

July 14

The Holy Apostle Aquila of the Seventy

A Jew from Pontus who in Rome at first was engaged in the manufacturing of tents from goat's wool, together with his wife Priscilla moved to Corinth and there did much work helping the Apostle Paul in his evangelical activity. Tradition says that Saint Aquila later became the Bishop of Heraclius and died as a martyr, killed by unbelievers. His relics are in Rome.

The Kontakion, tone 4

**Glorious Aquila,
Apostle of the Lord,
The church having acquired you like a great sun,
Enlightens with the splendors of your teaching //
Those who honor you with faith.**

(Text translation: Holy Myrrh-bearers Monastery)

See July 15. On this day we sing the service to Cyricus and Julitta together with the apostle.

The Venerable Hellius

A monk of an Egyptian monastery, he distinguished himself by deep humility, meekness and abstinence. Having gone to an obscure desert to make the highest monastic ascetic effort, he once wished for honey and really found it in a rock. After some meditation, the venerable one conquered the passion of the sin of gluttony arising in him and, not having tasted the honey, continued to go on further. Soon the sin of gluttony again woke up in the anchorite when some beautiful apples fell before him on the way. But the anchorite even this case won over his passion and went on not having tasted the fruit. After wandering in the desert for four weeks, the venerable Hellius had a vision: an angel appeared and commanded him to go to a certain place and there to alleviate his hunger with food. Hellius really found in the specified place a well of spring water and close to it a very tasty and aromatic plant and with them he alleviated his hunger with great spiritual joy. For his virtuous life the venerable one even from his youth was worthy of the gifts of insight and wonder working from the Lord. He died at a very old age in the fourth century.

The Venerable Onesimus

He suffered for the name of Christ during the reign of Diocletian. He died in Magnesia (in Asia Minor), where he founded a monastery.

The Venerable Stephen of Makhrishche

Born in Kiev, he at first was professed as a monk in the Monastery of the Caves. Seeking complete silence, the venerable Stephen left for the small town of Makhrishche (30 versts (19.8 miles) from the St. Sergius Laura) and here after long silent ascetic efforts, founded the monastery of the Holy Trinity (see Vladimir Eparchy). The animosity of the owners of the land next to him forced him to leave there to go to the Avnezh River, on which he founded another monastery of the Holy Trinity together with his disciple the venerable Gregory of Avnezh (see June 15). The great prince Dmitry Ivanovich again called the venerable Stephen to the Makhrishche monastery, where he struggled in ascetic efforts up to his death in 1406. In 1550 the relics of the venerable Stephen were found to be incorrupt and now repose in a hidden place in his monastery. They have been glorified by many miracles.

The Martyr Justus

A Roman warrior who miraculously converted to Christ suffered much for Him and after torments he died by fire in the first century.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp., (Kharkov, 1900), p. 243.
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