

# May 26

## A. *Holy Apostle Carpus, of the Seventy*

Disciple and co-worker of the Apostle Paul, he was bishop in the city of Berea, Thrace. "A wise teacher in the service of the epistles for Paul", the Holy Apostle Carpus enlightened, "those in the darkness of ignorance", "showed the people the way leading to salvation" and administered in peace (See 2 Tim. 4:13).

### *Kontakion, tone 4*

**The church always sees you as a shining star,  
O Apostle Carpus,  
Your wonders have been enlightened with abundant gifts:  
Save those in faith who honor your memory.**

### *† Holy Great Martyr George the New, Who Suffered from the Godless Sultan Selim the Turk*

The holy "passion bearer" George, "armed with faith in Christ, courageously entered into asceticism, and confessed Christ as the Son of God and the God, Creator and Judge of all before countless number of people". "Neither stroking by words, nor the threat of torture, nor bitter beatings, nor prison could turn St. George away from Christ". The valorous sufferer, "burning with divine love, enduring beatings with a rod, and the cutting of his flesh, and burned with lit candles, he remained unbowed". "Strengthened in Christ", he courageously underwent all these torments and finally died "a fiery death by the godless and defiled Turks". The holy great martyr suffered in the Bulgarian city of Sredets [Sofia, Serdica] on February 11. The service for him is prescribed for May 26, the day of the translation of his relics (see February 11).

### *Troparion, tone 4*

**Desiring the divine from a young age  
You dedicated your all to the Lord,  
You were a virtual paradigm of prayer and fasting,  
For you really disdained riches, glory and bodily nobility,  
And loved only Christ with all your soul  
And worshipping Him as the true God existing in Trinity  
Before the impious Turks,  
And having trampled under foot the Saracen faith  
And the laws of the Mohammedans  
And having terrified the torturer,  
You were adorned with the crown of martyrdom, O Glorious One,  
You flowed to stand with the heavenly choir, O Wisest George:  
Pray to Christ God to protect your country**

**And to save the Orthodox Emperor, people and city,  
Those who ever honor your asceticism.**

*Kontakion, tone 4*

**For you were revealed as the brightest star  
Resisting temptation to the world,  
You proclaimed your suffering as the righteous sun of Christ,  
O Great Martyr of Christ George,  
And you extinguished the temptation of the Saracens,  
And trampled under foot the Mohammedan tradition and laws,  
And you terrified the lawless sultan and torturer by your strong patience,  
And granted light to the faithful,  
Unceasingly praying to God for us all.**

**His Synaxis is done where his relics lay and where his temple exists.**

*Holy Apostle Alpheus of the Seventy*, father of Apostles James and Matthew, died in peace.

*Martyrs Abercius and Helena*

According to tradition they were children of the Apostle Alpheus. Abercius, being tied naked to a bee hive, died from bee stings, and Helena was stoned to death.

*Ven. Confessor John Psichaita*

Since youth he practiced asceticism as a monk in the Psichaita Laura in Constantinople. He had the gift of healing illnesses and exorcising demons. During the iconoclastic period (in the 8th century) he became a confessor.

*Discovery of the Relics of Ven. Macarius, Hegumen of Kaliazin*

The relics were found in 1521 during the digging of the foundation for a stone temple of the Trinity-St. Macarius Monastery (see Tver Diocese). They repose openly in the cathedral of this monastery (see March 17).

*New Martyr Alexander* was a dervish (a Muslim monastic) in Thessalonica. From apostate of the faith he again returned to Christ, for which after being tortured he was beheaded by the Turks in Smyrna in 1794.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900), pp. 0187-0188.  
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