

# February 20

## *D. Our Ven. Father Leo, Bishop of Catania*



He ruled as bishop in the Sicilian city of Catania in the 8th century, and became glorified for his Christian love for the needy, orphans and wanderers and also as a physician for the sick through the power of prayer. His relics are in the church of St. Martin of Tours in Rome.

### *Kontakion, tone 8*

**Like a lamp in the great church, All Blessed One,  
You are shining more than the sun.  
Protect all through your prayers, O Blessed One,  
To be invincible and unshakable from every heresy, and undefiled,  
As one in everlasting memory.**

### *Ven. Agatho, Pope of Rome.*

The son of pious and wealthy parents who lived in Italy, he, after their death, distributed the estate and accepted monasticism in one of the monasteries, spending his time in the ascetic effort of fasting and prayer. Called to the Roman see in 678, he administered it up to his death which followed in the year 681.

### *Hieromartyr Zadok, Persian Bishop, and 128 martyrs with him*

They suffered in Beth-Lapat (Jundaisabur, Veh-Andiyok-Shabuhrin), Khuzistsan District, Persia during the persecution of King Shapur in 342 or 344. St. Zadok, the successor of St. Simeon (see Apr. 17), was informed beforehand by the latter about his martyr's death in a dream. Arrested for preaching the Christian faith, St. Zadok, after five months of imprisonment and horrible torture, was beheaded. During this same time 128 other Christians arrested with him were granted the same crown of martyrdom.

### *The Murder of Ven. Cornelius of Pskov*

An ascetic of the Pskov Monastery of the Caves and its hegumen since 1529, he labored intensively for it with the accomplishment of converting and baptizing many Livonian natives near the city of Neuhausen to the Orthodox faith and he also built two churches for them. For enclosing his monastery within a stone wall, he was killed by the order of Ivan the Terrible in 1570 at the age of 69. Together with him another monk, his disciple, Bassian Muromtsev glorified for his learning and piety, was also killed. Their relics are in a hidden place in the Dormition Monastery Church.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp 0089-0090*

*Translated by Archpriest Eugene D. Tarris © February 10, 2005. All rights reserved.*