

February 14

✙ *Holy Equal-to-the-Apostles Cyril, and teacher of the Slavs, See May 11*

The decree of the Holy Synod (1885) prescribed the singing of the Polyeleos in the service for St. Cyril. The St. Petersburg Synodal Printing House published the service on this day in 1885.

Troparion, tone 4

**From the shroud thou hast diligently created wisdom as thy sister,
O Voice of God, having perceived exceedingly bright, as a chaste maiden,
Who received and brought a soul and mind,
Adorned like her golden necklace,
And, O Blessed One, appeared as the other Cyril,
With reason and wise by name.**

Kontakion, tone 2

**With firm and divinely inspired teaching,
And enlightening the world with an exceedingly bright dawn,
Flashing around the universe like lightening,
O Blessed Cyril, you spread the most holy word of God,
To the West and to the North and to the South
Enlightening the world with wonders.**

Matins Gospel: John 10:1-9; sel. 35. **Epistle:** Heb. 7:26-28, 8:1-2; sel. 318
Gospel Mt. 5:14-19; sel. 11.

Our Venerable Father Auxentius

Born in Syria, at first he was the courtier for the Emperor Theodosius the Younger, and later, having entered monasticism, left for Bithynia and practiced asceticism on Mount Oxia, near Chalcedon. He was present at the Fourth Ecumenical Council where he zealously struggled against the Eutychian and Nestorian heresies. The Venerable One healed the sick through the strength of his prayers and had the gift of spiritual insight. He died in about the year 470.

Ven. Isaac, Recluse of the Kievan Caves

Before he became a monk, he was a rich merchant in the city of Toropets. Having distributed all his estate to the poor and needy, he came to Kiev to the Ven. Anthony from whom he accepted tonsure. Wishing for great ascetic efforts, he left for seclusion, carrying out the most severe life. He ate only one prosphora throughout the day. After a seven-year seclusion he underwent heavy temptations from the devil. Having mistaken the spirit of evil for Christ, he bowed down to it, after which he fell down terribly crippled. The Ven. Theodosius himself went after him and gradually taught him to eat food. After his recovery, he returned to the solitary life, having taken on himself the ascetic effort of the holy fool. Before his death he again left his seclusion, where again strange visions of demons began to disturb him, but now he successfully banished them with the sign of the cross and prayers. Having become worthy of the gift of wonders, the venerable one died on February 14, 1090. His relics rest openly in the St. Anthony caves.

Ven. Maro, Hermit of Syria

The Ven. Maro struggled ascetically not far from the city of Cyrrhus both by example and a leader he promoted the development of asceticism in the province of Cyrrhus. He lived almost all the time under the open skies, passing his time in prayer, vigils, bodily and spiritual abstention, day and night glorifying God. Through his prayers he healed the sick and those possessed by evil spirits. He suggested to those who turned to him proper treatment even from spiritual illnesses, healing from carelessness, intemperance, and love of gain, anger, teaching lessons of righteousness and inspiring humility. He died in peace in about the year 370.

Ven. Abraham, Bishop of Carrhae

Born in Cyrrhus, he practiced asceticism on Mount Lebanon, spending his time in silence and in strict fast. Having become bishop of Carrhae (in the Ephrata Diocese), Abraham did not change his strict way of life. The Emperor Theodosius the Younger, wishing to meet the holy ascetic, summoned him to Constantinople, where St. Abraham soon died.

Translation of the Relics of Martyrs Michael and his Boyar Theodore of Chernigov

The translation of the relics of the rightly believing Prince Michael of Chernigov and his boyar Theodore, tortured by Batu of the Golden Horde on September 20, 1244. At first, pious Russian Christians secretly held their relics. First they were transferred to Vladimir, and then to Chernigov, and from there, after the transfer of Chernigov to the authority of the Poles in the year 1572. On February 14, Tsar Ivan Vasiljevich the Terrible transferred them to Moscow. Now they repose (since 1774) in a secret place in the Moscow Holy Archangels Cathedral in the Kremlin. See September 20.

Martyr George

A tailor in the city of Mitylene, the Turks beheaded him after torturing him for his faith and confession in Jesus Christ, and refusal to accept Islam in Constantinople in 1693.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp 0084-5
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