

June 19

E. ✝. *Holy Apostle Jude, Brother of the Lord*

The son of St. Joseph the Betrothed and brother of the Ap. James, the first bishop of Jerusalem, at first he was not opposed to the terrestrial views on the Messiah (Jn. 14:22). But subsequently, having understood the spirituality of the Messianic kingdom, he became the self-effacing proclaimer of Christ and preached the gospel in Judea, Galilee, Samaria, Idumea, Syria, Mesopotamia, Persia and Armenia, where he died as a martyr crucified on a cross and pierced with arrows. He wrote a "general epistle" where he warns Christians of false teachers, who, through abusing Christian freedom, turned themselves to dishonor and to every evil thing and inspired others to them. The Apostle Jude was one of the twelve (Lk. 6:16; Acts 1:13) and was called differently in (Mt. 10:3) as Lebbaeus (that means: "intimate", as he sincerely added to the believing in Christ) and (Mk. 3:18) as Thaddeus, (that means: "praising" as the apostle praised Jesus Christ). The Holy Church, witnessing to the apostolic labors of Jude, praises him, as "the true preacher of piety and mighty advocate of truth".

Troparion, tone, 1

**Knowing you as the relative of Christ, O Jude,
We praise you as a firm martyr, O Dedicated One,
You trampled down temptation
And so preserved the faith:
Therefore today as we celebrate your all-holy memory,
Through your prayers we receive remission of sins.**

Kontakion, tone 2

**You were revealed a chosen disciple for your firmness of mind,
And an unshakeable pillar of the church of Christ.
You preached the word of Christ to the nations,
Telling them to believe in one divinity.
Being glorified by Him, you received the gift of healing,
To heal those infirm coming to you,
O All-praised Apostle Jude.**

Paramoera: 1) Jude 1:1-10. 2) Jude 1:11-16. 3) Jude 1:17-25. **Matins Gospel:** Jn. 21:15-25; sel. 67. **Epistle:** Jude 1:1-10; sel.77. **Gospel:** Jn. 14:21-24; sel. 48.

See: If the Holy Apostle Jude falls on the Leavetaking of Pentecost, we sing his service as indicated on the Finding of the Head of the Forerunner on May 25.

Martyr Zosimus

He suffered for Christ during the reign of Emperor Trajan in Pisidian Antioch. Having left military service and having received baptism during the persecution of Christians he was sentenced to torture by the decree of the prefect of the city. They severely beat him, hanged him on a pillar, laid him out naked on a heated lattice, planed his body with a sharp iron, forced him to walk in iron sandals with sharp nails inside, scorched his belly with candles and so forth. After this severe torture they beheaded the holy sufferer by the sword.

Ven. Paisius the Great, 5th Century

Born in Egypt, the son of wealthy and pious parents and he was a church cleric and zealously and piously fulfilled his duties while yet an adolescent. When he reached maturity he accepted monasticism in a certain Egyptian Skete where for a long time he practiced asceticism directed by St. Pambo. After the death of his guide, Ven. Paisius, who already was strengthened in asceticism, left for the heart of the Nitrian desert and served the Lord there in silence. He sometimes fasted for 70 days. For his asceticism he became worthy by the Lord of an insight into heavenly mysteries. When associates gathered around him, he built a monastery for them, but he again disappeared into the desert and died at a very old age. His relics, glorified by wonders, were later transferred to Ven. Isidore of Pelusium in the Pelusian Monastery.

Ven. John

He practiced asceticism in the 6th century in a cave near Jerusalem. The holy hermit did not have any estate for himself, except for an icon of the Mother of God and the Eternal Child. The holy ascetic always maintained a lit lampada before this icon, praying with fervent diligence, through which he also received special grace before God. Having a urgent need for the holy places and being far from Jerusalem he needed to leave the cave for long time. Every time the venerable one with holy simplicity prayed before the icon of the Mother of God that She may smooth his way, and asked the Mother of God that She would have good will to maintain the burning lampada in his absence. And here, every time, returning from the pilgrimage within two or three months, the holy ascetic found the lampada full of oil and still burning. So the holy ascetic was worthy of receiving the special good favor of the Mother of God, certainly, not only for the single external respect for Her by lighting a lampada, but, mainly, for that fervent prayer which he lifted up to the Mother of God and for the asceticism of his holy life.

Ven. Barlaam of Shenkursk

In the world Basil [Vasili], in 1456 having left his office as Novgorodian mayor, he left for the ancestral lands, the Vazhki country [boundary edge] (Arkhangelsk Province) where he enlightened the Zavolochie with Christianity and constructed many temples. Within 15 versts [9.9 miles] from the city of Shenkursk, according to a special suggestion of God, he constructed a monastery in the name of the Holy Apostle John the Theologian (which in the middle of the 15th century was abolished), was accepted there into monasticism with the name Barlaam, being in this calling the strict executor of all monastic obediences and serving the brethren as the last servant. Saint Barlaam died on June 19, 1462. In 1552 his relics were found incorrupt and became glorified for many wonders. They repose in the temple of his monastery, now a parish.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900), pp. 0211-0212.
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