

November 7

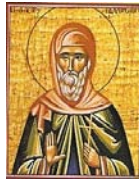
D. The Holy Thirty Three Martyrs in Melitene

Hieron, Hesychius, Nicander, Athanasius, Mamas, Barachias, Callinicus, Theogenes, Nikon, Longinus, Theodore, Galerius, Xanthius, Theodulus, Callimachus, Eugene, Theodochus, Ostrychius, Epiphanius, Maximian, Ducitius, Claudian, Theophilus, Gigantius, Dorotheus, Theodotus, Castrychius, Anicletus, Theomelius, Euty chius, Hilarion, Diodotus and Amonitus suffered for Christ during the reign of Emperor Diocletian in Melitene. St. Hieron was born in Tyana, Cappadocia and was glorified for his courage and strength. Not wishing to enter into the ranks of the warriors as in an army it was impossible to hide his faith. He was seized by force and, for his confession of Christ, they cut off his hands and imprisoned him together with other Christians. After being tortured all the Holy Martyrs were beheaded. All these holy martyrs are mentioned in the services by name.

Kontakion 8

The radiant choir of martyrs, the light bearing regiment, sensibly descends for us.
Today the church is enlightened by their wonderful rays.
Therefore celebrating their honorable memory we beseech Thee our Savior
Through their prayers deliver us from troubles
That we may sing to Thee, Alleluia.

Our Venerable Father and Wonderworker Lazarus, an Ascetic of Mount Galesius



The Ven. Lazarus was born in the village of Magnesia in Asia Minor. From childhood he distinguished himself by gentleness, meekness, compassion and love of the poor, and during his whole life he signed himself with great asceticism. Having traveled to worship in the Jerusalem holy places, he practiced asceticism for ten years as a monk in the Laura of St. Sabbas in Palestine. Being worthy of holiness by his good works, the Ven. Lazarus, upon revelation from above, left for Mount Galesius (near Ephesus) and built on it the Monastery of the Resurrection of Christ, where he practiced asceticism on a pillar. “Having subdued the flesh to the spirit”, having tamed “its great turmoil” “through spiritual armor”, “in the mountains and arid deserts ever learning to ascend to the divine being”, he achieved the gift of prophecy and insight. Pious people began to gather around

him, wishing to learn from him the highest asceticism of perfection. He died at age 72, in the middle of the 11th Century, and was buried on a pillar. See July 17.

Troparion, tone 8

**You watered your pillar with prayerful vigils and flowing tears,
And brought forth fruit a hundred fold from the depths of your sighs,
And you were a shepherd, granting the petitions of all.
O our Venerable Father Lazarus, //
Pray to Christ God to save our souls.**

Kontakion, tone 4

**Like the largest candle stand,
The church of Christ glorifies you with gladsome psalmody
Therefore pray unceasingly to Christ, //
To grant remission of sins to all.**

The Epistle and the rest see November 4.

Martyrs Melasippus and Casinia and their son Antoninus

They suffered for Christ in Ancyra during the reign of Emperor Julian the Apostate. Sts. Melasippus and Casinia died during torture, and St. Antoninus protected by God during torture was beheaded. Seeing the sufferings of St. Antoninus forty children believed in Christ and who were all beheaded.

Martyrs Auctus, Taurion and Thessalonica

They suffered for Christ in Amphipolis, Macedonia. St. Thessalonica, the daughter of a pagan priest, was sent by her father to prison after many tortures and there died from torment. Sts. Auctus and Taurion, reproached her father for this, were beheaded after many tortures.

Martyr Theodotus the Helmsman. See May 18.

Icon of Mother of God Vzygranie (Rejoicing). This holy icon appeared in 1795 and now is found in the St. Nicholas-Transgression (Nikolo-Ugreshsky) Monastery, Moscow diocese.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed. 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp 0404-5
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