

Summary :

Bishop of Nicomedeia who became a martyr during the persecutions of Diocletian against the Christians of Nicomedeia.

Date and Place of Birth

Second half of the 3rd century AD

Date and Place of Death

303 AD, Nicomedeia

Main Role

Bishop of Nicomedeia

1. Biography and martyrdom

Anthimus lived during the second half of the 3rd century AD. For his life and work we know nothing. We would not even know of his existence if it was not for his death as a martyr during the persecution of the Christians of [Nicomedeia](#) in 303 AD. Towards the end of the summer of this year a part of Diocletian's palace was destroyed by fire. The Christian population of the city was accused for arson. The emperors [Diocletian](#) and Maximian started a persecution. Many of the Christians were arrested and punished, their bishop Anthimus was decapitated along with the martyrs Glykerius, Zeno, Theophilus and others.¹ His memory is celebrated by the Orthodox Church on the 3rd of September.

¹. For Anthimus' decapitation, as well as for the persecution at Nicomedeia, see Eusebius Caesariensis, *Historia Ecclesiastica* 8.6.6, and *Bibliotheca Hagiographica Graeca* I, p. 46.

Bibliography :

 *Bibliotheca Hagiographica Graeca*, Halkin, F. (επιμ.), Subsidia Hagiographica 8, Bruxelles 1957

Sources

Eusebius Caesariensis, *Historia Ecclesiastica* 8.6.6.