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THE THIRD MONTH
HEDAR 01
(November 10)

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**IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER AND THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT,
ONE GOD. AMEN.**

Month of Hedar the blessed. In this month the length of the [first] day is ten hours, and then it diminishes.

On this day the fighters and saints Maximus, and Manfius, and Victorius, and Philip [of Africa] became martyrs. These holy fighters were natives of the country of Phrygia, and they were brethren in the Holy Spirit though not according to the flesh, and they gathered together and became companions for the sake of the love of Christ. And in the days of Decius, the infidel emperor, the Seven Children fled and hid themselves in a cave in the top of a mountain. And when these fighters [and] martyrs Maximus and his companions saw the infidel emperor denying Christ, and torturing the Christians, they rose up and gathered themselves together, and they agreed together with one consent that they would declare publicly their faith. And they drew nigh unto that infidel emperor, and they cried out, saying, "We are Christians openly, and we believe on Christ, the Son of the Living God, and we bow down before Him and we serve Him." When that infidel heard these words he was wroth with them, and he commanded [the soldiers] to beat them and they beat them very severely for a long time with whips made of leather. And they beat them again with iron rods, which had been made red-hot in the fire, and then they rubbed their wounds with bits of rag made of hair, which had been soaked in vinegar and salt. When they would not obey his commands, and were not afraid of his tortures, and would not turn from their good counsel, the emperor waxed exceedingly wroth, and he commanded the soldiers to torture them very severely, and [the soldiers] did unto them even as he commanded. And when those who were there saw the patient endurance of the holy martyrs, many of them believed on our Lord Jesus Christ. Then straightway the emperor commanded the soldiers to cut off their heads, and to hack each of them in twain with a single blow of their swords, and thereupon they all received crowns of martyrdom in the kingdom of the heavens. Salutation to Maximus and his brethren.

Glory be to God Who is glorified in His Saints. Amen.