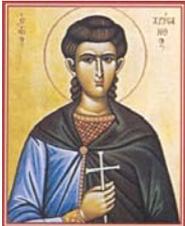


March 19

Holy Martyrs Chrysanthus, Daria and those with them: Claudius, Hilaria [Hilary], Jason, and Maurus



They suffered in Rome in the year 283. St. Chrysanthus was the son of a rich and famous senator and received a brilliant secular education. Loving to read books, he read through the Gospel and the Epistle. This reading touched his soul, but much of what he read he did not understand. By the will of God he met a priest, who explained to him all that he did not understand. After this Chrysanthus did not allow the Gospel to leave his hands. Holding to the high ideal of Christian morality and, having left his pagan errors, he accepted Holy Baptism and began to zealously and fearlessly preach Christ.

His father, a pagan, learned this and wishing to turn him away from Christianity, imprisoned him, starved him and tormented him with cold, but unsuccessfully. Then he chose a wife Daria, a priestess in the temple of Athena, for St. Chrysanthus. By his "truly golden words" Chrysanthus soon converted "the glorious Daria" to Christianity. Soon the father of Chrysanthus died and the house of the young couple now became like a monastery for newly converted Christians.

Soon the Tribune Claudius was informed that Chrysanthus and Daria were preaching Christianity. Claudius turned them over to the torturers, but seeing their steadfastness and the wonders of the Holy Martyrs, he and his wife Hilaria and both their sons Maurus and Jason came to believe in Christ.

St. Claudius was drowned with a stone around his neck, and his sons were beheaded by the sword. After being tortured their mother Hilaria died on their graves. Chrysanthus and Daria after terrible tortures were buried alive. Later, on the very day of the commemoration of St. Chrysanthus and Daria many Christians gathered for prayers in a cave. The pagans, having learned about this, sealed the cave and all who were inside starved to death. Among them were *Presbyter Diodorus and Deacon Marianus*.

Martyr Pancharius

He was a Roman senator and suffered first in Rome and then in Nicomedia, where they executed him by the sword in the year 302.

Martyr Demetrius Tornaras, the Turks beheaded in 1564 on the false charge of insulting the Mohammedan religion and refusing to convert to Islam.

*The Repose of Innocent, Founder of the Transfiguration of the Savior
Monastery*

The son of the boyar Ochlebinine, he accepted monasticism in the Kirillov-Beloozero (White Lake) Monastery (see Novgorod Diocese) and with his spiritual guide, Ven. Nilus of Sora, traveled to many Eastern holy places.

He was in Constantinople and on Mount Athos and after returning from there he settled about 70 versts (46 miles) from Vologda, where near the Ieda River he founded the above named cenobitic monastery.

The Venerable One died on March 19, 1521. Today this monastery is closed and its church in the name of the Annunciation is changed into a parish. In a hidden place in it repose the relics of Ven. Innocent.

Venerable Bassa of the Pskov Monastery of the Caves, the wife of St. Jonah, the founder of the first caves, died as a nun about 1473 and was buried in the Pskov Monastery of the Caves.

Icon of the Theotokos of the Tenderness (Umilenie)

It appeared in 1103 and is found in Smolensk.

There is another icon of the "Tenderness" in the Pskov Monastery of the Caves adorned in the year 1585 in memory of the deliverance of Pskov from the siege of Batu.

There is an icon of the "Tenderness", which appeared in the 16th century on Mount Sinitsa (Pskov Province), where the Sviatogorsky Monastery is now located.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) p. 0115b-0116
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