

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...**

*The health and salvation of –*

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	John
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Vivian
Archpriest Eugene	Jung Sook
Priest James	Thomas
Priest John	Randall
Reader Aleksei	Don
Monk Philaret	Norma
Matushka Priscilla	James
Elizabeth • Marie	Eileen
Marie • Virginia • Thomas	
John • Luke • Katherine	

Catechumens: Andrew, David,  
Michael, Sergio, Rachel,  
Jennifer, and Rebecca

*The repose and salvation of –*

*Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.*

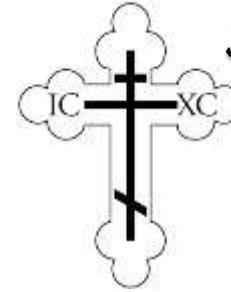
*Next Sunday, July 15, 2:00 PM – Wedding!*

**Saturday, July 28, 4:00 PM – Choir Practice**

**Saturday, July 28, 5:30 PM – Great  
Vespers & Confession**

**Sunday, July 29 – Parish Council**

*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,  
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,  
Orthodox Church in America*



**ST TIKHON ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**Sunday, July 8, 2018**

**Holy Great Martyr Procopius**



Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck  
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day  
Other services as announced

Priest Alexander Vallens, *Rector*

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Deacon John Manutes, *Attached*

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## Holy Great Martyr Procopius

Procopius was born in Jerusalem of a father who was a Christian and a mother who was a pagan. At first, his name was Neanias. Following the death of his father, the mother raised her son completely in the spirit of Roman idolatry. When Neanias matured, Emperor Diocletian saw him and, at once, took a liking to him and brought him to his palace for military service. When this nefarious emperor began to persecute Christians, he ordered Neanias to go to Alexandria with a garrison of soldiers and there to exterminate the Christians. But, on the road, something happened to Neanias similar to that which happened to Saul [Paul]. In the third hour of the night there was a strong earthquake and, at that moment, the Lord appeared to him and a voice was heard: "Neanias, where are you going and against whom are you rising up?" In great fear, Neanias asked: "Who are You Lord? I am unable to recognize You." At that moment, a glowing cross as if of crystal appeared in the air and from the cross there came a voice saying: "I am Jesus, the crucified Son of God." And further, the Lord said to him: "By this sign that you saw, conquer your enemies and My peace will be with you."

The experience completely turned him around and changed the life of Commander Neanias. He issued an order to make the same kind of cross which he saw and instead of going against the Christians he, with his soldiers, turned against the Agarians who were attacking Jerusalem. He entered Jerusalem as a victor and declared to his mother that he is a Christian. Being brought before the court, Neanias removed his commander's belt and sword and tossed them before the judge thereby showing that he is only a soldier of Christ the King. After great tortures he was cast into prison where the Lord Christ, again, appeared to him, baptized him and gave him the name Procopius. One day twelve women appeared before his prison window and said to him: "We too are the servants of Christ." Accused of this they were thrown into the same prison where St. Procopius taught them the Faith of Christ and particularly about how they will receive the martyr's wreath. For that reason in the marriage ritual of the betrothed, St. Procopius is mentioned along with the God-crowned Emperor Constantine and Empress Helena.

After this, those twelve women were brutally tortured. Witnessing their suffering and bravery, the mother of Procopius also believed in Christ and all thirteen were slain. When St. Procopius was led to the scaffold, he raised his hands toward the east and prayed to God for all the poor and misfortunate, orphans and widows and especially for the Holy Church that it may grow and spread and that Orthodoxy shine to the end of time. And to Procopius there was a reply from heaven that his prayers were heard after which he joyfully laid his head under the sword and went to his Lord in eternal joy. St. Procopius honorably suffered in Caesarea in Palestine and was crowned with the glorious wreath of immortality on July 8, 303 A.D.

*Also this week: Hieromartyr Pancratius, Bp of Taormina (July 9); Ven. Anthony of the Kiev Caves, founder of monasticism in Russia (July 10); Greatmartyr Euphemia the All-Praised (July 11); Martyrs Proclus and Hilary of Ancyra (July 12); Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel (July 13); Apostle Aquila of the Seventy (July 14).*

*\* Regular fasting this week \**

**Epistle:** Romans 12:6-14 (Sunday)

**Gospel:** Matthew 9:1-8 (Sunday)

### Troparion – Tone 5 (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.

### Troparion – Tone 4 (Martyr)

Thy holy martyr Procopius, O Lord, /  
Through his sufferings received his incorruptible crown from Thee, our God /  
For having Thy strength, he laid low his enemies /  
And shattered the powerless boldness of demons ///  
Through his intercessions, O Christ God, save our souls.

### Kontakion – Tone 5 (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend into hades, 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 all cry to Thee: O Lord, save us!

### Kontakion – Tone 2 (Martyr)

Enflamed with heavenly zeal for Christ /  
And protected by the might of the Cross /  
Thou didst stop the raging and insolence of the foe /  
And thou didst raise up the Church, O Procopius. ///  
By the strength of thy faith, thou dost enlighten us all.