July 3

E. Holy Martyr Hyacinth

Born in Caesarea, Cappadocia, a chamberlain of Emperor Trajan, refused to eat meat offered to idols on a certain pagan feast and, "clothing himself with invincible power from God", publicly confessed his faith in Christ. After torture he was imprisoned and not given anything for food except meat offered to idols. Not wishing to be profaned, he died of hunger within 38 days in the year 108. His relics were transported to his native country and there glorified for wonders.

*Kontakion, tone 6*
A tree of life of Your faith in the midst of his soul,
O Christ, guards Your martyr,
To be the most honorable in Your Garden of Eden,
A tree that fearlessly destroyed the serpent of temptation by the spirit,
Being crowned in Your glory, great in mercy.

Translation of the Relics of our Father among the Saints Metropolitan Philip of Moscow and Wonderworker of all Russia from the Solovki Monastery to Moscow

After the martyred death of St. Philip (see Jan. 9) his body was buried in the Tver Monastery of the Fathers [Otroch Monastery] in Tver. Monks of the Solovki Monastery asked for permission to transfer the body of St. Philip to their monastery. When they dug up the tomb and opened it they found the incorrupt body of the hierarch in it and various healings began to be performed over the tomb. The incorrupt body of St. Philip was transferred from Tver to the Solovki Monastery in 1590. According to the wish of the Novgorodian Metropolitan (subsequently patriarch) Nikon, they were solemnly transferred in 1652 to Moscow, where many wonderful healings were performed. The solemn meeting of the holy relics took place in Moscow on June 9. At first the feast in honor of transferring the holy relics of the Hierarch Philip was done on July 17. Subsequently sometimes and according to various circumstances, it was transferred to other dates in July or even August. In 1669, an imperial order was issued that transferred this feast from July 17 to July 3. At the present time the holy relics of Hierarch Philip openly repose in the southeast corner of the Moscow Dormition Cathedral in a silver shrine near the iconostasis.

*Troparion, Kontakion* and the rest see Jan. 9.

*Martyrs Mocius and Mark* were tortured and beheaded by the sword in the fourth century.
Martyrs Diomedes, Eulampius, Asclepiodotus and Golinduc suffered with Martyr Hyacinth.

St. Anatolius, Patriarch of Constantinople

He ascended the throne in 449. During his time the Fourth Ecumenical Council was called. The hierarch was killed by heretics in the year 458.

Ven. Alexander was the protoleader of the Monastery of the Unsleeping Ones. See February 23.

Repose of the Right-believing Princes Basil [Vasili] and Constantine Vsevolodovich of Iaroslavl

Having lost their father Vsevolod in youth, who fell in a battle with the Tartars, St. Basil as the eldest son inherited his throne. His reign as prince was characterized with much anxiety, labor and affliction. Cities and villages were destroyed by the Tatar invasion. Many families remained without shelter or food and one had to concern himself about everyone and everything. Besides this, it was necessary to obtain mercy from the Tatar khan, and the holy prince traveled many times to the horde for this. He was also tested by a tragic family misfortune, the loss of his only son. The holy prince resignedly passed all the tests and ruled his principedom as a true Christian: he did not enter fratricidal wars with other princes, cared for his unfortunate subjects and built temples. But soon life, full of many afflictions, had drained the strength of the prince and becoming ill he died in 1249.

The holy Prince Constantine inherited the throne after him. He tried to imitate his brother; but, to his great distress, everywhere he saw robberies and murders done by the Tartars. In 1257 the Tartars attacked Iaroslavl. The prince left to fight the enemy. But here in this battle he lost his head for his native land.

The relics of the holy princes in 1501 were found incorrupt and now repose in the Yaroslavl cathedral.

Ven. Anatolius of the Caves practiced asceticism in the 13th century (see Sept. 22).

Ven. John and Longinus, Wonderworkers of Iarensk

Monks of the Solovki Monastery and disciples of St. Philip (see Jan. 9); they led a life in strict fasting and showed themselves an example of full obedience and humility. In 1561, having gone to a difficult area for the needs of the monastery, they were overtaken by a storm and drowned. Their holy bodies were found incorrupt on the Karelia shore, 120 versts [79.2 miles] beyond the monastery at the mouth of the Sosnovka River and placed in the village of Iarensk (143 versts [94.4 miles] from Archangel) where later a monastery was built (abolished in 1764). Soon the relics of the holy ones pleasing to God were glorified by wonders and
healings. Under an order of the Metropolitan of Novgorod, they were being authenticated and then were transferred to the newly built church in Iarensk Village in 1638.

*Repose of Blessed John, Fool-for-Christ of Moscow*

He was born near Vologda and in his youth he worked at the salt works. Then he moved to Rostov where he also took on the difficult asceticism of folly for the sake of Christ: he walked about half-naked, carried heavy iron chains on himself and wore a large iron cap. Then having settled in Moscow, St. John continued his asceticism and for his holy life became worthy of the gift of clairvoyance and wonders from the Lord. He died in 1589. His relics are in a hidden place in the Moscow Protection Cathedral.

*Repose of Ven. of Nicodemus of Kozha Lake*

Born in the village of Ivanovka, Rostov District, he was a blacksmith in his youth in Iaroslavl. Then, by a special inspiration from God, he accepted monasticism and settled in the Kozha Lake Monastery. Here Nicodemus led a life of a strict ascetic, patiently and fervently fulfilling all monastic obediences. His virtuous life soon brought him to the attention of all the brethren and avoiding human glory, he left for a deserted place on the shore of the Khoziugi River (Olonets Province). Here Nicodemus practiced asceticism in strict fasting and prayer until his very blessed death and because of his ascetic efforts he was worthy of the gift of wonders from the Lord. He died in 1640. He was informed 40 days beforehand of his death by the appearance of Metropolitan St. Alexis of Moscow and Archimandrite St. Dionysius of the Trinity-St. Sergius Laura. His relics are in a hidden place in the Kozha Lake Monastery (see Archangel Diocese).

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