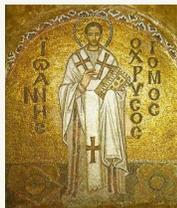


Orthodox Christian Fellowship at Penn State Newsletter

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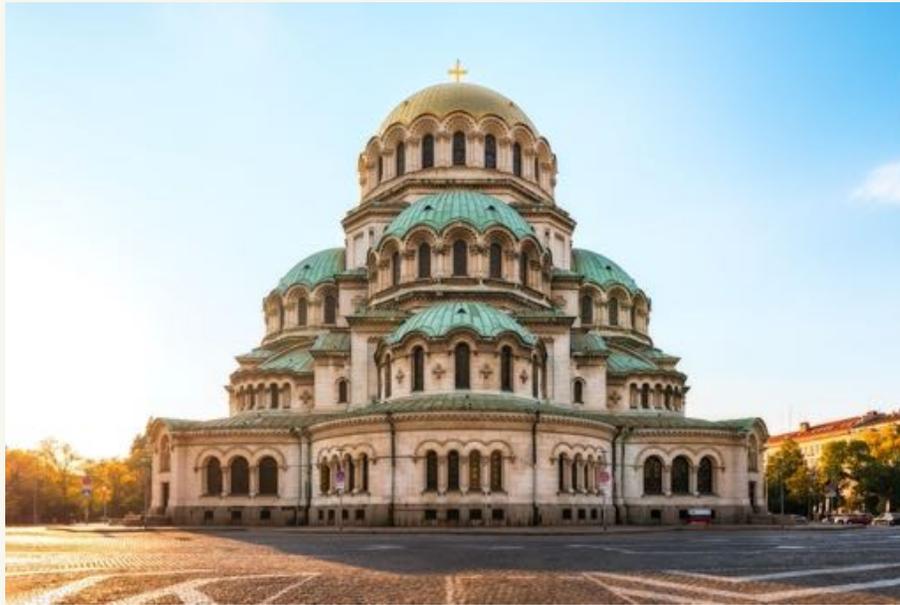


Featured Saint: Saint John Chrysostom



St. John Chrysostom is commemorated on November 13th. St. John is known as the "Golden-Mouthed" for his inspired preaching. He is one of the Three Hierarchs and lived in Antioch in the fourth century. He was ordained as a priest and served as archbishop of Constantinople. He wrote many books on the Christian faith, passionately cared for the poor, sent missionaries throughout the region, and denounced the morals of the Imperial Court at Constantinople. Additionally, he is the author of the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom. St. John was eventually exiled for his preaching against members of the Imperial Court. He died in 407 A.D. Teaching us by your words, O Father John Chrysostom, intercede before the Word, Christ our God, to save our souls!

Orthodox churches around the world: Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Sofia, Bulgaria



The Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Sofia, Bulgaria is a Bulgarian Orthodox cathedral finished in 1924 and it is one of the most important Orthodox churches in Bulgaria. It was built in a Neo-Byzantine style and is said to be one of the 50 largest Christian church buildings by volume in the world and one of the 10 largest Eastern Orthodox church buildings. It can hold around 5,000 people and occupies an area of 3,170 square metres. The Cathedral is named after Alexander Nevsky, a 13th-century prince of Novgorod during the Kievan Rus' time period, who was later declared a saint. Within the cathedral there is a museum of Bulgarian icons which is part of the National Art Gallery.

For more information feel free to visit this [link](#).

Hymn of the Week: Ethiopian Orthodox Mezmur (Hymn)



In keeping with the international theme of our Orthodox hymn selections, this week's piece comes from Ethiopia. Ethiopian Orthodox Christian music differs pretty dramatically from most Orthodox music, and this hymn is a good example of that. The most immediately noticeable difference is that Ethiopian Orthodox music tends to use traditional instruments, including bowed instruments, flutes, and drums, in contrast to the voice-only approach of other branches of Orthodoxy. Furthermore, Ethiopian Orthodox music doesn't follow any of the chanting traditions that came from the Byzantine empire, but rather maintains its own local style that is influenced by traditional regional music. This differentiation ensures that it sounds different from anything else in the Orthodox world. While unfortunately there is not much in the way of English translations for this style of hymn, they sure are pretty!

