



## **Sv Sava Reading for January 28<sup>th</sup>**

### **Introduction to St. Sava's Early Life - Yvonna**

St. Sava, born Rastko Nemanjić in 1174 AD, is a revered figure in Serbian history and Orthodox Christianity. As the son of Stefan Nemanja, the Grand Prince of Serbia, St. Sava's early life was shaped by noble surroundings, exposing him to both secular and religious influences, he was a prince.

### **Monastic Calling and Spiritual Journey - Milijana**

St. Sava decided to be a monk, and leave behind his prince title, which means he chose to live a special, quiet life dedicated to God. This decision happened when he was around 18 years old, and he traveled to Mount Athos to learn more about being close to God.

### **Monastic Foundation - Ace**

St. Sava founded the Hilandar Monastery on Mount Athos, a significant spiritual and cultural center. This monastery became a focal point for the dissemination of Orthodox Christian teachings and Serbian culture.

### **Educational Reforms - Jimmy**

St. Sava really liked learning, so when he was about 26 years old, he decided to make schools better. He started schools and places where people could learn more about God and other important things. St Sava founded the Serbian school at the Studenica Monastery.

### **Literary Legacy - Juliana**

St. Sava was not only a spiritual leader but also a prolific writer. His literary contributions include theological treatises, hagiographies, and liturgical texts. These writings continue to shape Orthodox Christian theology and practice.

### **Diplomatic Endeavors - Drazan**

When St. Sava was around 43 years old, he did some important work talking to other leaders. This was like being a special messenger to help keep the Serbian land safe and happy.

### **First Bishop of the Serbian Orthodox Church – Milanija**

In a historic moment, St. Sava became the first Archbishop of the autocephalous Serbian Orthodox Church in the year 1219AD, he worked tirelessly to secure the autocephaly of the Serbian Orthodox Church from the Patriarchate of Constantinople. This appointment marked a significant milestone in the spiritual history of Serbia, emphasizing its ecclesiastical independence.





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### **Legacy and Cultural Impact - Adriana**

St. Sava's legacy extends far beyond his lifetime. His influence on Serbian culture, spirituality, and education endures, with numerous churches, schools, and institutions named in his honor.

### **Canonization and Reverence - Anabella**

Recognized for his holiness and contributions, St. Sava was canonized as a saint within the Serbian Orthodox Church. His feast day is celebrated with great reverence, symbolizing the enduring impact of his life and work on Serbian history and spirituality.

### **Conclusion - Mila**

Every year people in Serbia and all over the world, like us here in Michigan, celebrate Saint Sava. They do happy things like singing, dancing, and learning. Saint Sava is a friend who still makes everyone smile, reminding them to be kind and good.

### **Serbian language poem – Vladi**



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