March 16

**B. Martyr Sabinus**

Governor of the city of Hermopolis in Egypt, he left his position during the persecution of Diocletian and hid in a non-descript hut in the village with other Christians. The torturers learned of the hiding place from one poor traitor and after cruel torture St. Sabinus was drowned in the Nile River in the year 287. The Holy Church glorifies the martyr as a "guide to those going astray, intercessor for sinners, true physician for those storm-tossed with evil, ever-flowing source of wonders, valiant ascetic".

*Kontakion, tone 2*

**Divine sprout, unfading blossom, fruitful branch,**  
O God-bearing Sabinus,  
Fill those who in faith honor your memory with your gladness,**  
And unceasingly pray for us all.**

**Martyr Papas**

Born in the city of Laranda [Karaman] in Lycaonia, first he endured torture in this city, then in Diocaesarea and, finally, in Seleucia, Isauria in the reign of Maximian. He was whipped with branches and planed with iron claws. They crushed his face into unrecognizability and forced him to walk a long way in boots with iron nails inside and, finally, tied him to a barren tree where he also died.

**Martyr Julian of Anazarbus**

He suffered in Antioch, Syria in the reign of Maximian. During the time of St. John Chrysostom in Antioch his relics flowed with wonders.

**Martyrs Trophimus and Thallus**

Brothers by birth, presbyters of Laodicea, Caria, for their fearless preaching of the Christian faith and accusation of pagan impiety they were arrested and after various cruel torments they were crucified on crosses in the 3rd century.
Holy Apostle Aristobulus of the 70

Born in Cyprus, the brother of Apostle Barnabas, he accompanied the Apostle Paul on his journeys for some time and was sent by him to preach in England, where he also died in peace, having converted many unbelievers to Christ.

Hieromartyr Alexander, Pope of Rome (109-119), by an order of Emperor Hadrian, was burned in a furnace.

St. Serapion, Archbishop of Novgorod

He was born in the village of Pekhorka near Moscow, learned his letters early and since youth aspired to monastic life. According to the wish of his parents, he married and became a priest. Within a year his wife died and Serapion, having distributed his property, was tonsured a monk in the Dubno Dormition Monastery which took place in Vladimir Province. Today on this spot are a monastery, two chapels and a few graves. For his lofty virtuous life he was elected Hegumen of this monastery and labored so much for it that it then began to be known by his name. In 1493 St. Serapion was installed as the Hegumen of the St. Sergius Laura, but in 1506, by order of the Great Prince Basil Ivanovich, as the Archbishop of Novgorod. The argument with Ven. Joseph of Volokalamsk presented the opportunity to the Metropolitan of Moscow Simeon to remove St. Serapion from the archbishop's throne. He was confined to the Androniev Monastery (see Moscow Diocese), where he stayed for 2 years. After his justification and reconcilement with Ven. Joseph, Ven. Serapion did not wish to return to Novgorod but settled in his beloved St. Sergius Laura where he also died on March 16, 1516, knowing the time of his death beforehand. Within a year his relics were found incorrupt and now repose in a hidden place in the Trinity Cathedral (Serapion's Pavilion [Palatka]). For his holy life St. Serapion was granted the gift of clairvoyance.

Ven. Christodoulos, Wonderworker

Born in Bithynian Nicaea in 1111, he practiced asceticism in a monastery on Patmos and is buried in Euripus [Chalcis], an isthmus of Negroponte or Euboea.

S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900), pp. 0112-0113. Translated by Archpriest Eugene D. Tarris © January 4, 2008; all rights reserved.