

## Orthodox students pray for power and strength to profess true faith at Fr Dumitru Staniloae's tomb



Marking Father Dumitru Staniloae's 27 year memorial anniversary, the members of the Romanian Orthodox Christian Students Association (ASCOR) gathered at Cernica Monastery 'to pray for the rest of the soul of the reverend professor and his generation, but also to receive power and strength to profess the true faith and fulfil our role in society, especially in these troubled times.'

"The commemorative moment is not only an important tradition reserved for the first Saturday of each academic year but also an opportunity to remember the mission we undertook when we joined the oldest post-December students' association, namely, to promote the Christian faith and the Orthodox spirituality in the Philokalic spirit rediscovered by Rev. Prof. Dumitru Stăniloae," the representatives of ASCOR Bucharest told the Basilica News Agency.

The program included the Divine Liturgy, a memorial service and the laying of a

wreath at the theologian's tomb. The wreath of flowers 'was traditionally made by the skilful hands of the volunteers.'

Father Dumitru Stăniloae

Father Dumitru Stăniloae was born on November 16, 1903, in Vladeni, Brasov County, and reposed in the Lord on the night of October 4 to 5, 1993, in Bucharest.

His theological work shows him as one of the most important Christian thinkers in the world, a father of twentieth-century Orthodoxy. Father John Meyendorff said of him that "he is the greatest Orthodox theologian in the whole world of the last century."

Father Dumitru Stăniloae was a professor of theology, dogmatist, philosopher, historian, journalist and translator.

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