

# January 18

*B † Our Fathers among the Saints and Archbishops of Alexandria,  
Athanasius and Cyril*



Besides the separate celebrations of each of these hierarchs (see St. Athanasius on May 2, and St. Cyril on June 9), their joint celebration is established on this day, January 18, probably because of their special holiness and value to the Church.

*Troparion, tone 3*

**Having shone with deeds of Orthodoxy,  
And having extinguished all slander,  
You were victorious trophy-bearers.  
Having enriched all with piety,  
You greatly adorned the Church  
And you worthily found Christ God,  
Granting us great mercy.**

*Kontakion, tone 4*

**Most magnified hierarchs of piety,  
And noble defenders of the Church of Christ  
Preserve all who sing:  
“Save, O compassionate One,  
Those who through faith honor You”.**

**Epistle:** Heb. 13:7-16; sel. 334. **Gospel:** Mt. 5:14-19; sel. 11.

*Ven. Marcian of Cyrrhus*

He practiced asceticism in the desert where his heart and mind were constantly directed to God. Having built a small hut for himself, he settled in it, spending time in prayer, singing psalms and reading spiritual books. His food was scanty and rough. Hearing of his holy way of life, many began to come to him and he built a monastery for his visitors. The wonderworking grace of God visibly rested on the holy ascetic. A snake once crept into his kellia; he made the sign of the cross, and the snake perished, burned by fire. The Venerable One worked many and other wonders in his life. He died about 388.

*Martyr Xenia* was burned to death for her faith in Christ after being tortured.

*Maxim, the New Despot of the Serbs*

The son of St. Stephen (see Dec. 10) was the Metropolitan of the Ugro-Vlachians and died in 1516. His relics are in the Krushedol Monastery in Sirmium.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp. 0036-0037.  
Translated by Archpriest Eugene D. Tarris ©December 20, 2006. All rights reserved.*