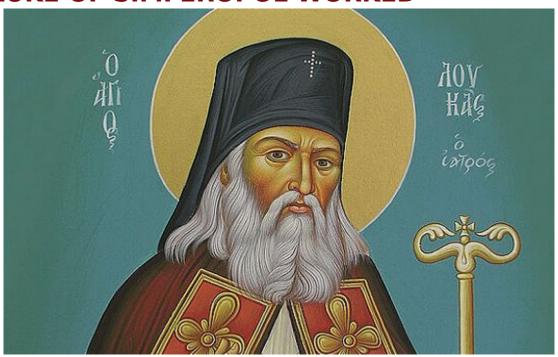
RUSSIAN CHURCH TO RESTORE HOSPITAL WHERE ST. LUKE OF SIMFEROPOL WORKED



On December 8, the Russian Orthodox Church signed a deal for the restoration and use of the hospital where the St. Luke (Voino-Yasenetsky) of Simferopol, one of the most beloved saints of the 20th century, labored as a surgeon before the Russian revolution.

In particular, the Church's St. Alexiy Hospital and Moscow and the Department of Property and Land Relations of the Yaroslavl Province, signed an agreement on the long-term gratuitous use of a complex of buildings in Pereslavl-Zalessky, where the Moscow-based hospital plans to open a branch of palliative care and a consulting and diagnostic center, together with a surgical department and a training center for junior nurses next year, the hospital's press service said, reports RIA-Novosti.

The new hospital branch is a joint project with the local Feodorovsky Convent, the hospital said.

The designated complex of buildings housed the former Zemstvo District Hospital where St. Luke worked as a surgeon and the chief physician from 1910 to 1917.

Archbishop Luka (Voino-Yasenetsky, 1877-1961) was a surgeon, scientist, author of works on anesthesiology and purulent surgery, doctor of medical sciences,

professor, spiritual writer, and doctor of theology. He was a victim of repression and spent a total of 11 years in exile. In August 2000, he was canonized as a saint of the Russian Orthodox Church.

Today, St. Luke is beloved throughout the Orthodox world. He is especially venerated in Greece, where he has worked many miracles. Churches have been built in his honor in Poland and Bulgaria, and elsewhere.

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