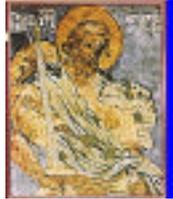


August 19

The Holy Martyr Andrew Stratelates and those with him (2593)



The Holy Martyr Andrew Stratelates and those with him, suffered for their faith in Christ during the reign of Maximinian. St. Andrew glorified for his courage and secretly confessing Christ, together with his warriors gained a victory over the Persians. Not wishing him any good and envying his glory, they accused him of Christianity before the governor of the country. St. Andrew fearlessly confessed Christ before the court and for this he was subjected to severe torture. The fear of the people who were fond of Andrew forced the torturers to free him and his troops. Then St. Andrew with his troops departed to Armenia, but there in one canyon of the Taurus Mountains the persecutors overtook them and destroyed him together with all his warriors. On the place where the holy suffering martyrs died a spring appeared, whose water had curative powers.

Troparion, tone 5

**You left behind the glory of earthly rank
And inherited the Kingdom of Heaven.
You enhanced crowns of incorruption as with beautiful stones,
Leading an assembly of athletes to Christ.
Holy General Andrew, you found Christ with the choirs of angels,
The unsetting sun, the unfading light.
Ever pray to Him together with those who suffered with you //
That He may save our souls.**

(Text: Holy Myrrh-bearing Women Monastery)

Kontakion, tone 2

**Standing before the Lord in prayer
Like a star before the sun,**

**You saw the desired treasure of the Kingdom, filled with ineffable joy.
Throughout the ages, General Andrew,
You forever sing with the angels to the immortal King. //
Together with them, pray unceasingly for us all.**

(Text: Holy Myrrh-bearing Women Monastery)

The Epistle: Ephesians 6:10-17, sel. 233. The Gospel: Luke 21:12-19, sel. 106.

Holy Martyrs Timothy, Agapius and Thecla.

The Martyrs Timothy, Agapius and Thecla, suffered for the Christian faith during the reign of Diocletian in the year 304. Because of his faith they seized St. Timothy in Gaul, and severely tortured him with scourges and sharp crests and then burnt him on a slow fire. They turned over the Martyrs Agapius and Thecla to be torn by wild beasts.

Celebration of the Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos "of the Don".

This wonderworking icon received its name in memory of a victory over the Mamai on the shores of the Don River gained with the intercession of the Mother of God. In 1591 the wonderful deliverance of Moscow from the invasion of the Crimean Khan Kazi Hirey was accomplished with the help of the Mother of God. A church was constructed in 1591 (consecrated in 1593) and the Don Monastery was founded (see Moscow Eparchy) on the place where the Tsar Theodore took up arms against Crimeans and where the wonderworking image of Don Mother of God stood in the midst of the armies,

The Venerable Theophanes, the New Wonderworker

Born in Janina, he, at a mature age, accepted monasticism in Dochiariou Monastery on Mount Athos. Soon he earned the deep respect of the brotherhood and was elected the abbot of the monastery through his strict fasting, prayer, disregard of worldly goods, the mortifying of his flesh and care for the cleansing of the soul. Later the Venerable Theophanes left for Naousa in Macedonia and there founded a monastery in honor of the Holy Archangels, in which he struggled ascetically up to his death, reaching a very old age in 15th century. Many signs and miracles glorify his relics, which today repose in Naousa.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp., (Kharkov, 1900), pp 290.
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