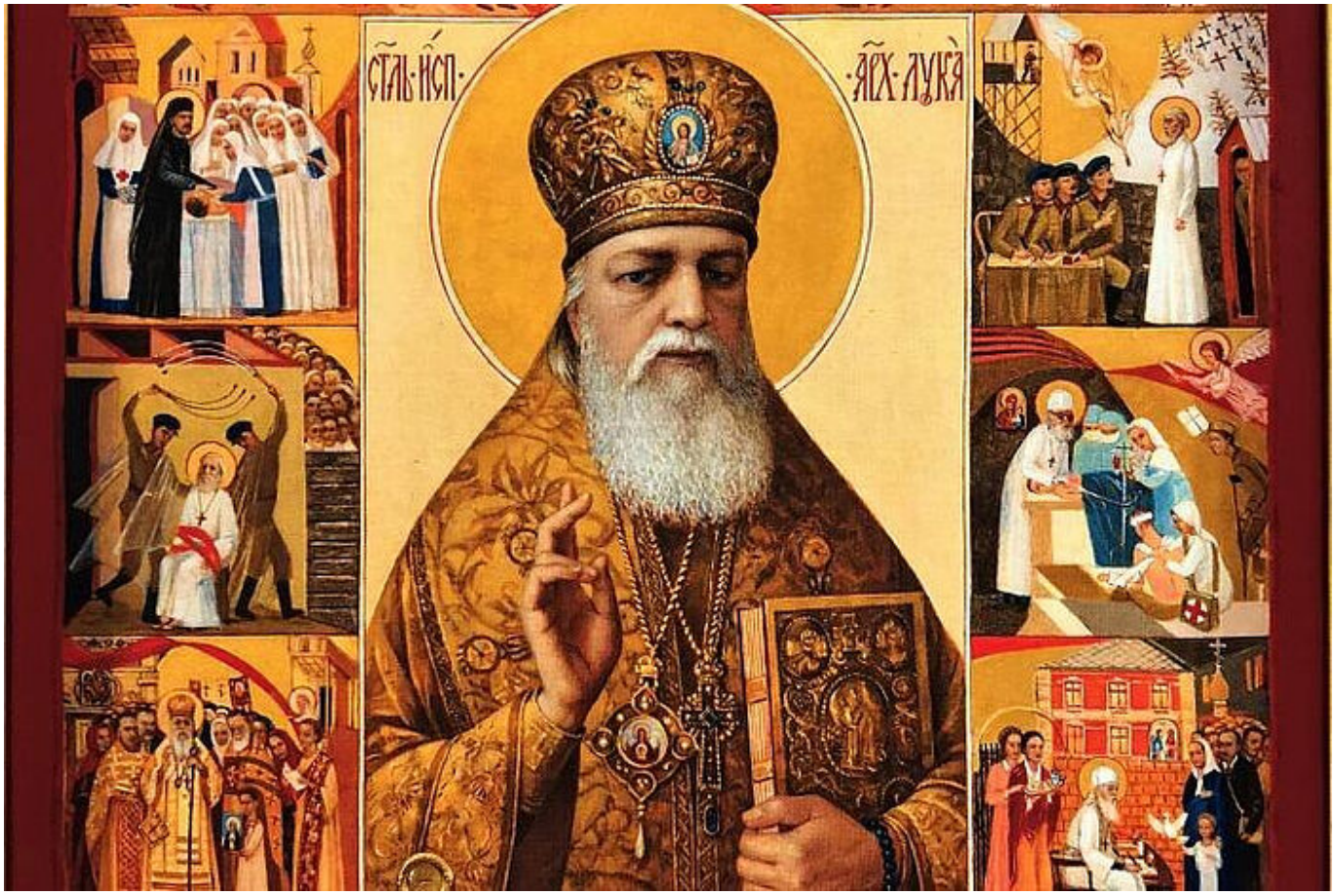
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ARCHIVES OF ST. LUKE OF SIMFEROPOL TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION



The personal archives of one of the 20th century's most beloved saints will go up for auction in Moscow tomorrow.

Altogether, more than 80 items from St. Luke of Simferopol, estimated at $27,270 (2 million rubles), will go on sale at the 12th Chair Auction House in Moscow, reports RIA-Novosti.

"St. Luke—in the world the outstanding surgeon Valentin Voino-Yasenetsky—is one one of the largest figures of the 20th century, the founder of the school of purulent surgery in Russia. He is the only clergyman in the USSR who received the Stalin Prize for his scientific works," noted Ivan Efimov, the auction house's lead expert.

“The appearance of not one, but a whole archive of things belonging to St. Luke of the Crimea is already quite valuable in and of itself… The total cost of the archive is estimated at 2 million rubles, but it’s never possible to predict the financial result of the auction,” Efimov emphasized.

Among the most valuable items are the saint’s manuscripts, including medical texts, essays on the war years, post-war memories, and spiritual texts.

“We consider the manuscript, ‘On Evil and Suffering,’ which he wrote in exile, to be very valuable,” Efimov noted.

The archive also includes a bronze inkwell, photos, a greeting from the People’s Commissar of Health in connection with receiving the Stalin Prize, and other personal items.

Last year, the Medal of St. Luke of Crimea was established in Russia, to be awarded to practitioners, junior medical staff, and other employees of medical organizations for their services in the field of health protection and their contribution to the organization of medical care.

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