Elias Hanna, Najwa Joubran, and Wafaa Elias for the health of their families and in loving memory of aunt **Souaad Khasho Hanna**.

Baptism/Chrismation Days

The Church School offers the Holy Bread for their teachers and/or students who are celebrating their *New Birth* {Baptism and/or Chrismation} into the Church this coming week:

- ♦ **Batoul Burbar** – July 8th ♦ **Alek Saadeh** – July 9th
- ♦ **Gabrielle David** – July 11th ♦ **Goni Ishak** – July 14th

May our children be children of the Light and heirs of eternal good things. {Baptismal Service}

- This morning we pray for the servants of God who have fallen asleep in the Lord: **Archpriest Peter Gillquist** (+July 1st), **Gabrielle Peera** (+June 9th, friend of Najwa Joubran), **Naim Farah** (+June 11th, father of Gisele Farah), **Attaf Helal** (+June 17th, mother of Amani Helal), and **Delores Gray** (+June 18th, neighbor).
- Prayers are offered for our parishioners who are ill, recovering, or in need, especially His servants: **Khouriya Janet Peters**, **Nayef Aboujamra**, **Philip Abuaita**, **Jonathan Bassett**, **Samira Gantous**, **Camille** and **Nadera Ghantous**, **Phyllis Good**, **Carol Haddad**, **Roland Haddad**, **George Ishak** (nephew of Amira Hanna), **Betty Khouri**, **Jean Khouri**, **John Khouri**, **Mariam Khoury**, **Norma Lazar**, **Lourice Matta**, **Megan Meade** (relative of Bob Teunion), **Danny Mortensen**, **Elaine Shaheen**, **William Sophiea Jr.**, **Rimi Abuaita** and the newborn **Angelina** (June 16th), **Majeda Abuaita** and the newborn **Anthony** (June 19th), **Matthew Hayek** who was brought into the Orthodox Faith through the Holy Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, and the reception of his First Communion, **Raed** and **Rania Abuaita** who were united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, and **José Ramírez** and **Reem Bathish** who are to be united in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony.
- We also pray for the servants of God who are with child: **Huda Abusaada** and **Ivy Khoury**.

Communion Hymn *(for the Lord's Day)*

(Refrain) Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest.

(Verse) Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts! *(Refrain)*

(Verse) Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars! (Refrain)
(Verse) Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! (Refrain)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Reception of Holy Communion

- Please remember ONLY ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS who have PREPARED THEMSELVES may partake of Holy Communion.
 - If you are physically able, please remain standing during Holy Communion. If you have a special need, please let one of the ushers know so we may assist you.
 - Since Church School is not in session our children and their parents can receive Holy Communion together! Everyone should wait in their pew until an usher comes to dismiss them to the Communion Line.
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by *Anwar and Janet Abueita*.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOSTS Available dates: July 15th, 22nd, and 29th -- sign-up poster is in the Hall. Hosting information is in the Hall and Lounge and includes: bringing whatever you wish to serve and cleaning up afterwards. St. George provides coffee, cups, cream, and sugar at a charge to the host of \$25.

Middle Eastern Festival Needs

SPONSORS We are still in need of sponsors to advertise during our Festival. Businesses and Individuals can show their support of St. George while you look for support for your business! If interested, please see any Festival Committee member!!!

WORKERS HELP!!! We are in need of LOTS of parishioners to work the Festival! ALL work areas have open slots. Put your name on 1, 3, or 5 slots. If you have any questions, please speak with the chair of that committee (the list of chairs is hanging in the Lounge – please sign-up with the chair).

POP NEEDED We are in need of donors for canned POP or bottled water. If you are interested in donating these items or making a donation to purchase these items, please contact Basil Andoni (basil487@hotmail.com or 810- 814-1076).

July 8th — SAINT PROKOPIOS THE GREAT MARTYR

The Holy Great Martyr Prokopios, 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.

The words of the Savior came true for the saint, "A man's foes shall be those of his own household" (Mt. 10:36). 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 dank prison. That night, a light shone in the prison, and the Lord Jesus Christ Himself baptized the suffering confessor, and gave him the name Prokopios.

Repeatedly they led St Prokopios 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 Prokopios, 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 Prokopios 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).

COMING EVENTS

This Week	The traditional fasting discipline (<i>no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil or their by-products</i>) is observed on Wednesday and Friday.
TODAY	Festival Committee Chairmen Meeting during Coffee Fellowship
Wednesday	SOYO Wednesday <u><i>check out our Facebook page for details!</i></u>
Saturday	Bathish/Ramirez Wedding 4pm No Great Vespers