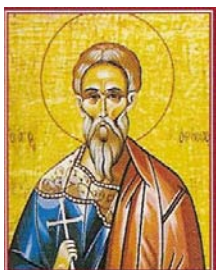


May 31

C. *Holy Apostle Hermias (Hermes or Hermas) of the 70: See March 8.*

Holy Martyr Hermeus (Hermias)



A warrior, gray with age, suffered for Christ during the reign of Antoninus in city of Comana, enduring terrible torture: he was beaten on the face with stones, his head was skinned, he was thrown into a fiery furnace, into boiling oil, was given poison to drink. The Lord protected St. Hermias unharmed. Then the furious torturer beheaded him with his own sword about the year 166). The Holy Church "creating through faith" "the all-festal memory" of Hermias praises him "as a valiant sufferer".

Kontakion, tone 6

**Having sincerely practiced asceticism for Christ,
You gained courage at an advanced age, O Martyr Hermias,
Having trampled down the plots of the lawless by the power of Christ,
You remained unharmed from the drink of his sorcery, crying out:
God is with me and none are against me.**

Martyr Philosophus

Born in Alexandria and while still a youth he suffered during the reign of Decius. Because they wished to desecrate his virginal purity, the torturers bound him and put him in a room with a prostitute. Excited by her shameless kiss, he lit such a flame of passion that he bit off his tongue and spit it out in the face of the shameless mercenary. Beheaded by the sword he died in about the year 252.

Martyr Magus, the Magician

He prepared the poison for the Holy Martyr Hermeus, but having seen the impotency of his poison he believed in Christ and was executed by the sword.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900), p. 0192a.
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