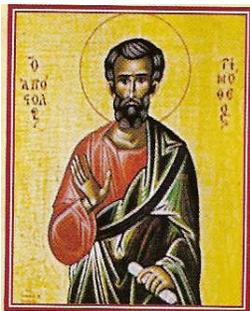


January 22

E. Holy Apostle Timothy



Born in the Lycaonian city of Lystra, Asia Minor, he descended from a Greek father and Jewish mother and was converted to Christ together with his parents by Apostle Paul. Adorned "with divine gifts" he became a permanent companion and zealous coworker of Apostle Paul in announcing the Gospel and shared with him not only the labors and glory of apostleship but also the chains of suffering. He was consecrated the first bishop of the Ephesian Church (see Acts 14:6, 7, 21; 16; 17:1, 14; 18:1; 19:21; 20:1, 4; 2 Tim. 1:5; Rom. 16:21; Phil. 2:19, 23; Heb. 13:23; 1 Tim. 1:3; 2 Tim. 4:9). Church tradition witnesses that Apostle Timothy sealed his 15-year episcopate with a martyr's death.

Once in Ephesus the pagan festival of the feast of Diana was performed and the people carried on with singing and dancing around the city of idols. Apostle Timothy, burning with zeal for the faith, entered the crowd of pagans and began to preach to them about the true God. The fierce pagans rushed to the holy apostle, beat him, dragged him along the ground and, finally, stoned him to death. This was in the year 93. Christians took the body of the holy apostle and buried it with honor in the vicinity of the city. In the Fourth Century, during the reign of Emperor Constans, the relics of St. Timothy were transferred to Constantinople and placed in the Temple of the Holy Apostles. During his episcopate in Ephesus the Holy Apostle Timothy received two Epistles from Apostle Paul¹.

Troparion, tone 4

**Having learned goodness,
And being temperate in all things,
Divinely arrayed with a good conscience,
You drew ineffable truths from the chosen vessel,
And embraced the faith,
You completed the course equal to his.
O Apostle Timothy:
Pray to Christ God to save our souls.**

Kontakion see below.

Epistle: 2 Tim. 1:3-9; sel. 229. **Gospel:** Lk. 10:1-15; sel. 50.

Holy Ven. Martyr Anastasius the Persian

The son of the Persian magus Baby, he served in youth as a warrior under the Persian King Khosrow II. Struck by the power of wonders from the cross of the Lord, he converted to the Christian faith, went to Jerusalem and there was baptized and entered monasticism, adorning himself "with lenten goodness". After his seven year stay in the St. Anastasius Monastery (found between Jerusalem and the Great Laura of St. Sabbas the Sanctified), he suffered for Christ in his native city of Bethsaloe near Nineveh. They beat him with clubs three times for a long time and without mercy. They placed a heavy plank on his shins which crushed his legs. They hanged him by his hands, having tied a large stone to one leg. But, not looking at all the kinds of torments and tortures, the sufferer remained unshakable in faith and finally they strangled him in 628. The relics of the holy martyr, after the death of Khosrow, were transferred to the St. Anastasius Monastery in Palestine. At the Seventh Ecumenical Council envoys of Pope Adrian carried the icon of St. Anastasius and his head to Rome where they are kept up to now. The head and part of his relics are in the Church of the Martyrs Vincent and Anastasius in the country Monastery by the Three Fountains. The rest of his relics are in the Church of the Cross of the Lord.

Kontakion, tone 1

**Let us faithful sing praises to Timothy,
Divine disciple, and companion of Paul,
And with him honor the wise Anastasius,
Who shone like a star from Persia,
Driving away our spiritual passions and carnal infirmities.**

*Martyrs Manuel, George, Peter, Leontius of the Bishops, Sionius, Gabriel, John,
Leontus, Parodus of the presbyters and others in 377*

Born Slavs, they suffered for Christ by the Bulgarians in the Ninth Century. Among them were the Bishops: Manuel of Adrianople, George of Devoltus (Devoltus was a colony of Franks within the environs of Mysia and the Black Sea) and Leontius of Nicaea; Presbyters: Peter and Parodus; Voivodes: John, Gabriel, Leontus and Sionius. With them suffered 377 believers. All received a martyr's death after much torture. They were beheaded by the sword about 817.

Ven. Martyr Anastasius, Deacon of the Monastery of the Caves

He practiced asceticism in the Kievan Monastery of the Caves and reposed at the end of the Twelfth Century. According to the Canon of the Venerable Ones of the Caves, "Anastasius had boldness before God receiving all that he asked". His relics repose in St. Anthony's caves by the gates.

Rest of Ven. Macarius of Zhabyn

According to the Synodikon of the Belev Monastery, "Venerable Father Macarius, Wonderworker of Belev, suffered in the flesh: endured cold, heat, hunger and thirst and gathered brethren in the monastery by the city, lived out his pleasing years in patience, reposing in the year 7031 (1623), buried by his disciples in the monastery founded by him". (See the Tula Diocese).

¹According to the view of simple people, there are strong frosts on this day and which are called St. Timothy's frost. The Holy Apostle Timothy is called mid winter as this day is about the middle of winter.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp. 0042-0043.
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