June 17

G. Holy Martyrs Manuel, Sabel and Ishmael

Persians, brothers by birth, sent by the Persian King to Emperor Julian the Apostate to conclude a peace treaty; they were sentenced to severe torture in Chalcedon because they refused to participate in offering a sacrifice made by the emperor. They were beaten with straps, planed with sharp iron, nailed to trees with nails and then beheaded in 362. After their death, when the pagans wanted to burn their bodies, an earthquake opened the earth and received the bodies of the saints in its bowels. But within 2 days after prayers of Christians the relics of the holy martyrs appeared on top of the ground and they were honorably buried.

Kontakion, tone 2
Because of your perfect faith in Christ, O All-blessed Ones,
And having drank this cup in faith,
You renounced Persian service and boldness on earth,
Equal in number with the Trinity,
Praying for us all.

Epistle: Eph. 6:10-17; sel 233. Gospel: Lk. 21:12-19; sel. 106.

Philonides, Bishop of Curium (on the island of Cyprus). He suffered for his faith in Christ during the reign of Maximian.

Ven. Joseph, Hermit, 4th century, was a disciple of St. Anthony the Great.

Ven. Pior, Ascetic, 4th century, was a disciple of St. Anthony the Great.

Ven. Alfanov Brothers: Nicetas, Cyril, Nicephorus, Clement and Isaac: see May 4.

Ven. Ananias

A monk of the Novgorodian St. Anthony Monastery, "marvelous icon of many wonderworkers" (icon-painter), a strict executor of his vows of monastic life, he never went beyond the gates of the monastery for 33 years. He died peacefully on June 17, 1581.