

Martyr Menas

The Holy Great Martyr Menas of Egypt, was a military officer and served during the reign of the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). When the emperors began the fiercest persecution against Christians in history, the saint refused to serve these persecutors. He removed his soldier's belt (a sign of military rank) and withdrew to a mountain, where he lived an ascetic life of fasting and prayer. Once he happened to arrive in the city during a pagan festival. At the climax of the games the saint's accusing voice rang out, preaching faith in Christ, the Savior of the world. At his trial before the prefect, Pyrrhus offered to restore the saint's former rank if he would offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. When he refused, he was put to cruel tortures, then he was beheaded. This occurred in the year 304. Christians gathered up the martyr's relics by night and hid them until the end of the persecution. Later, they were brought to Egypt and placed in a church dedicated to Saint Menas southwest of Alexandria.

The saint received grace from God to work miracles, and to help those in need. Saint Menas is noted for healing various illnesses, delivering people from possession by demons, and as a protector, especially during times of war. We also ask his help in finding lost objects.

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the West

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Reflection adapted from oca.org; Hymnography from oca.org

St. Herman of Alaska Orthodox Church

Port Townsend, WA



Sunday, November 11th, 2018

*Martyrs Menas, Victor, and Vincent; Martyr Stephanida of
Spain; Ven Theodore the Confessor*

24th Sunday after Pentecost

