

March 18

G. *Our Father among the Saints Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem*



St. Cyril was born of god-fearing parents in Palestine in 315. As a well-educated and god-fearing man, shining "with brilliant spiritual wisdom", he was early accepted into the clergy of the Jerusalem church and in 346 became a presbyter, assigned as a catechist and a preacher.

Installed as a bishop in 350, he was a fervent defender of Orthodoxy, and tirelessly struggled against heresies: Arians, Macedonians, Manicheans and others. The heretics retaliated against him for this, and, because of their intrigues, he more than once lost his see, but each time he was returned by god-fearing emperors.

The Holy Church glorifies him, as the "guide of teachers, grace of priests, and divine advocate of the church of Christ" and "defender of the faithful".

St. Cyril participated in the Second Ecumenical Council, and died in the year 389. Among his writings are 18 catechetical lectures for those preparing for Holy Baptism and 5 Mystagogical Catecheses for those illumined by Holy Baptism.

Kontakion, tone 1

**With your divinely inspired tongue, O Wise One,
You illumined your people
To honor the One in Trinity, indivisible in essence yet separate in persons.
Therefore, rejoicing we celebrate your all holy memory, //
Offering you as an intercessor before God.**

St. Aninas, monk, see March 13.

Martyrs Trophimus and Eucarpus

They were warriors and zealous persecutors of Christians; but later believed in Christ and were burnt to death for this in Nicomedia about the year 300.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) p. 0115a
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