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Saint of the Day, Oct. 27

Gerelyn Hollingsworth | Oct. 27, 2009 NCR Today

On Oct. 27, the Eastern Orthodox Church celebrates the feast of St. Procula, the wife of Pontius Pilate.

In Matthew 27:19, we read the message she sent to her husband: **"Let there be nothing between you and this just man; for I have suffered much today because of a dream about him."**

She is not named in the Gospel, but tradition assigned her the names Procula and Claudia.

> "Claudia figures prominently in 'Women at the Foot of the Cross,' [1] a Lenten prayer booklet that follows the Stations of the Cross and highlights the often unheralded role of women in Jesus' life. More than 140 parishes or people have ordered the booklet this year, said Sister Christine Schenk, FutureChurch's executive director.
>
> "'Men, and some women, caught up in the patriarchal system do not recognize the value of women's insights,' the booklet reads in the section about Pilate's wife. 'Often women themselves doubt and fear to follow what they know deep in their hearts.'"

--from an article about Claudia [2] published in the Albany Times Union.

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An icon of St. Procula. [3]

IMDB lists 35 films and TV episodes [4] in which Claudia Procula was portrayed. Among the actresses who played the part were Barbara Billingsley, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Viveca Lindfors, Jeanne Crain, Angela Lansbury, Hope Lange, Claire Bloom, and Marjorie Lord.

"Pilate's Wife's Dream", [5] a poem by Charlotte Brontë.

Submitted by Gerelyn Hollingsworth [6]

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[1] http://www.futurechurch.org/watw/holyweek.htm
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