

March 22

C. *Holy Hieromartyr Basil, Presbyter of Ancyra [Ankara]*

St. Basil, "beauty of the church, might of the pious and destroyer of impiety", was a zealous defender of the Christian faith and frequently accused heretics and pagans of errors.

During the reign of Julian the Apostate he was subjected to severe torture for his fearless preaching of Christ. Each day they made seven belts out of his skin and when all his skin was torn apart, they pierced him with wooden stakes, after which torture he died in 363.

This martyr should be distinguished from the St. Basil of Ancyra commemorated on January 1.

Kontakion, tone 8

**Having lawfully completed the race,
You preserved the faith, O Hieromartyr Basil:
For this you were vouchsafed the crown of martyrdom,
And you were revealed an unshakeable pillar of the church,
Having confessed the undivided Trinity,
The Son coeternal with the Father and the Spirit.
Pray to Him, to deliver those honoring you from distress,
That we may hymn you: Rejoice, O Divinely-wise Basil.**

Ven. Isaacius: see May 30.

Martyr Drosida was burned in a furnace in Antioch, Syria.

Martyrs Callinicus and Basilissa died by the sword in Rome about the year 252.

Ven. Martyr Euthymius



Son of pious parents, brought up in Christianity, he took great interest in the unseemly life in Constantinople and accepted Islam, but soon repented and became a monk on Mount Athos. Wishing to wash off the sin of denial by blood, he appeared in Constantinople and declared himself a Christian. After prison and torture, the Turks beheaded him in 1814. His honorable relics were brought to the Monastery of St. John the Forerunner on Mount Athos. During their transference they were the source of many wonders.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900), p. 0117b.
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