

Our Most Holy Theotokos



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2019 Alexandra Houck.
Email is [orthodoxchildrensword \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:orthodoxchildrensword@gmail.com). Find it each week at myocn.net.

The Children's Word

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

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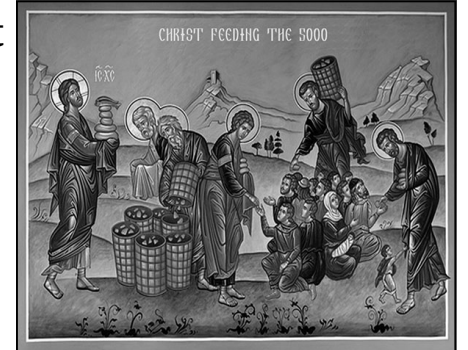


The pieces left over

Have you ever read a book that reminds you of another one?

Sometimes we hear a story and we remember another one like it we've heard before.

Today the Gospel reading tells us the story of the feeding of the five thousand. Do you remember this one? Do you remember how



our Lord talked to the people, and then He fed them with just five loaves of bread and two fish? With just a little bit of food, Jesus had enough food to feed 5,000 men, plus women and children!

AND did you know there was even food left over after that? The Gospel tells us that after they all ate and were filled, the disciples, "picked up the pieces left over—twelve wicker baskets full." The word that we hear, "pieces" is "klasmata" in Greek. And, that is the same exact word we hear in another place. In our Church, we hear the word "klasmata," or "pieces" in something that was written just a few years after the apostles lived. This was called the Didache, and it told the new Christians how to worship. When we hear the word "klasmata" there, it's talking about the broken bread of Holy Communion!

So when we hear this wonderful miracle story of the feeding of the 5,000, we also think about the wonderful miracle we have every time we receive Holy Communion. The bread is the Body of Christ, and there is enough for everybody!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

COMMUNION
DORMITION
EUCCHARIST
FEASTDAY
FEEDING
HEAVEN
INTERCEDE
KLASMATA
PIECES

C C T D Q N B C S O S H V C C
P I E C E S L H P T F D U O L
K W W V N M D W K G O R D M G
R M A K H Y S T M D Y Z I M E
W E B X D O R M I T I O N U C
H L Z I K Y I B H N J S C N B
I B L A A V H D X U Z H M I S
A N U V R C C T Q N A J Q O C
G T T Z Q G K Y P R F G J N H
N E A E E H Y N I S F V Y G F
I X P M R B A S E E I H O T R
D J B E S C T Y A D T S A E F
E Y F Y J A E Z L M L A T P H
E A M E G L L D T E F B I F Y
F K D R K Z W K E J R B Y G Z

WHAT DOES “INTERCEDE” MEAN? AND WHY DO WE NEED IT?

Have you ever tried to help a two year old do something?

He usually ends up saying, “I want to do it by myself!”

Sometimes we sound like that, too! We want to do things all by ourselves. We want to do big things, important things, hard things. But we don’t want help. We want to do it all by ourselves.

For the first two weeks of August, we try hard to remember that we have a helper who is looking out for us. The Theotokos, the Mother of God, is our helper. During the special church services, we say again and again, “Most Holy Theotokos, intercede for us” or “Pray for us.” We want her to ask her Son to help us.

This week, on the 15th, we remember how Mary, the Theotokos, died and went to heaven. She is so close to her Son there! She has a special relationship with Him, and He listens especially to her. When she asks Him for something, He listens. So, when she “intercedes,” she tries to persuade Him to do something for us.

Let’s not be like a two year old! It’s better to ask for help, especially when it is from the holy Theotokos!

We celebrate the Dormition on Thursday, Aug. 15 (Aug. 28th, OC).



WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here is an icon of the great feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. That’s the day when Mary, the Mother of God, died and went to heaven.

Do you see how our Lord is holding somebody? Who is it? It is the soul of the Theotokos, and He is taking it to heaven!

