

## **Commencement of new ecclesiastical year begins on Tuesday, Sept. 1**



**The Orthodox Church today commemorates the beginning of the new ecclesiastical year, which as always starts on September 1.**

This was the custom in Constantinople until its fall in 1453, as well as in Russia until the reign of Peter I.

September 1 is still celebrated as the New Year at the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.



In a Patriarchal Encyclical issued for the Indiction, as the new ecclesiastical year is called by the Church, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew I, noted that "...from the Phanar, we wish all of you a propitious and all-blessed new ecclesiastical year, fruitful in Christ-like deeds, for the benefit of all creation and to the glory of the all-wise Creator of all."

**The Church today also venerates the memory of the 40 Holy Ascetic Virgin Martyrs of Thrace, and their teacher, Ammon the Deacon.**

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