

Holy Theotokos, pray for us!

This is the beautiful Dormition Cathedral in Moscow, Russia.



The Children's Word

"Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for such is the Kingdom of Heaven." Mark 10:14

Sunday, August 9, 2015

Volume 3, Issue 31

A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



How long will I be with you?

Have you ever asked for help for something...again and again? Maybe you had trouble tying your shoes. Maybe you like to cook, but just can't get something right. Maybe you ask for help with your math or spelling. Sometimes we keep asking our parents or our teachers for help...again and again.

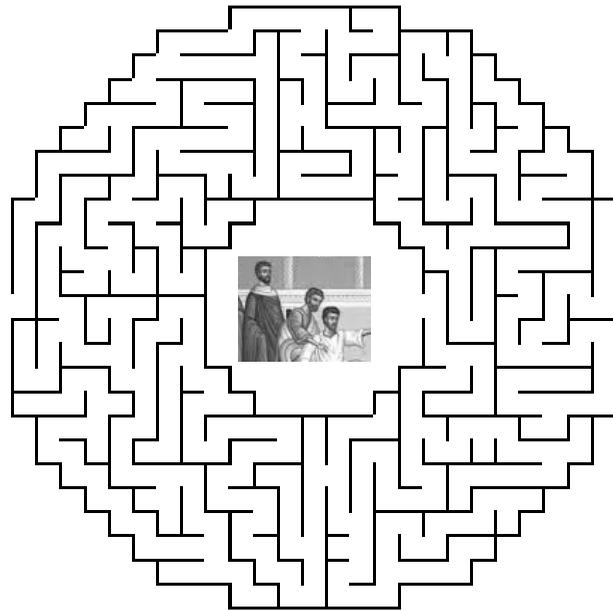


Today, in the Gospel reading, we hear about how Jesus' disciples asked Him for help with something. But this was something that was **God is still with us!** very serious. Somebody was very sick, and they wanted to heal him. But as hard as they tried, they just couldn't do it! So what did they do? They asked their Teacher, our Lord Jesus Christ, for help.

Christ told them, "How long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And when they did, He took care of the sick man and healed him. When Christ asked that question, "How long am I to be with you?" He was talking about His time here on earth. But you know that He is still with us, don't you? You know that you can ask Him for help, again and again? You know that He will listen to you, again and again?

HEALING IS A-MAZE-ING

Help Jesus' disciples make their way through the city to find the sick people. They want to heal them!



WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here is the icon of the Dormition, the falling asleep of the Theotokos (Mary).

In the icon, can you find Christ, taking the soul of His mother to heaven? Can also see the apostles standing around the body of the Theotokos?



THE DORMITION A CELEBRATION!

Usually when we hear about somebody's death, we might feel sad. But on Saturday, we will celebrate the day that Jesus's mother, Mary, the Theotokos died. Celebrate? Yes! Because we know that she is with her Son again. We know that she is praying for us and praying for the whole world.



The Dormition is a death, so why are we celebrating?

Once, Jesus went to a wedding with His mother. After a while, they ran out of wine, and they didn't have anything to drink. Mary, the Theotokos, asked her Son to do something, and He did. He changed the water into wine, and then everybody could have some again. The Theotokos is always listening to our prayers. And just like for that first miracle, she asks her Son to do something!

I bet you know at least somebody named Maria. How about Mary? Despina? Manya or Masha? Panagiotis? Panagiota? Marieta? Mariam? Mia? Be sure to wish him or her a happy nameday— "many years!" Then help celebrate!

We celebrate the Dormition on Saturday, August 15th.