

March 10

A. Martyrs Quadratus and his troops: Cyprian, Dionysius, Anectus, Paul, Crescens, Dionysius (another), Victorinus, Victor, Nicephorus, Claudius, Diodorus, Serapion, Papias, Leonidas, Chariessa, Nunechia, Basilissa, Nice, Galla, Galina, Theodora, and many others.

After many tortures, they beheaded one of these martyrs in Corinth in the year 258. And the others died from various other tortures. On the place where the holy martyrs were beheaded, a spring of pure water appeared. St. Quadratus was the leader and guide of these holy martyrs. In the service for this day "with the all-praised Quadratus" we also praise: Cyprian, the two Dionysiuses, Anectus, Crescens (Criscus) and Paul. In the Synodal Menaion for 1868 and 1891 Martyr Victor is not mentioned, but in the Synodal Menaion of 1863 he is mentioned.

Martyr Quadratus of Nicomedia and with him Saturninus and Rufinus

St. Quadratus was from a rich and famous family who lived in Nicomedia. During the Valerian persecution he bought with gold admission to the prisons in order to encourage and comfort his brothers in the faith. When the imprisoned Christians were sentenced to be tortured for their faith, St. Quadratus, who greatly sympathized with them in their sufferings, voluntarily turned himself over to the torturers. First they tortured him in Nicomedia, then in other cities and, finally they beheaded him near the Rhyndacus River. Seeing the long suffering of the martyr, two of the Christians, Saturninus and Rufinus, publicly confessed their faith in Christ and were also beheaded by the sword.

Venerable Anastasia the Patrician ¹



She was a rich and famous widow and lived at the court in Constantinople during the reign of Justinian. Being harassed by the Empress Theodora, she left for Alexandria and built a monastery there. After some years, she dressed in men's monastic clothing and enclosed herself in a certain cave near the Skete of Venerable Daniel. Here she silently, not seen by anyone, spent 28 years and died, having known before hand the time of her departure from this world in the year 567. Her relics were transferred to Constantinople.

The Commemoration of the Akathistos

These are the praises to the Theotokos for the deliverance of Constantinople from an attack of enemies. See the 5th Saturday of the Great Fast.

Martyr Michael Maurudis of Salonica, operated a bakery and for refusing to convert to Islam was cremated by the Turks in 1544.

St. Elias Icon of the Mother of God

It is located in the Trinity-St Elias Monastery near Chernigov (now a hierarch's residence). The Monk Gennadius (Dubensky) wrote the icon in 1658. The Mother of God is represented on the icon with a belt (zone). Her face is written in the Greek style. The Divine Infant reposes on the left arm of the Ever Virgin, blessing with his right hand, and holding a scroll in His left hand. On the heads of the Mother of God and the Divine Infant are royal crowns. On the three enameled tablets, attached to the bottom of the icon, are the following inscriptions: on the first "This holy image of the Mother of God, named the St. Elias Icon of Chernigov, was written in the year 1658"; on the second "The Miracle of tears flowing on this image was seen in the year 1662 from the 15th to the 24th of the month of April"; on the third "In the year 1662 the Tatars invaded the city of Chernigov, but the impious hands of the Saracens could not touch the wonderworking image". The St. Elias Icon of the Mother of God exuded and continues to exude many wonders from then on. The people show a special great devotion to this icon on the following days: the day of the All-holy Trinity (temple feast day), April 16 (the day of its glorification) and the day of Prophet Elias.

¹ It was a special high rank, which only the spouse of famous husbands or wives could be worthy, and which recognizes special merit.