

## ANDREW OF CRETE

### Reading:

Saint Andrew was from Damascus; his parents' names were George and Gregoria. He became a cleric and secretary of Theodore and Patriarch of Jerusalem; from this, he is called "the Jerusalemite." He was present at the Sixth Ecumenical Council in Constantinople, which was convoked in 680 during the reign of Emperor Constantine IV (668-685). He became deacon of the Great church in Constantinople, that is, the Church of the Holy Wisdom of God, then Archbishop of Crete. He reposed in 720 or 723. Beside his other sacred writings, he also composed various hymns, among which is the famous Great Canon, which is chanted during Great Lent (see the Thursday of the Fifth Week of the Fast).

### Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

The truth of things hath revealed thee to thy flock as a rule of faith, an icon of meekness, and a teacher of temperance; for this cause, thou hast achieved the heights by humility, riches by poverty. O Father and Hierarch Andrew, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

### Kontakion in the Second Tone

While trumpeting forth the songs of God with clarity, thou also didst prove a blazing light for all the world, O most righteous Andrew, who shonest with the light of the Trinity. Wherefore, we all cry out to thee: Cease not to entreat the Master for us all.

**TODAY'S READER: GARY KENT**

### EPISTLE: St. Paul's Letter 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, 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.

### GOSPEL Matthew 9:1-8

AT THAT TIME, getting into a boat Jesus 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 were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.



## HOLY ROYAL MARTYRS OF RUSSIA

Tsar Nicholas II was the son of Alexander III, who had reposed in the arms of Saint John of Kronstadt. Having been raised in piety, Tsar Nicholas ever sought to rule in a spirit consonant with the precepts of Orthodoxy and the best traditions of his nation. Tsaritsa Alexandra, a grand-daughter of Queen Victoria of England, and a convert from Lutheranism, was noted for her piety and compassion for the poor and suffering. Their five children were beloved of all for their kindness, modesty, and guilelessness.

Amidst the political turmoil of 1917, Tsar Nicholas selflessly abdicated the throne for what he believed was the good of his country. Although he had abdicated willingly, the revolutionaries put him and his family under house arrest, then sent them under guard to Tobolsk and finally Ekaterinburg. A letter written from Tobolsk by Grand Duchess Olga, the eldest of the children, shows their nobility of soul. She writes, "My father asks that I convey to all those who have remained devoted to him ... that they should not take vengeance on his account, because he has forgiven everyone and prays for them all. Nor should they avenge themselves. Rather, they should bear in mind that this evil which is now present in the world will become yet stronger, but that evil will not conquer evil, but only love shall do so."

After enduring sixteen months of imprisonment, deprivation, and humiliation with a Christian pat-

ience which moved even their captors, they and those who were with them gained their crowns of martyrdom when they were shot and stabbed to death in the cellar of the Ipatiev house in Ekaterinburg in 1918.

Together with them are also commemorated those who faithfully served them, and were either slain with them, or on their account: General Elias Tatishchev; Prince Basil Dolgorukov; the physician Eugene Dotkin; the lady-in-waiting Countess Anastasia Hendrikova; the serving-maid Anna Demidova; the cook John Kharitonov; and the sailors Clement Nagorny and John Sednev.

### APOLYTIKION IN THE FIRST TONE

Most noble and sublime was your life and death, O Sovereigns; wise Nicholas and blest Alexandra, we praise you, acclaiming your piety, meekness, faith and humility, whereby ye attained to crowns of glory in Christ God, with your five renowned and godly children of blest fame. O Martyrs decked in purple, intercede for us.

### KONTAKION IN THE THIRD TONE

Royalty and martyrdom were joinee toghers, O blest ones, in your death for righteousness and right belief, O wise Sovereigns, Nicholas and Alexandra, with your five children. Hence, Christ God hath deemed you worthy of thrones in Heaven; and with two fold crowns of glory, ye reign for ever, adorned with grace divine.

**PRAYER LIST:** Antonia "Nitsa" Kempf, Connie Kanaris, Diana Lazar, George Markomanolakis, Mary O'Hara, Argie Palaios, Katherine Panagakos, Priscilla Preuss, George Virvan, Sylvia Basdekas, George Speris, Mariah Smiley, Doris Webb, the child Camille Feruzzi who is gravely ill, the child Heather Greene, Irene Pappas, Marty Levine, Lindsey Reijsoo, the child Ashley Lyvers, the child Alexis Ross, Joseph Papadakis, Marilyn Kauffman, the child Joseph Saxon, Francine Bruggeman, Estrella Grandea Ocampo, Stephanie Skanderis, Georgia Haldas, Eric Ricasa, Theodosia Karmiris, and Robert Shriver.

**U.S. ARMED FORCES:** (Col.) Fr. Alexander Webster, Rev. Fr. John Kalantzis, Lt. Nicholas Karnaze, Spc. Spiro Nino, John Xanthakos, Colonel James Karas, and Gary Hogman (Iraq) and his wife Cindy, and 2nd Lt. Phillip Natsios.

### PASTORAL VISITATIONS

Please inform the Church Office 301-469-7990 (ext 300) of any loved ones who are hospitalized or "shut-ins," so they may be visited and receive the grace of Holy Communion.

### SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**Camp Good Shepherd**, which is the summer camp of the Metropolis of New Jersey and located in Branchville, NJ, will be holding two sessions for GOYA aged persons (12-18) and one session for JOY aged children (7-11). The first GOYA session is from July 11-17 and the second session is from July 18-24. The JOY session is from July 25-31. For further information and for registration forms, please visit the Metropolis of New Jersey website: [www.nj.goarch.org](http://www.nj.goarch.org), or contact Fr. George: [frgeorge@stgeorge.org](mailto:frgeorge@stgeorge.org).

**Ionian Village**, the official summer camp of our Archdiocese, will be holding two summer sessions for GOYA aged youths. Session 1 will be held from July 1-20 and session 2 from July 25 through August 15. For further information and registration forms, please visit the website [www.ionianvillage.org](http://www.ionianvillage.org), or contact Fr. George: [frgeorge@stgeorge.org](mailto:frgeorge@stgeorge.org).



### THE GREAT MARTYR PROKOPIOS

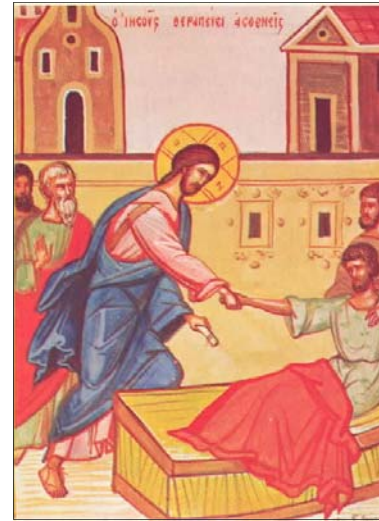
Prokopios was born of a father named Christopher, and an idolatrous mother named Theodosia. After Christopher's death, she presented Neanias - for this was the Saint's name before - to Diocletian. Diocletian made him Duke of Alexandria, and sent him there to punish the Christians. On the way to Alexandria, our Lord spoke to him as He did to Saul, and turned Neanias to faith in Him. He turned back to Scythopolis, and preached Christ. He was betrayed by his own mother, and was arrested and tormented in Caesarea. While in prison, the Lord appeared to him and gave him the new name Prokopios (from the Greek meaning "progress, advancement"). He was taken to worship idols, but at his prayer, they fell; many then believed in Christ and suffered martyrdom, among them soldiers, 12 women of senatorial rank, and the Saint's own mother. Prokopios was beheaded c. 290.

### A REMINDER

**When you make your stewardship offerings by check, PLEASE REMEMBER TO WRITE ON THE MEMO LINE "2010 STEWARDSHIP."** Checks are coming in without ANY identification or with "Donation" written on them. Please assist our financial staff by indicating that your offering is TOWARDS STEWARDSHIP — otherwise the offerings will be placed in the general fund rather than under your stewardship pledge. Many thanks!

## ST. GEORGE BULLETIN

SIXTH SUNDAY OF  
ST. MATTHEW  
JULY 4, 2010



### PLAGAL OF THE FIRST TONE

Sixth Eothinon — Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Plagal of the First Tone

Let us worship the Word who is unoriginate \* with the Father and the Spirit, and from a Virgin was born \* for our salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. \* For in His goodness He was pleased \* to ascend the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, \* and to raise up those who had died, \* by His glorious Resurrection.

Resurrectional Kontakion in the Plagal of the First Tone

You descended to Hades, my Savior, and shattered its gates, as the Almighty. As Creator, You raised the dead with yourself, and smashed the sting of death, O Christ. You freed Adam from the curse, O Lover of humanity. Therefore we all cry out to You, Save us, O Lord.

### Seasonal Kontakion in the Plagal of the Second Tone

O Protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the creator most constant: O despise not the voices of those who have sinned; but be quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession and speed thou to make supplication, O thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.

### MEMORIALS

A Memorial Service will be offered today for **Maria Skenderis (10 Years)** and **Fotaki Skenderis (36 Years)**. Altar flowers and coffee hour today are provided by the family of **Maria and Fotaki** in their loving memory.

### THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT GEORGE

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