

## February 7

### *G. Our Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus*

The son of Deacon Christopher in his youth was engaged in fishing and, “from a young age carrying God in himself”, he sold the fish and distributed the money to the poor. Having learned about his good works, the local bishop educated him and then ordained him a presbyter. Soon, for his god-fearing life, St. Parthenius was elected bishop of Lampsacus. Having accepted the episcopate in the reign of the Emperor Constantine, the Venerable Parthenius zealously abolished paganism, destroyed pagan temples and built holy churches. He was blessed with the gift of wonder working and died in very old age (in the fourth century). His body was buried close to the cathedral church in the city of Lampsacus (in *Mizia*, near the sea of Marmara).

### *Kontakion, tone 3*

**You received the divine grace of miracles,  
O Divinely wise Priest, Godbearer and Wonderworker  
Parthenius.**

**You cleansed all the faithful of passions  
And drove away evil spirits, O Father.**

**Therefore we hymn you as a great revealer of mysteries of the  
grace of God.**

### *Our Venerable Father Luke, of Hellas*



The son of the poor Greek land owners, the Venerable Luke in his youth was known for an unusual spirit of godliness and abstinence: he was meek, silent, and ate only dry food and certainly obeyed the parents. He helped the poor in everything he was able to, and quite often gave back to them his last bit of food, while remaining hungry. But after the death of his father, St. Luke secretly left his mother for Athens and there was tonsured a monk. But from there he soon, at the suggestion of the Lord, came back to his orphaned

mother, and lived with her in complete humility and obedience for four months and, asking her blessing for his ascetical efforts of monasticism, he left his parental home, intending to lead a life of a hermit. St. Luke struggled ascetically in various seaside places of Attica. The last place of his ascetical efforts was on Mount Stira, in Hellas. St. Luke died in or about 946. His relics are in a secluded place. The Venerable One during his life had the gift of farsightedness and prophecy from God, and after death flowed wonderful healings, “cleansing lepers, strengthening the infirm, healing the lame together with the blind”.

### *The 1003 Martyrs in Nicomedia*

They were servants of four imperial nobles: Bassus, Eusebius, Eutychius and Basilides (see Jan. 20). After the martyred death of their lords, they wished to follow their example and voluntarily underwent martyrdom for Christ. Diocletian commanded all of them beheaded by the sword in 303.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp 73-4.  
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