

Orthodox Christian Fellowship at Penn State
Newsletter

10/15/2020



Featured Saint: The Apostle and Evangelist Luke

The Apostle and Evangelist Luke is commemorated on October 18th. He



was a companion of Paul, a native of Antioch, and a physician. He accompanied Paul on his second mission, and after Paul's death he traveled to Achaia, Libya, Egypt, and Thebaid. He is credited with painting the first icons of the Theotokos, Peter, and Paul, writing a Gospel book, and writing the Acts of the Apostles. The Apostle Luke was martyred in Thebes, and his relics can be venerated at the Orthodox Cathedral there and

at churches in Padua and Prague. Let us praise with sacred songs the Holy Apostle Luke, the recorder of the joyous Gospel of Christ!

Orthodox churches around the world: St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral (Cathédrale Saint-Nicolas de Nice) in France



The St Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral is located in Nice, France. It is the largest Eastern Orthodox cathedral in Western Europe. Beginning in the mid-19th century, the Russian nobility visited Nice and the French Riviera as well as Tsar Alexander II due to the nice climate of the area. The cathedral was constructed in December of 1912 in memory of Nicholas Alexandrovich the Tsarevich of Russia who died in Nice, France. It served the large Russian community that had settled in Nice towards the end of the 19th century as well as visitors from the Imperial Court. The construction was funded by Tsar Nicholas II. On 20 January 2010, a French Court (the Tribunal of First Instance at Nice) ruled that the title to the Cathedral should be held by the Russian state therefore it has now become the property of the Russian Federation though it is also recognized as a national monument of France.

Holy Day: Commemoration of the Kazan Icon of the Mother of God

Celebrated on October 22nd, the feast day of the Commemoration of the Kazan Icon of the Mother of God celebrates the deliverance of Moscow from the Poles in 1612. During a period of Russian history



known as the "Time of Troubles," Polish armies invaded Russia, persecuted the Orthodox faith, and succeeded in taking Moscow. In response, the Russian Orthodox Church declared a three day fast, and Saint Sergius of Radonezh (a very revered Russian saint) said that the people must pray to the Holy Virgin if Moscow were to be saved. The Kazan Icon of the Mother

of God was accordingly sent to the army tasked with retaking Moscow, and the emboldened forces soon retook the city. Since that day the icon has been revered all throughout Russia, and is currently housed in the Mother of God monastery in the city of Kazan.

Featured Prayers

Morning Prayers:

TO THE GUARDIAN ANGEL:

O Holy Angel, keeping guard over my wretched soul and my passionate life, do not forsake me, a sinner, nor depart from me because of my incontinence. Do not give the evil enemy room to overcome me by force of this mortal body. Strengthen my weak and feeble hand, and set me on the way of salvation. Yea, O Holy Angel of God, guardian and

protector of my wretched soul and body, forgive me everything by which I have offended you all the days of my life, and even what I have done this past night; protect me during this day, and guard me from every temptation of the enemy, that I may not anger God by any sin. Pray to the Lord for me, that He may confirm me in His fear and prove me a worthy servant of His goodness. Amen.
