

Commemoration of Sts. Captain St. Kornelius, St. Shmavon, Christ's Relative, martyred in Jerusalem, and Bishop St. Polycarpus of Smyrna and the holy martyrs of the East

St. Kornelius was born in Caesaria. He was the Captain of an Italian regiment and he had believed in Christ and had become a true Christian. Apostle Peter had baptized him and the members of his family. He was called "Second Abraham" for being fair and honest-minded. He preached and worked wonders in Jerusalem. When he was already advanced in years he was subjected to torments and martyred. The sick have visited the saint's tomb and have been healed. St. Shmavon was the nephew of Joseph, father of Jesus. After the death of James, brother of Jesus, he became the Bishop of Jerusalem. He was subjected to torments by king Trayanos and was crucified in Jerusalem at the age 120. The word "Polycarpus" means "fruitful" in Greek. St. Polycarpus was born in 70 AD and was one of the disciples of Evangelist St. John, who ordained him the Bishop of Smyrna in 96 AD. He has struggled against heretics. The emperor of Byzantine imprisoned him and forced him to renounce Christ, but Polycarpus refused to obey the emperor saying, "I have served Christ and I can't renounce the Savior." In 166 the executioners put his hands and feet into chains and burnt. One letter from Polycarpus addressed to Phrygians has been preserved which is the first document concerning the martyred Christians. During the lifetime of Polycarpus twelve Christians from Piratelpa came to Smyrna. They were called eastern martyrs as upon the order of the emperor they were thrown before the beasts. **When is celebrated**

02.12.2008
08.12.2009
14.12.2010
13.12.2011
11.12.2012
10.12.2013
02.12.2014
08.12.2015
13.12.2016
12.12.2017
11.12.2018
10.12.2019
08.12.2020
14.12.2021
13.12.2022
12.12.2023
10.12.2024

02.12.2025

08.12.2026

14.12.2027

12.12.2028

11.12.2029

10.12.2030