

ST SERGIUS OF RADONEZH

WORDLIST:

a chosen vessel of God priest monk/schemamonk hegumen abbot/Father Superior bishop Metropolitan **Patriarch** Apostle **Protectress**

избранный сосуд Божий священник монах/схимонах игумен настоятель монастыря епископ митрополит патриарх апостол Покровительница, Заступница

fasting divine grace holy holiness obey /obedient inheritance dedicated to confessor take the monastic vows

пост Божественная благодать святой СВЯТОСТЬ слушаться/послушный наследство посвященный духовник; исповедник постричься в монахи

temptation cell venerable wilderness ordain to the priesthood rules of the Desert Fathers

discarded robes cenobitic monastery spiritual friendship brotherly love

искушение келья преподобный пустыня; дикая местность рукоположить во священство правила отцов пустынников обноски общежительный монастырь духовная дружба братская любовь

true purpose in life **Mongol-Tatar Yoke** prophecy the Nativity of the Mother of God angelic manner of life foresee fell asleep fear of God purity of soul sincere love spirit spiritual imprint

истинная цель жизни монголо-татарское иго пророчество Рождество Пресвятой Богородицы ангельская жизнь предвидеть, предсказывать упокоиться страх Божий чистота души нелицемерная любовь дух духовный след/отпечаток

St Sergius was born in 1319 in a place called Varnitsa near the city of **Rostov. His parents were the pious** boyars Cyril and Maria. His holiness was announced before his birth as he was heard crying out of his mother's womb one day in a church. At his baptism he was called Bartholomew and the priest told his parents that their child was destined by God to be a chosen vessel of God and a servant of the Holy Trinity.





Once in the fields, he came across an old monk whom he had never seen before. The monk was praying under an oak tree. The boy came up to him and told him about his difficulties in school. The monk prayed over him and gave him a piece of prosphora, saying, "Take and eat, this is given to you as a sign of the divine grace for reading." After this the holy child read without difficulty and understood the contents of books and his desire to serve only God became still stronger. But his love for his parents kept him in the family.



"Юность Преподобного Сергия" Михаил Несторов

After his parents died, **Bartholomew** gave up his inheritance to his younger brother Peter and together with his elder brother Stephan, settled to live in a wild forest 10 miles away from Radonezh. The brothers cut wood themselves and built a hut and a little church, which they dedicated to the Holy Trinity.

Сергий стал основателем Троице-Сергиева монастыря (лавры). Слава Сергия дошла даже до Царьграда.



"Сергий Строитель" Николай Рерих



Soon word spread about the holy monk Sergius and several men came to him asking to share his life in the wilderness. Seeing their faith, he agreed to let them join him, although he had desire to live alone. He organized the brothers and together they began to build cells for the other monks.



The Russian Land at this time suffered under the Mongol-Tatar Yoke. St. Sergius gave his blessing to Great-prince Demetrius to fight to protect the nation and even provided two Schemamonks of his monastery Andrei [Oslyaba] and Alexander [Peresvet] to serve as standard-bearers and predicted the victory for prince Demetrius.

Having reached old age, and foreseeing his own end six months beforehand, St Sergius called the brothers and appointed his disciple St Nikon, who was experienced in the spiritual life and obedience, to be hegumen of the monastery. St Sergius fell asleep in the Lord on September 25, 1392. On the night before, the great saint of God called the brothers a final time to give them his final instruction: "Brethren, be attentive to yourselves. Have first the fear of God, purity of soul and sincere love...."





St. Sergius was destined by God to become the builder of Russia. He was to mend the spirit of Russian people, which had been crashed by the Mongol invaders. Due to the influence of St Sergius and his disciples, in a little over than 200 years, over 150 monasteries were founded in the wilderness and over 100 in towns.

Monument to St Sergius of Radonezh in Sergiev Posad

