



**Metropolitan Vladimir of Kiev:**

In our church, rest relics of our father among the saints, the holy **New Martyr Metropolitan Vladimir (Bogoyavlensky) of Kiev and Gallich**, the first bishop to be tortured and slain by the Communists at the time of the Russian Revolution.

**Life** Saint Vladimir was born on January 1, 1848, in the Little Morshanka, Morshansk district, and province of Tambov. He was named Basil Nikephorovich Bogoyavlensky. Basil's father was a priest, but he was murdered when Basil was young.

In 1874, he graduated from the Theological Academy in Kiev and began teaching in the Tambov Seminary. He was ordained a priest in 1881.

After the death of his matushka and only child in 1886, Fr. Basil entered the Kozlov Monastery in Tambov and was given the name Vladimir. Two years later he was consecrated **bishop of Staraya Rus** and served as a vicar bishop in the diocese of Novgorod.

St. Vladimir became **archbishop of Kartalin and Kahetin** in 1892. He was selected as **Metropolitan of Moscow and Kolomna** in 1898 (after Metropolitan Sergei) and was notable for his concern for widows, orphans, the poor, and alcoholics. In 1912, he became **Metropolitan of Petrograd** (after the death of Metropolitan Anthony). In 1915, Metropolitan Vladimir fell out of favor with the czar because he disapproved of Rasputin, and so he was transferred to Kiev (succeeding Metropolitan Flavian) as **Metropolitan of Kiev and Gallich**.

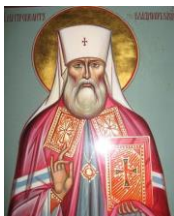
It was Metropolitan Vladimir who announced in 1917 that St. Tikhon had been elected as Patriarch of Moscow.

**Martyrdom** In January 1918, cannon fire damaged many churches and monasteries as Bolshevik forces vied for control of Kiev. On January 23, the Bolsheviks seized the Kiev Caves Lavra, and the monks were taken out into the courtyard to be stripped and beaten. A few nights later, according to one account, five armed soldiers and a sailor came looking for Metropolitan Vladimir. The hierarch was tortured and choked in his bedroom with the chain of his cross. They tortured the metropolitan and demanded money, and then drove him away to be executed. Another account just states that some anonymous persons proceeded to take him to the commandant for interrogation. On the way, they decided to rid themselves of him.

The body of the hieromartyr was found pierced by two bullet wounds and three stab wounds. He was carried into the lavra's Church of St. Michael, where he had spent his last days at prayer.

The All-Russian Church Council was in session when word came to Moscow of Metropolitan Vladimir's death. Patriarch Tikhon performed a memorial service for the New Martyr Vladimir. An investigatory commission was formed to look into the circumstances of Metropolitan Vladimir's murder, but it was unable to carry out its duties because of the revolution. The council decided that the Sunday nearest to January 25, the day of his martyrdom, would be set aside for the annual commemoration of all of the **New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia**, killed by the Soviets.

**Glorification** In 1992, the Russia Orthodox Church glorified the holy New Martyr Vladimir. **The Synaxis of Russia's New Martyrs and Confessors is observed on the Sunday closest to January 25<sup>th</sup> which is today.**

**Orthodox Church of the Mother of God***"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"*

Founded 1966

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Glory to  
Jesus ChristGlory  
Forever

**St. Gregory the  
Theologian, Archbishop  
of Constantinople**

*The sweet-sounding shepherd's pipe of your theology  
overpowered the trumpeting of the orators;  
for having searched the depths of the Spirit  
eloquence was also bestowed upon you.  
Pray to Christ God, Father Gregory,  
that our souls may be saved.*

Troparion — Tone 1

**Today the Church remembers:**

**St. Gregory the Theologian, Archbishop of Constantinople (389) • Sunday of Zacchaeus • St. Moses, Archbishop of Novgorod (1362) • Martyrs Felicitas of Rome, and seven sons: Januarius, Felix, Philip, Silvanus, Alexander, Vitalis and Martial (ca. 164) • Ven. Publius, Ascetic, of Syria (ca. 380) • St. Mares the Singer, of Syria (ca. 430) • Vladimir, Metropolitan of Kiev and Gallich (1918) • Icons of the Most-holy Theotokos, "ASSUAGE MY SORROW" (translation to Moscow in 1640), and "THE UNEXPECTED JOY."**

January 25, 2015

33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Tone 8 of the Octoechos

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