

July 17

E. ☩ Holy Great martyr Marina

The daughter of a pagan priest who learned of Christ from her nurse, St. Marina was arrested during the Diocletian persecution and was subjected to severe torture: they pierced her with rods, they planed her body by tridents, they drove nails into her, they burned her and threw her into the water. But "neither fire, nor wounds, nor the scourging by the sword, nor the martyr's strictness, nor death, nor ferocious beasts" could force Marina to bow before an idol. St. Marina patiently translated everything for the sake of the Lord and by her example converted a group of pagans to Christ. She was beheaded in Antioch in Pisidia. In the church hymns, the entire life of the woman martyr was "pleasing to God", "you appeared before the angel amiably, before the demons like an army, and before the slaves you showed an unapproachable violence". Today the honorable hand of St. Marina is in the Vatopedi Monastery on Mount Athos.

Kontakion, tone 3

Virgin and Martyr Marina:

You were adorned with the goodness of virginity

And crowned with incorruptible crowns.

You were soaked with the blood of martyrdom

And were glorified by your miracles of healing. //

Piously, you received the prize of victory of your suffering.

Epistle 2 Cor. 6:1-10, sel. 181 **Gospel** Luke 7:36-50, sel. 33

Translation of the relics of the Venerable Lazarus, who fasted on Mount Galiseia (near Ephesus) See November 7

The Repose of the Venerable Irenarchus, Abbot of Solovetski

At first he was a monk of the Solovetski Monastery. In 1614, he was installed as abbot of the Solovetski Monastery by imperial decree because of his virtues. During his management the Venerable Irenarchus worked hard to build up the monastery and to defend it from enemies. Making an effort to serve as an example of spiritual life for the brotherhood, Irenarchus distinguished himself by condescension and meekness in relation to others and strictness for himself. He

died in 1628. His relics repose in a hidden place in the chapel named for him (see the Archangel Diocese).

The Repose of the Venerable Leonid of Ust'nedumsk

He was tonsured in the 17th century and was the founder of the hermitage on the Luza River (Vologda Province) and died in deep old age in 1654. His relics repose in the former monastic but contemporary parish Church of the Entry. He is called Ust'nedumsk because being bitten by poisonous snakes, he did not think about the consequences, and remained healthy.

The Sviatogora Icon of the Mother of God

In 1569 this holy icon appeared to St. Timothy, a fool for Christ's sake, and today is in the Sviatogora Monastery (Opochka district, Pskov Province).

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed., 1274 pp., (Kharkov, 1900), p 247
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