

## **THE EASTERN** **133: March 2021**

**ST JOHN'S RUSSIAN**  
**Military Road, Colchester, Essex**  
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## **ORTHODOX No**

**ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
**CO1 2AN**  
[stjohnsorthodoxcolchester](http://stjohnsorthodoxcolchester)

The Church of St John of Shanghai, Russian Orthodox church building attended by 3,000 Orthodox of 24 nationalities, with over 100 baptisms per year. It is a parish of the East of England Orthodox Church Trust (Charity No. 1081707), part of the Western European Diocese of the Russian Orthodox Church. It cares for grassroots Orthodox of all nationalities in our many parishes and communities in Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and beyond.

built in 1855, is the largest in the British Isles, and is

**Rector, Prison Chaplain and Safeguarding Lead:** прот. Андрей Филлипс / Archpriest Andrew Phillips M.A. (Oxon) (Russian/English): [frandrew\\_anglorus@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:frandrew_anglorus@yahoo.co.uk) / Please contact by SMS or on Whatsapp on 07745 298266 or by e-mail

**Assistant (Colchester):** Fr Ioan Iana (Romanian): [ovi.iana@yahoo.com](mailto:ovi.iana@yahoo.com) / 07983 204844 (Please contact evenings only)

**Assistant (Colchester):** Fr George Petrovsky (Russian): [biplan997@gmail.com](mailto:biplan997@gmail.com) / 07459 281942

**Assistant (Norwich):** Fr Spasimir Ivanov (Bulgarian): 07746 272011

**Deacon:** Timothy Phillips

**Subdeacon:** Sergiu Smantana

**Readers:** Jack Sardo, Daniel Zabacinschi, Maxim Brown, Serghei Novitchi

**Choir and Sisterhood:** Sabine Phillips

**Caretaker and Gardener:** Paul Hopkins, 69 Military Road

**St Alban's Circle:** After the Sunday Liturgy in English with Fr Andrew and on Wednesday evenings at 7.30 in Russian with Fr George.

**Sunday School, Searchlight Magazine and St Juliana's Sewing Club:** Mary Kisliakova: [mary0170@yahoo.com](mailto:mary0170@yahoo.com)

**St Joseph's Construction Club:** Martina Colto: [coltomarian@yahoo.com](mailto:coltomarian@yahoo.com)

**Russian School:** Sophia Bown: [safi@mail.ru](mailto:safi@mail.ru)

**Church Bookshop and Publications:** Audrey Body: [abody@st-albans.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:abody@st-albans.suffolk.sch.uk)

**Russian Orthodox Camp (Ages 9-16):** Fr Stephen Platt: [fr.stephen.platt@googlemail.com](mailto:fr.stephen.platt@googlemail.com)

**Youtube:** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rE2T2sYTy8s>

**Website:** [www.orthodoxengland.org.uk](http://www.orthodoxengland.org.uk)

### **Расписание Богослужений / Timetable of Services**

#### **Saturday 6 March**

5.30 pm: Vigil / Всенощное бдение

**Sunday 7 March: Sunday of the Last Judgement / Неделя о Страшном суде. Meatfare Sunday / Масленица**

9.00 am: Hours and Divine Liturgy / Часы и Божественная литургия

**Saturday 13 March**

5.30 pm: Vigil / Всенощное бдение

**Sunday 14 March: Sunday of Forgiveness / Прощеное воскресенье. Cheesefare / Сыропуст**

9.00 am: Hours and Divine Liturgy followed by Vespers of Forgiveness / Часы и Божественная литургия с вечерней

**Monday 15 March: Clean Monday: Чистый понедельник**

Beginning of the Great Fast / Начало Великого поста

**Saturday 20 March**

5.30 pm: Vigil / Всенощное бдение

**Sunday 21 March: Торжество Православия / The Triumph of Orthodoxy**

9.00 Hours and Liturgy followed by a short service of intercession and procession with the holy icons / Часы и Божественная литургия с кратким молебном и крестным ходом с св. иконами

**Saturday 27 March:**

5.30 pm: Vigil / Всенощное бдение

**Sunday 28 March: Память свт. Григория Паламы / Sunday of St Gregory Palamas**

9.00 am: Hours and Divine Liturgy / Часы и Божественная литургия

**Dates for Your Diary / Важные Даты на  
Следующий Год**

**Easter: Sunday 2 May / Пасха: Воскресенье 2 мая**

**Patronal Feast: Saturday 3 July**

**Престольный праздник: Суббота 3 июля**

**Baptisms in February**

7 February: Vlad Ciobanu

19 February: Andrei Stancu

21 February: Ferdinand Onica

21 February: Stefan Lungu

27 February: Lydia Newfield

27 February: Thomas Newfield

28 February: Iosif Chifor

28 February: Rebeca Trasca

## **Church News**

### **New Memorial Table**

We now have a much larger memorial table. Thanks to Timothy and especially Alban who adorned, varnished and painted it.

### **The New Church Outside Cambridge – 14 April 2021**

The old memorial table and furniture at the back of the church and supplies inside the altar will soon be taken to our new church at 14 High Street, Little Abington CB21 6BG, 20 minutes to the south of Cambridge, close to Haverhill and Saffron Walden and 25 minutes from Bishops Stortford and Bury St Edmunds. Vladyka decreed that the church, which we bought last year should be dedicated to the local martyr St Edmund, King of East Anglia (+ 869). Although progress has been extremely slow because of covid and we cannot get icons and other furnishings from the Ukraine also because of covid, we still hope to bless the church at a thanksgiving service at 7.00 pm on the evening of Wednesday 14 April. The reason for blessing the church at an evening service is because this will be precisely 100 years since the first (Non-Orthodox) service in the church. Please ask me if you would like to help with the financing of the inside of the church.

### **New Centenary Icon**

In honour of the centenary of the Church Outside Russia on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> February, the Feast of the New Martyrs and Confessors, we set up a specially-commissioned icon on its new stand between the two relic cases. The icon shows the three saints of our part of the Russian Church, St Jonah of Hankou (Manchuria), St Seraphim of Boguchar (Bulgaria) and St John of Shanghai and Western Europe. (See the article and photos below).

## **A Centenary Icon for the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia**

### Introduction

Our Russian Orthodox Faith in the Holy Trinity has long been expressed by the words: ‘For the Faith, For the Tsar, For Rus’, which represent the actions of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit throughout the Russian Orthodox Lands all over the world. These words were expressed in recent history in the lives of the Three Saints of the Russian Emigration, the Three New Hierarchs, the Three New Pillars of Orthodoxy.

### St Jonah

‘For the Faith’ was expressed by St Jonah of Hankou (+ 1925), the first saint of the Emigration. Fleeing as a refugee with other White Russians to China and absolutely faithful to the fullness of Russian Orthodoxy, within a very short time of becoming a bishop at a very young age in Manchuria, he established an orphanage, a school and a dining hall for the poor. Thus he combined the love of the Liturgy with practical love for our neighbour, as the Gospel calls us to do, for ‘Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things

shall be added unto you' (Matt. 6.33). This is indeed the essence of the Orthodox Christian Faith. St Jonah expressed faithfulness in the face of the betrayal of the Faith by others.

### St Seraphim

'For the Faith and for the Tsar' was expressed a generation later by St Seraphim of Boguchar (+ 1950). He fearlessly expressed the historic values of Russian Orthodoxy in his writings and was a Defender of Orthodoxy against the heresies of the renovationist Paris School in the 1930s and against ecumenism, notably at the Moscow Council of 1948. In his study 'The Russian Ideology', he asked: What is the role of the Tsar? He answered that the Tsar is the incarnation of our Faith in social, political and economic affairs. All this has become very relevant today, in the wake of the events that have followed the 2016 meeting in Crete organized by the Patriarchate of Constantinople. St Seraphim lived for decades outside Russia, but never made any compromise with the Orthodox Faith at any time, including in the last few years of his life. He expressed bravery in the face of the cowardice of others before the political pressures of the powerbrokers of this world.

### St John

All of these values, 'For the Faith and for the Tsar and for Rus' were expressed by St John of Shanghai and San Francisco (+ 1966) two decades after St Seraphim. The first 'universal saint', as St John has been called, he defended the Orthodox Faith and the Tsar from their enemies. He lived all over the planet, celebrating the Liturgy and preaching in many languages, extending the understanding and practice of 'Rus' worldwide far beyond East Slavdom, which itself stretches from Carpatho-Russia to the shores of the Pacific. Thus, outside those lands we speak of American Rus, Argentinian Rus, Australian Rus, Canadian Rus, English Rus, French Rus, German Rus, Irish Rus, Italian Rus, Peruvian Rus, Swiss Rus and so on. Wherever, worldwide, there is the uncorrupted Christian Faith of the people of the Russian Orthodox world, there is Rus. St John expressed the truth which sets us free from the deceit of those who do not love Christ and His Holy Church.

### The Three Saints and the Six Continents

The Russian Emigration expressed the truths 'For the Faith, for the Tsar, for Rus' with a more refined purity and much more extended significance than ever before. The three values of faithfulness, bravery and truthfulness were above all expressed by the Three New Hierarchs, after apostates expressed the opposite of 'For the Faith, for the Tsar and For Rus' in their 'treachery, cowardice and deceit' which caused the 1917 Revolution and brought persecution to the faithful. And these Three New Pillars of Orthodoxy completed their lives on three different continents: St Jonah in China in Asia; St Seraphim in Bulgaria in Europe and St John in San Francisco in North America. It is this, the global reality of Rus, which the Church inside Russia is now learning from us in our outposts here.

It is for this reason that we now have their Icon in our Church in Colchester, showing the Three Saints full length against the blue and green background of the planet – St John walking and blessing North and South America (where his parents went to live), St Seraphim walking and blessing Europe and Africa (where some of his spiritual children went to live), and St Jonah walking and blessing Asia and Oceania (where some of his spiritual children went to live). All of them walk beneath the Protecting Veil of the Directress of the Church here, the Kursk-Root Mother of God, the Icon of the Sign, She Who Shows the Way.

Thus, in this global age, we see all six inhabited Continents of the planet beneath the Protecting Veil of the Mother of God, blessed by the Three New Hierarchs, the Three New Pillars of Orthodoxy, the Three Saints of the Emigration, St Jonah, St Seraphim and St John. Their feasts, on 20 October, 26 February and 2 July respectively are spread almost equally, every four months, throughout the Church year, and each represents a new generation of Church life. Together they represent the essential identity, unique service, planetary mission and future of our whole Russian Orthodox Church, come forth from the past of Imperial Russia, now living in the present and worldwide.

## Conclusion

All three saints are part of the historic contribution of the twentieth century to the common worldwide mission of our reunited Russian Orthodox Church now and in the future. We know that our Russian Orthodoxy – like all Traditional Orthodoxy – is being persecuted by the alien and secular mentality which has infiltrated parts of the Orthodox world. What better symbol of our common struggle for the Faith than this Icon of the Three Saints, all the fruit of Imperial Russia, all the fruit of the One Russian Church, and all of them our offering to the whole world for our common future?

Parish of St John of Shanghai, Colchester, Essex

Feast of the New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

25 January/7 February 2021

**[See our Facebook pages for pictures of the new icon](#)**

**[www.facebook.com/stjohnsorthodoxcolchester](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnsorthodoxcolchester)**

**Below are a series of photographs of the Church in Sofia, Bulgaria, where St Seraphim's relics are venerated and photos from his canonisation exactly five years ago.**

# **Святитель Серафим и Русское подворье в Софии**

## **Фотогалерея к 5-летию канонизации святителя Серафима (Соболева)**

Выдающийся архипастырь и богослов XX века, пламенный радатель за чистоту Православия, подвижник благочестия, с 1921 года управлявший русскими православными общинами в Болгарии, архиепископ Богучарский Серафим (Соболев) отошел ко Господу в Неделю Торжества Православия 13/26 февраля 1950 года и был погребен в крипте русского храма святителя Николая Чудотворца в Софии, первоначально – посольского, освященного в 1914 году, ныне – Подворья Патриарха Московского и всея Руси. Чудотворения по молитвам владыки Серафима происходили еще при его жизни, но многократное их умножение после его блаженной кончины сделало этого русского иерарха одним из самых почитаемых в Болгарии святых задолго до его канонизации.

В канонизации русского святого, почти 30 лет служившего в Болгарии, участвовали две Поместные Православные Церкви – Русская и Болгарская, что является уникальным событием в церковной истории. После канонизации архиепископа Богучарского Серафима (Соболева) в лике святителей на Освященном Архиерейском Соборе, проходившем в храме Христа Спасителя в Москве 3 февраля 2016 года, прославление святого и посвященные этому долгожданному событию торжества проходили в Софии 25 и 26 февраля 2016 года.



**Архиепископ Богучарский Серафим**



**Фрески крипты Патриаршего подворья в Софии**



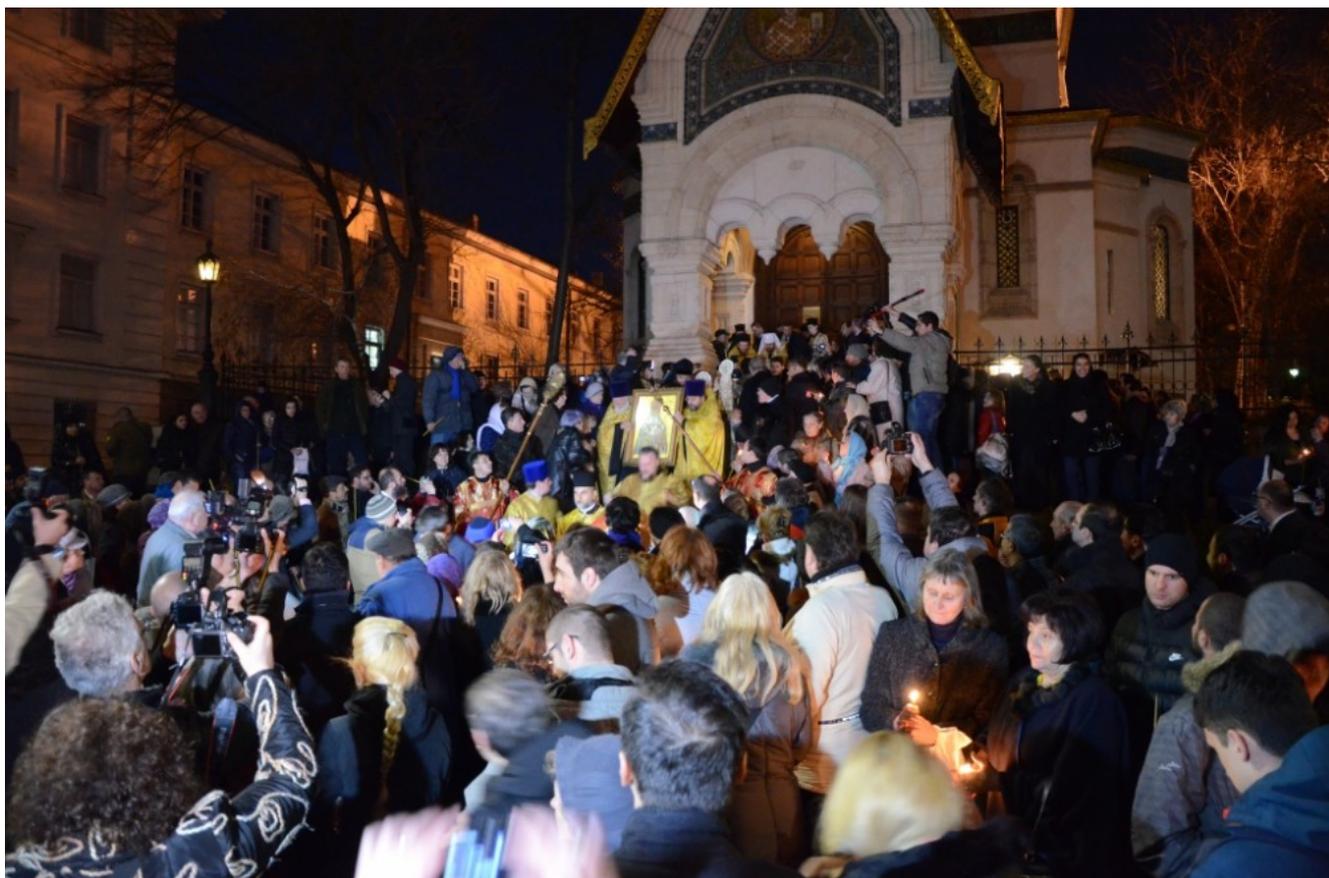
**Архимандрит Тихон (Шевкунов; с 2018 г. - митрополит Псковский и Порховский) в крипте Свято-Никольского храма в Софии. 2014 г.**



**Серафимовские дни в Софии. Февраль 2015 г. Заупокойная лития по святителю Серафиму (Соболеву). Святейший Патриарх Болгарский Неофит, митрополит Саратовский и Вольский Лонгин, диакон Иван Петков, клирики и прихожане храма**



**Серафимовские дни. Декабрь 2015 г.**



**Торжества по случаю прославления святителя Богучарского  
Серафима (Соболева). София, 25-26 февраля 2016 г.  
Крестный ход с иконой святителя Богучарского Серафима от  
Никольского храма - Подворья Русской Православной  
Церкви - в Патриарший кафедральный собор с**



**Торжества по случаю прославления святителя Богучарского Серафима (Соболева). София, 25-26 февраля 2016 г.  
Крестный ход с иконой святителя Богучарского Серафима от Никольского храма - Подворья Русской Православной Церкви - в Патриарший кафедральный собор**





**Торжества по случаю прославления святителя Богучарского  
Серафима (Соболева). София, 25-26 февраля 2016 г.  
Крестный ход с иконой святителя Богучарского Серафима от  
Никольского храма - Подворья Русской Православной  
Церкви - в Патриарший кафедральный собор с**



**Торжества по случаю прославления святителя Богучарского  
Серафима (Соболева). София, 25-26 февраля 2016 г.  
Крестный ход с иконой святителя Богучарского Серафима от  
Никольского храма - Подворья Русской Православной  
Церкви - в Патриарший кафедральный собор с**



**Великая утренняя в Патриаршем Александро-Невском соборе  
Софии, во время которой состоялся чин прославления  
святителя Серафима (Соболева), и Божественная литургия.  
26 февраля 2016 г.**

Фотограф [Янина Алексеева](#)  
26 февраля 2021 г.

