

# November 5

## *F. Holy Martyrs Galaction and Epistime*

They suffered for Christ during the persecution of Decius in the city of Emesa, Phoenicia. St. Galaction, being a Christian, according to the will of his parents, was betrothed to the pagan Epistime. Having instructed her in the holy faith, St. Galaction convinced her to lead a virgin life, and was himself tonsured as a monk on Mount Publion near Sinai. During the persecution when he was seized for torture, St. Epistime voluntarily joined him to share with him the cup of suffering. After severe tortures both holy martyrs were beheaded.

### *Kontakion, tone 2*

**You have been numbered in the ranks of the martyrs of Christ,  
Having fought the good fight, you brightly struggled in asceticism,  
O glorious Galaction with your honorable wife and fellow sufferer, Epistime:  
Pray unceasingly to the one God for us all.**

*+ Repose of Our Father among the Saints Jonah, Archbishop of Novgorod,  
Wonderworker*

St. Jonah, in the world John, was born in Novgorod, in 14<sup>th</sup> Century and, having been an orphan since childhood, was turned over to a certain deacon for his education. In childhood he liked to read the Holy Scriptures more than to play with his friends. Having reached maturity, John decided to take the way of salvation, according to which he steadily went during all his life, and was tonsured in the Otensk Hermitage (about 50 versts (33 miles) from Novgorod). Because of his holy life the monks of this hermitage selected him to be their hegumen, and in 1458 the Novgorodians selected him to be their archbishop. Having become the Archbishop of Novgorod, Jonah wisely led his flock and was the good shepherd, "leading his flock to faith by true words", "father-like providing for widows and orphans, taking out affronts, softening enmity, making peace". His "meekness and good nature" surprised pious autocrats and he received their love and respect, so they "always were ready to follow" the bishop "needing prayers and blessings" from him. St. Jonah reposed in peace in 1470. Wonderful was the deep respect of contemporaries for St. Jonah. Considering his holiness and wonderworking, they left his coffin open, and the body of the hierarch remained uncorrupt. His relics now rest in the Otensk Monastery (see Novgorod Diocese). The Moscow Council in 1540 established the feast day for St. Jonah. The Holy Church glorifies him, as "the intercessor for orphans and widows, the comforter of the grieving, the helper of those coming to him and the warm defender and instiller of tranquility and mercy to the novices and autocratic sovereigns calling on him".

*Troparion, tone 4*

**The exercise of faith and an image of meekness,  
And like the garden in the middle of paradise  
You enlightened the world by your venerable deeds,  
And therefore we lovingly touch your honored bier and in faith cry out:  
Intercede for those who hymn your light-bearing memory, O Father Jonah,  
And pray to save our souls.**

*Kontakion, tone 4*

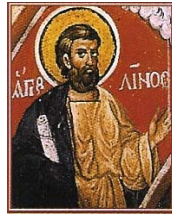
**O Blessed Jonah:**

**You have received divine grace from above  
To intercede between God and men,  
As a bishop taking up offerings  
And bringing down peace and an abundance of fruits to your people,  
For you are the praise of Great Novgorod  
And the joy of those who live there.**

**His synaxis is served where his relics repose and where his temple exists.**

**Paramoedas** see Oct. 5. **Matins Gospel:** John 10:1-9; sel. 35. **Epistle:** Heb. 7:26-28; 8:1-2; sel. 318. **Gospel:** John: 10:9-16; sel. 36.

*Holy Apostles of the 70: Patrobus, Hermas, Linus, Gaius and Philologus*



*Holy Apostle Linus*

St. Patrobus was bishop in Naples and Puteoli. St. Hermas was bishop in Philippopolis (see March 8 and May 31). St. Linus was the first bishop in Rome after Apostle Peter. St. Gaius was bishop in Ephesus after St. Timothy. St. Philologus was consecrated by the Holy Apostle Andrew and was bishop in Sinope (near the Black Sea).

*St. Gregory, Archbishop of Alexandria*

According to the prologue narrative of Nicodemus, he suffered during the reign of Emperor Leo the Armenian (813-820.) For his reverence of the holy icons he was subjected to beatings, starved in prison and, finally, sent to an imprisonment in which within 3 years he died. He was distinguished by unusual meekness, humility and mercy.

*Martyr Domninus* died for his faith in Christ by fire in 307 in Palestine.

*Timothy, Theophilus and Theotimus*, from the militia of Domninus. They died being beaten to death by fists.

*Presbyter Dorotheus*, from the militia of Domninus, was torn to pieces by animals.

*Eupychius and Karetrius*, from the militia of Domninus, died from the cutting off of the hidden parts.

*Sivanus* see May 4.

*Pamphilus*, from the militia of Martyr Domninus, died in prison.

*S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1274 pp (Kharkov, 1900) pp 0401-0402*  
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