

**HOLY APOSTLE TIMOTHY – FAITHFUL DISCIPLE OF ST. PAUL**

**“TIMOTHY , MY SON . . .”**

**In the New Testament, two of the Apostle Paul’s letters are directed to Timothy, who he refers to as being a “. . . true son in the faith.” (1 Tim. 1:2). Who was Timothy? Timothy was one of the 70 Apostles appointed by our Lord to take His message to the world. He was born in Lystra - - son of a Greek father and a Jewish mother. His grandmother was a Christian, and it is said that she influenced him and nurtured his desire to be a follower of Christ.**

**It was in Lystra that Timothy met St. Paul. Impressed by the young man’s deep devotion and heartfelt desire to serve the Church, Paul asked Timothy to accompany him on his missionary journeys. Their travels took them to Achaia, Macedonia, Italy and Spain. Timothy’s eloquence, along with his gentle temperament, enabled him to be a great asset in winning souls for Christ. Eventually, Timothy followed his own missionary trail to Corinth, Philippi and Thessalonica, keeping in constant touch with his mentor through the scriptural letters that now bear his name.**

**The Apostle Timothy finally settled in Ephesus, where he became a bishop of that thriving community. Despite his noble efforts, Timothy was met with great opposition there from the followers of the pagan god Artemis. One evening while attempting to disperse an unruly crowd of pagan worshippers, who had gathered outside his home, Timothy suffered martyrdom at their hands. His relics were later taken to the Church of the Holy Apostles in Constantinople, where they were buried alongside the graves of the Evangelist Luke and the Apostle Andrew.**