

September 19

D. Holy Martyrs Trophimus, Sabbatius and Dorymedon



They suffered for Christ in the year 276. Sts. Trophimus and Sabbatius were arrested for torture during the time of pagan festivals in Antioch of Pisidia, where St. Sabbatius, "underwent much torture" and died during the ordeal. St. Trophimus was fitted with iron boots, and sent for more torture in the Phrygian city of Synada. Here, together with St. Dorymedon, the senator, after severe tortures both were beheaded by the sword.

Troparion, tone 8

**Praising God in Trinity, let us glorify a trinity of martyrs,
Trophimus, Sabbatius and Dorymedon.
For having believed in You, they cast down the enemy.
Through their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us.**

Kontakion, tone 8

**As the foundation of sufferers and confirmation of piety,
The Church honors and glorifies your light-bearing suffering,
O Ever-hymned Blessed Sufferer,
Divinely-wise and Glorious Trophimus and those who suffered with you,
Entreat cleansing for those who hymn you, for you are invincible.**

+ Repose of the Faithful Great Prince Theodore, and His Children the Faithful Princes, David and Constantine, Wonderworkers of Smolensk and Yaroslavl.

St. Theodore, whose surname was Chornii (Black), was the son of Rostislav Mstislavich, Prince of Smolensk. From his young years he was distinguished by humility, strict morality and piety. During the distribution of his father's estate, he was satisfied with a small portion and has patiently endured the deprivation of authority over Yaroslavl, which he had taken over from his mother-in-law Xenia, the widow of the Prince Iaroslav. After the death of his first wife, Theodore married the daughter of Khan Mengu-Timur whom he liked very much, being once in the Horde. Using his position, Theodore built some churches in the Horde, and his wife accepted Christianity with the name Anna and did not concede to her husband in her desire to please the God. Having subsequently become the Prince of Yaroslavl and Smolensk, Theodore ruled the people wisely and fairly, all his life caring for the good of his compatriots. He constructed many temples, supplied them with books, icons and expensive utensils, generously endowed the monks with gifts and hotly defended his subjects from insults. In 1298, sensing the

approach of death, Theodore accepted the schema and peacefully died the same year in the Savior-Transfiguration Monastery (now converted to a bishop's residence) in Yaroslavl, leaving a beautiful example for his children and wife. David and Constantine were worthy heirs of the virtues of their father. David, as the elder son, occupied the throne of his father. He was married and died in 1321 after 23 years of managing the principdom. Constantine died celibate, obeying his older brother in everything and succeeding together with him in the ascetic efforts of fasting, prayer and works of mercy. Both are buried in the same Savior Monastery near their father. In the words of the Holy Church, the Holy "All-praised" princes were taught "day and night in the law of the Lord" and, "through the labor of fasting put to death inclinations of carnal deeds". They were "pillars of chastity", "famous as zealots for truth", "executors of God's commandments". They had "faith and sound hope, and true love, and charitable dispositions, good patience, and the formation of spiritual words, humble wisdom and perfect kindness" and after their blessed end they left their "petition of help", "their bodies in the grave spouting out healing and driving away evil spirits". The relics of the Holy Princes were opened in 1463 and now repose in the Yaroslavl Savior-Transfiguration Monastery. Their translation is celebrated on March 5.

Troparion, tone 4

**From your youth you clung to the love of Christ, O Holy Ones,
And fervently preserved His law and precepts.
Therefore you were enriched with wonderful gifts,
And poured forth healing.
O Theodore, David and Constantine:
Pray to Christ God to save the souls of those who faithfully honor you.**

Kontakion, tone 8

**You were revealed as angels in the flesh like the brightest candlesticks.
And like the arbors of paradise in life,
You were restored through fasting, vigil, and faith.
You flourished through your prayers and received heavenly grace.
You were revealed to be mighty healers,
Healing infirm souls who with faith resort to the shrine of your relics,
O Glorious Wonderworkers Theodore, David and Constantine:
Pray to Christ God to grant forgiveness of sins,
To those honor your memory in faith and love.**

Their Synaxis is done wherever their relics lay or their temple exists.

Paramoera: see Sept. 9. **Matins Gospel and the Epistle:** see April 1.
Gospel: Mt. 4:25-5:1-12; sel. 10.

Martyr Zosimus, Hermit of Cilicia, see January 4.

Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Benevento and his friends Deacons Sossus (Sossius) and Proclus, Gantiolus, Eutychius, Acutius, Theostus (Festus) and Desiderius, see April 21.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp 0339-0341
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