

St. Mary of Egypt, pray for us!



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

Sunday, April 5, 2020

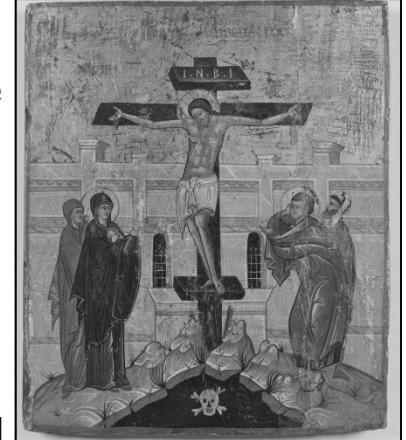
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God knows everything!

Have you ever wished you could know the future? Who you'd meet, where you'd live, where you'd work? Or maybe you just wondered who would win a ballgame. Wouldn't it be great? And if you knew the future, would you do anything differently today?



We have just two weeks until Pascha (Easter), and today, we read a Gospel passage that shows that Jesus really did know the future. The Gospel tells us, "At that time, Jesus took his twelve disciples, and he began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, 'Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes... and they will mock him, and spit upon him, and scourge him, and kill him; and after three days he will rise.'" Jesus knew where He was going. He knew what would happen to Him. Jesus knew the future!

Our Lord knew the future, and He knew He would be crucified. But did He do anything differently? Maybe He could have hidden. Maybe He could have told the authorities that He didn't really mean what He had said.

Our Lord knew the future and how it would give Him a lot of pain. But He chose to do it anyway. He chose to be crucified and to die for us. He chose to do this because He loves us so much! Jesus chose to save us!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- COMMUNION
- CRUCIFIXION
- EGYPT
- FASTING
- FIFTH SUNDAY
- FUTURE
- LENT
- MARY
- PRAYER
- REPENT

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

SAINT MARY OF EGYPT

A SAINT WHO REPENTED

Have you ever wanted something very much...but you couldn't have it? Sometimes we might think of little things like toys or candy, and we really think we are missing out! But today, on the 5th Sunday of Great Lent, we remember a saint who wanted something big very much... and she couldn't have it for a long time.



As a young woman, Saint Mary of Egypt made a lot of mistakes in her life. But one day, she tried to go to church, and the doors would not open! Then, Mary realized she needed to change her bad ways. So she spent many years in the desert, praying and asking God for forgiveness. She focused on God and tried to grow closer to Him.

After many, many years, Saint Mary finally met a priest in the desert. He gave her Holy Communion, something she had wanted very much...but that she couldn't have for a long time. God had forgiven her, and she died in peace and close to God.

Today, maybe we understand Saint Mary just a little bit more. We want to go to church too, but we can't. We want to receive Holy Communion, but we can't. Let's ask Saint Mary to give us patience. Let's ask her to help us use this special time to grow close to God, even if we aren't at church. St. Mary of Egypt, pray for us!

We celebrate St. Mary of Egypt today, the fifth Sunday of Lent.

What's in an icon?

Here is another icon of Saint Mary of Egypt. This one tells her whole life story.

Can you find the priest, Fr. Zosimas, in his vestments?

