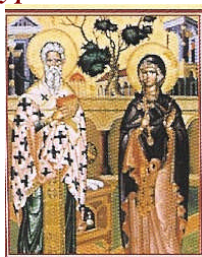


October 2

E. † Holy Hieromartyr Cyprian and Holy Virgin Martyr Justina



They suffered for Christ in Nicomedia in 268. St. Cyprian was born in Antioch where he was a pagan priest. Trying to fulfill the desire of a rich and famous youth seeking the hand of Justina, whom the latter, having decided to remain unmarried for Christ, refused him. The pagan priest wanted through sorcery to arrange the marriage of the girl to the youth. But he was not successful because Justina through prayer destroyed the intrigues of the priest. Then Cyprian believed in the power of faith in Christ, "destroyed his books of magic", was baptized and soon was made a bishop. St. Justina entered a monastery and became its Hegumena. Before the former "servant for the temptation of idols" whom the demons obeyed in the art of magic intrigues, Cyprian, after he became a Christian, began to rebel against the demons and conquered them. Upon the accusation of pagans, Sts. Cyprian and Justina were condemned to be tortured for the sake of Christ, after which they were beheaded. Subsequently the *Martyr Theoctistus* suffered together with them. He is not mentioned in the service.

Kontakion, tone 1

**You were converted from the art of sorcery
To the knowledge of God, O Divinely Wise One,
And you were revealed to the world as the wisest physician,
Bestowing healing to those honoring you,
O Cyprian and Justina:
Pray to the Master Who Loves Mankind to save our souls.**

Epistle: 1 Tim. 1:12-17; sel. 280. **Gospel:** See January 9.

Holy and Blessed Andrew, Fool for Christ

Born a Scythian (according to the Eastern Menaion he was a Slav), the slave of the wealthy Constantinople resident Theognostus, who taught him the Greek language and the sciences, Andrew "loved Christ from a young child", was meek and obedient, frequently prayed to God and thought about the salvation of his soul. He diligently read the lives of the martyrs and saints and, finally, became zealous to imitate them.

On special command from above, he accepted for himself the difficult ascetic effort of foolishness. In torn clothes he went about the city, endured hunger, cold, sneers and beatings, and at night he abided in silent prayer for himself, for his abusers and for the entire Christian world. "All who have seen" the way of life of St. Andrew marveled at his "patience". For his long-term asceticism of folly the Lord granted St. Andrew the gift of the recovery of sight and "all future things, as if seen before his eyes". He "led the youth Epiphanius to the right way" and predicted to him that "he would be bishop and teach the people" (see Oct. 1). For St. Andrew "hidden things were opened" and he "saw all bodiless and carnal things". In the Blachernae Temple he became worthy to see the Mother of God, "praying for the world" and covering Christians with her Holy Veil (see Oct. 1). St. Andrew died in the 66th year of his life. Some place the time of the life of St. Andrew in the 10th century, but others place it between the 5th and 7th centuries.

Troparion, tone 1

**Hearing the voice of Your Apostle Paul, saying:
We become fools for the sake of Christ,
Your servant Andrew became a fool on earth for Your sake, O Christ God:
Therefore now we who honor his memory pray:
O Lord, save our souls.**

Kontakion, tone 4

**Having willingly realized in foolishness the beauty of this world,
You have not hated it at all.
You dried up carnal wisdom through fasting and thirst,
And through heat and cold frost, from rain and snow,
And never evading the rest of the burdens of the soul,
You purified yourself like gold in the furnace,
O Blessed Andrew.**

The service for Saint Andrew is sung at Compline.

Martyr George

He was born in Philadelphia, Asia Minor, and enticed by the Turks into Islam. He deeply repented for his apostasy and again accepted the faith in Christ. The Turks beheaded him after torturing him for this in the year 1749 in the city of Karatas.

Blessed Cyprian, Wonderworker of Suzdal

He practiced asceticism on a small island at the mouth of the Uvod River (Kovrov District, Vladimir Province) and died in 1622. His grave is under the floor of

the temple in the village of Voskresensky (Resurrection), Kovrov District. The place of his asceticism even today is known as the St. Cyprian Hermitage, and a hole dug out in this place is called the St. Cyprian Cave.

Ven. Cassian of Uglich (see May 21).

Martyrs David and Constantine, Princes of Argventi, Georgia.

They were wise governors and courageous military leaders. Taken into captivity by the Arabian Caliph Murvan in 730, they were severely tortured for Christ and, finally, drowned in the Rioni River. Their relics are in the city of Kutaisi.

*S. V. Bulgakov, **Handbook for Church Servers**, 2nd ed. 1274 pp. (Kharkov, 1900) pp 0363-4
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