

May 22

E. *Holy Martyr Basiliscus*

According to the church hymns of this day, the Holy Martyr Basiliscus had the gift of working wonders. Once he "brought down a fire through prayer" that "destroyed the idol temple and burned down the demonic temple". Another time St. Basiliscus was led to the torturers dressed with iron chains on his neck and nails in the soles of his boots and when by the goodness of one of the warriors accompanying the martyr sat down to wine and dine in a certain house, but he tied the sufferer to a dry oak tree by the gate. The holy martyr exhausted from his suffering, burned by the sun, "standing with his hands tied", raised up "a sincere eye to God" and suddenly "for the confirmation of the pious" an earthquake was triggered that caused the chains and the boots to fall from the martyr and the oak to which the martyr was tied turned green, became covered with wide branches and cooled the martyr, but under his feet a "fountain" of water opened up becoming the source of "living water" for assuaging the thirst of the sufferer (see March 3).

Kontakion, tone 8

**You were revealed mighty and courageous in suffering,
And a wonder-worker in working wonders,
Openly bearing the name of Christ,
You put the torturer to shame:
Therefore we honor you, O Basiliscus,
Ever crying out, O All-honored One:
Rejoice, bright adornment of martyrs.**

Commemoration of the Second Ecumenical Council

This commemoration is appointed in the Menologion published by the Sinodal'naia Typografiia [Synodal Press] in 1863, but in the Menologion of 1891 it is not mentioned.

Tsar John Vladimir

He was a sovereign prince of Serbia. He was known for his devotion, uprightness and fullness of love for his citizens. He was treacherously killed in 1015. His myrrh-gushing relics now repose near Elbasan.

Hieromartyr Zachary [Zachariah] of Prusa (in Asia) suffered for his faith in Christ by the Turks in 1802.

See October 23 for *Ven. James of Borovichi*.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900), pp 0183-0184.
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