July 13

V. † Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel.

This feast exists since the 9-th century and serves generally as a commemoration of all the wonderful appearances of the Holy Archangel Gabriel. See March 26.

_Troparion, tone 4_

Commander of the Heavenly Hosts,
We who are unworthy beseech you,
By your prayers encompass us
Under the wings of your incorporeal glory,
And faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to you:
Deliver us from all harm, //
For you are the commander of the Powers on high.
(Text tr.: Holy Myrrh-bearers Monastery)

_Kontakion, tone 2_

Seeing God in glory in the Heavens,
Granting grace upon earth from on high,
O Wise Leader of Angels, Gabriel,
Servant of the glory of God,
And divine defender of the world,
Save and keep those who cry out to you:
Be our helper so that no one defeats us.

Our Venerable Father Stephen of St. Sabbas Monastery

The nephew of St. John of Damascus, at ten years of age he was tonsured a monk in the Laura of St. Sabbas the Sanctified. His great spiritual efforts and good deeds were so pleasing to the Lord that he was granted the gifts of insight and of wonderful healing of illnesses. He died in 794, seeing his death beforehand. (Do not confuse his memory with that of St. Stephen of St. Sabbas Monastery remembered on October 28).

Martyr Serapion

After severe tortures, he was condemned to death by fire, in about the year 205. The place of his sufferings is not known.

Martyr Marcian

Born in Iconium in Lacaonia, he converted many to Christ. Brought to trial in Cappadocia, he firmly confessed Christ and was subjected to terrible tortures. They shaved him, cut off his tongue, put him on a heated grill and, finally beheaded him, in about the year 258.

St. Julian, Bishop of Cenomanis

The disciple of Apostle Peter, who installed him as the Bishop of Cenomanis (in Gaul), he was a fervent preacher of the Christian faith and a great wonder-worker: through the power of God he healed illnesses, returned sight to the blind and raised the dead. He died in the first century. At his tomb miracles were performed.

S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook of Church Servers, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp. 242-3
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