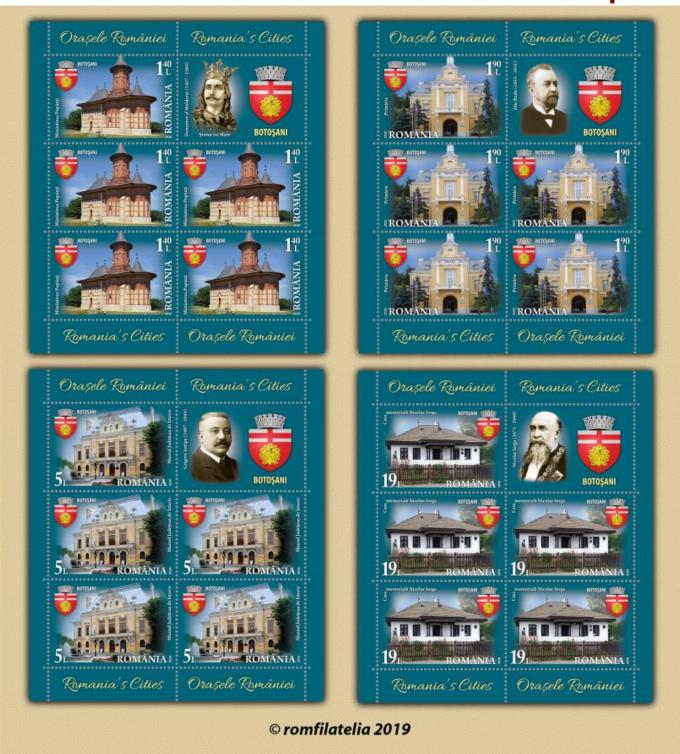
Popăuți Monastery founded by St. Stephen the Great featured on new commemorative stamp



A new stamp was introduced into circulation yesterday, January 21, featuring the

St. Nicholas Church of Popăuți Monastery, built by St. Stephen the Great in 1496.

The stamp is part of a series dedicated to various Romanian cities, with the latest stamps honoring the northern city of Botosani. The stamp was issued by Romfilatelia, which, "For more than 15 years ... has invested the stamp with new meanings of elegance, refinement, and artistry, continuing its mission as a committed promoter of national values and great events."

The stamp has a face value of \$0.32 (1.4 leu).

"The exterior, richly decorated with glazed brick belts, with discs that reproduce the zodiac signs, fantastic, heraldic and geometric figures, gives it an attribute of expressive originality. The old entrance of the church preserves the frame with broken Gothic arches, in the form of ribs carved in stone (also found in other churches of the great founder)," states Romfilatelia.

The church was declared an historical monument in 1897 and restored between 1899 and 1907.

His Beatitude Patriarch Daniel reestablished the monastic settlement in 1991 while serving as Metropolitan of Moldova and Bukovina, reports the Basilica News Agency.

— Source: <u>basilica.ro</u>