

VENERATION OF THE HOLY RELIC OF SAINT SAVINA

On Friday, May 20, 2022, His Eminence Panteleimon Metropolitan of Naucratis and the Very Reverend Archimandrite Elpidophoros Limnaios, a Priest of the Patriarchal Court, made a pilgrimage to the holy relic of the Holy Martyr Savina, which is enshrined in the eponymous Chapel of the beautiful Roman Catholic Cathedral of Saint Catherine of Alexandria.

Saint Savina was born into a noble family at the end of the 3rd century AD in Rome. She married Aurelius Secundus, with whom she had a daughter. She was converted to Christianity by her servant Seraphia, who was stoned to death, while Saint Savina was killed by the severing of her carotid arteries in the early 4th century AD.

Her remains were unknown until March 23, 1842, when they were found in the Priscilla Catacombs near Rome, with a marble inscription placed by her husband at the time of burial along with a vial of blood from the martyrdom.

Pope Gregory XVI, according to the custom of that period, donated the holy relic to nobles – benefactors of the Roman Catholic Church, however, with the intervention of Cardinal Mario Mattei, the wife of the Consul of Tuscany in Alexandria brought the relic to the then under construction Cathedral Church of Saint Catherine of Alexandria, encased in a wax figure of a woman according to the practice of the time and placed in the Chapel dedicated to the Saint, as the patroness of the family.

The memory of Martyr Savina, Saint of the Roman Catholic and Orthodox Church, is commemorated on March 11.