

May 10

✠ *Holy Apostle Simon the Zealot (also called the Canaanite)*



He came from Cana of Galilee. Many believe that this apostle was the groom at whose marriage Jesus Christ changed water into wine. After the descent of the Holy Spirit, "leading the nations from the depths of ignorance to the knowledge of God" and resulting in "all of them dropping the temptation of polytheism", Simon preached in Judea, Egypt, Libya, Cyrene, Britain and other countries. For his zealousness, "zealously imitated the Lord God Almighty [Pantocrator]", he was crucified and died as a martyr in Britain. According to another tradition, the holy apostle died and was buried in the Caucasus (see the Georgia Exarchate).

Kontakion, tone 2

**Known for teaching of wisdom,
Embedded in the souls of the pious,
Let us bless in praise Simon for he is spoken of God:
Now he stands before the throne of glory,
And is glad with the bodiless ones, //
Praying unceasingly for us all.**

Paramoegas: see May 8. **Matins Gospel:** Jn. 21: 15-25; sel. 67. **Epistle:** 1 Cor. 4:9-16; sel. 131. **Gospel:** Mt. 13:54-58; sel. 56.

Venerable Simon, Bishop of Suzdal

A monk in the Monastery of the Caves, since 1206 the Hegumen of the Vladimir Nativity of Christ Monastery (now the bishop's residence), in 1215, according to the wish of the Grand Prince George II Vsevolodovich, he was elevated to the rank of bishop. The modern chronicles calls St. Simon "blessed, gracious and scholarly". He died as a schema monk in 1226. His relics, according to his will, were transferred to the Kievan Monastery of the Caves. He described the glory of the Monastery of the Caves and his life as an ascetic. There is a special service to him with the Polyeleon.

Venerable Isidora, the Fool for Christ

A nun in the Tabennisi women's monastery who took upon herself the difficult asceticism of foolishness for Christ, she endured much reviling, fulfilled the difficult and most menial work and at the same time was the servant of all. Venerable Pitirim, a desert dweller in the Thebaid, revealed her saintly life pleasing to the Lord, and this informed everyone about her asceticism. Then Saint

Isidora, fleeing glory, left the hermitage and it is not known where she died (not later than 365).

Blessed Thais

She lived in Egypt in the 5th century. Having become an orphan of wealthy parents, she began to lead a pious life, dedicating all of herself to works of charity and service to the ill, to wanderers and to the needy. But soon temptations have carried away the inexperienced maiden on the way of perdition and she began to lead a chaotic life. Starets [Elder] John Kolovym of the Skete (see Nov. 9) converted her again to the way of virtue. Having atoned for her single individual sin by sincerely and deeply repenting, Thais was called by God to eternal life and was worthy to be installed in the mansion of the righteous. (This Saint should be distinguished from the Saint Thais, converted by Saint Paphnutius; see Oct. 8).

Martyr Hesychius of Antioch was a warrior at the court of Diocletian, for his faith in Christ he was drowned in the river with a millstone around his neck.

Martyrs Philadelphus, Cyprian, Alphius, Onesimus, Erasmus and those (14) with them, during the reign of Decius in 251.

The first three holy martyrs were brothers and were tortured in Sicily. The others received their crowns of martyrdom in southern Italy. In 1517 the relics of the holy brothers were found incorrupt and put in a temple in the city of Lentini.

Venerable Lawrence, monk, was tonsured in Egypt in the Sixth Century and was known for his unusual humility.

The Bratsk icon of the Mother of God

It appeared in 1654, and is found in Kievo-Bratsk monastery in the Church of the Theophany. The Akathist to the Theotokos is performed before it weekly on Saturdays.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed., 1274 pp., (Kharkov, 1900), pp 166-7
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