

October 15

F. Our Ven. Father Euthymius the New of Thessalonica

Son of pious parents of the village of Opso (in Galatia) and brought up in the rules of a virtuous life, he, after the death of his father, married at the insistence of his mother. Including the child born of the marriage with sufficient comfort for his wife and mother, Euthymius decided to choose "the narrow way" of pleasing the Lord and secretly left his father's house, when he was only 18 years old. At first Euthymius settled in a certain monastery on Mt. Olympus and stayed there 15 years in the God-pleasing asceticism of fasting and prayer, distinguished by obedience, humility and patience in the bearing of insults. From Olympus, he sent a holy cross for the comfort of his mother and wife with a request to follow his example, Euthymius departed for Mt. Athos, accepted the Schema there and for three years practiced asceticism as a hermit in a cave, eating scanty vegetation. After revelation from above, Euthymius was directed from Mt. Athos to Salonika and there began to practice asceticism on the top of Mount Peristera (east of the city), "with hunger and constant prayer", subduing carnal passions. Then Ven. Euthymius founded a monastery in the name of the Apostle Andrew, which soon were filled with monks, but his surroundings have become like a city. People of every age, kind and estate, recanting relatives, friends, the world and preferring the heavenly blessings to the terrestrial, voluntarily came here and were directed by the spiritual leadership and father like care of Ven. Euthymius. At the same time the monastery began to receive large material gifts and was quickly enriched. Soon the vicinity of Thessalonica was also adorned with another new woman's monastery, constructed by Ven. Euthymius for his sister. Ven. Euthymius operated both monasteries for 14 years. In 889 he peacefully died on Mt. Athos, on the Holy island. His relics were transferred to Salonika.

Kontakion, tone 2

**O Divinely-wise Venerable Euthymius,
Dryly passing through many storms,
You mightily drowned the bodiless foe with the streams of your tears,
And received the gift of wonders, healing every passion:
Pray unceasingly for us all.**

Holy Ven. Martyr Lucian, Presbyter of Great Antioch



Having been left an orphan in the 12th year of his life, he distributed his property to the poor and began to study the Holy Scripture under the guidance of St. Macarius the Confessor. For his strict life and high spiritual formation he was ordained an Antiochian presbyter and was installed as the head of the Antiochian schools in which

many were guided in the word of God. As a special service to the Church he corrected the text of the Holy Scripture. Through his many and useful labor for the good of Church life St. Lucian was sealed by a martyr's death. After denunciation of a certain heretic, Lucian, by the order of Emperor Maximian, was arrested for his confession of Christ and because he refused to worship idols, he then was tortured and was chained, and put into the Nicomedian prison. Here St. Lucian tormented with hunger, laying on his back and not able to make the slightest movement, was tried by unbearable torture. As a lamb to the slaughter and having drunk "fervently the cup of martyrdom", St. Lucian died of starvation in the prison.

Kontakion, tone 2

**Let us gloriously honor in hymns the all-radiant star, Lucian,
Having first become radiant in fasting,
And then having shone in suffering
And who unceasingly prays for us all.**

Ven. Sabinus, Bishop of Catania

With love for the single ascetic life, he left the episcopal service, and became a hermit and by his asceticism reached such a height of spiritual life that he was granted the gift of working wonders: he cast out demons, healed the sick and foretold the future. He died in 760.

Martyr Sarbelius and his sister Bebea, were beheaded by the sword for Christ in Edessa [Urfa] at the beginning of the 2nd century. Before his acceptance of Christianity, Sarbelius was a pagan priest.

Repose of St. John, Bishop of Suzdal

Since his youth St. John was a monk. In 1340, for his holy life he was installed as the bishop of Suzdal. In this position St. John was distinguished by unusual kindness and mercy, interceded before princes for poor peasants for a reduction of their taxes, built hospitals and hospices for the sick, zealously spread the faith in Christ among the newly subdued Mordva tribe and led many pagans to Christ. He died in 1373. In the inventory of the Euthymian Monastery, there is a special service to him together with St. Theodore. His relics repose in a hidden place in the Suzdal cathedral.