

MIRACLE OF ST. THEODORE – CELEBRATION OF KUTIA

St. Theodore the Tyron, was from the area of City of Amasia in Pontus. He was a Roman soldier during Maximian's great persecution (c. 303) and gave his life for Christ.

When Julian the Apostate was Emperor (361-363), he started a new and great persecution against Christians. Knowing the typical fasting for Christians and wanting to give them even more trouble, he asked the Prefect of Constantinople to withdraw from the city all food that was meatless, forcing Christians to not fast or stay hungry.

According to Christian tradition, then, Theodore the Tiron appeared before the Bishop of Constantinople, Eudoxios (360-370) and told him to gather Christ's flock and order them not to buy anything that sold because the King had ordered to mix foods with blood from sacrifices to idols, and poison.

Instead of those foods, Christians should eat boiled wheat "kollyva". From then until today, we celebrate this miracle on the Saturday of the first week of the Great Fast.