

**MARYTRDOM KNOWS NO AGE LIMIT**

**Throughout the parges of Church History, we often hear stirring tales of men and women who willingly submitted to torture and martyrdom at the prime of their lives. The saint depicted on the cover of today's Church Bulletin falls into a different category: he gave his life for Christ at the advance age of 113!**

**St. HARALAMBOS was born in the town of Magnesia in Asia Minor in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century. He served his home town as a priest and later as a bishop. He was much loved by his flock as he worked tirelessly to bring Christ's message to them. In doing so, Haralambos incurred the wrath of the provinical governor, who launched an aggressive campaign of persecutuion againg the Christians of Magnesia. Haralambos did not hide from the attachers. Instead, he defiantly continued to preach the Gospel openly, bringing about his arrest and imprisonment.**

**Haralamabos certainly faced great physical torment. First, he was tied to a post in a public square and slashed repeatedly with knives. When he refused to renounce Christ, Haralambos was dragged through the streets by his beard. He was systematically tortured for several months. Still, the faith of Haralambos remained strong. Ultimately, the Emperor Septimus Severus ordered him to be brought to Antioch, where he was to be beheaded. Just as the executioners were about to carry out this sentence, the saintly bishop died, thus depriving his enemies the satisfaction of taking his life.**