Little is known of the holy Martyr Phanurius, except what is depicted concerning his martyrdom on his holy icon, which was discovered in the year 1500 among the ruins of an ancient Church on Rhodes, when the Moslems ruled there. Thus he is called “the Newly-Revealed.” The faithful pray to Saint Phanurius especially to help them recover things that have been lost, and because he has answered their prayers so often, the custom has arisen of baking a Phaneropita (“Phanurius-Cake”) as a thank-offering.

A HEAVENLY song of praise is brightly sung on earth; * the hosts of the Angels keep an earthly festival now in splendour and radiant joy; * from on high they praise with hymns thy suff’rings and struggles; * and below, the Church doth laud the heavenly glory * thou foundest by thy contest and pains, O glorious Phanurius.

FROM a vile captivity, * thou didst deliver the Lord’s priests, * and, O godly-minded one, * didst break their bonds by divine might; * thou didst bravely shame the tyrants’ * audacious madness, giving joy unto the Angels, O thou Great Martyr. * O Phanurius most glorious, * we all revere thee * as a true warrior of God.

Text: The Great Horologion © 1997 The Holy Transfiguration Monastery Brookline, Massachusetts 02445
Icon courtesy The Holy Transfiguration Monastery

The Holy Orthodox Metropolis of Boston