October 3

*D. † Holy Hieromartyr Dionysius the Areopagite and with him Rusticus, the priest and Eleutherius, the deacon*

They suffered for Christ during the reign of Emperor Domitian in the year 96. St. Dionysius, known for his higher education, was a member of the Supreme Court (Areopagus) in Athens. When the Holy Apostle Paul preached Christ in the Athenian Areopagus, Dionysius believed in Christ (Acts 17:34), was baptized and consecrated the first Bishop of Athens. They beheaded him for his faith in Christ. The following works were attributed to him: "The Celestial and Ecclesiastical Hierarchy", "The Divine Names", "The Mystical Theology" and "Ten Letters".

*Troparion, tone 4*

Having been instructed in goodness,
And being temperate in all things,
You were divinely arrayed with a good conscience.
From the chosen vessel you drew ineffable things.
Having kept the faith, you completed the course equal to his.
O Hieromartyr Dionysius, //
Pray to Christ God to save our souls.

*Kontakion, tone 8*

When you passed through the heavenly gates in spirit,
As disciple of the Apostle you went up to the third heaven, O Dionysius.
You were unspeakably enriched understanding all things,
And you enlightened those sitting in the darkness of ignorance:
Therefore we cry out to you: Rejoice, O universal Father.

**Epistle:** Acts 17:16-34; sel. 40. **Gospel:** Mt. 13:44-54; sel. 55.
Ven. John the Chozebite, Bishop Caesarea

Born in Thebes, Upper Egypt, he at first was a monk in the Chozebite Laura in the community of Chozeba between Jerusalem and Jericho. During the reigns of Emperors Justin 1 and Justinian 1 he occupied the cathedra of the Bishop of Caesarea, which he left to again practice asceticism in the desert. He died in the VI Century, being glorified during his life with glorious wonders.

Blessed Hesychius the Chorebite

He practiced asceticism in silence on Mount Athos in the VI Century. The marvelous silence of this ascetic subsequently became the paradigm of an entire Monastery of the Silent Ones - Hesychasts on Mount Athos.

S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed. 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) p 0364
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