

The saints are our friends!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2020 Alexandra Houck.
Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) 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

Sunday, June 14, 2020

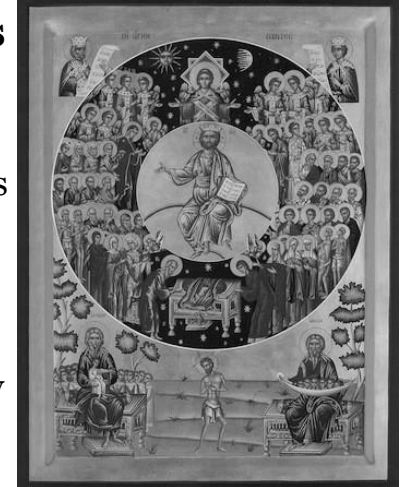
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Our saint friends

Do you have lots of different kinds of friends? You might have a friend who is old and a friend who is your age. You might have a friend who lives near you and a friend who lives far away from you. You might have a friend who looks a little like you, and you might have a friend who doesn't.



Today is the Sunday of All Saints, and it's the day we celebrate our friends, the holy saints of our Church. The saints are our friends because they are always ready to help us. They are good examples for us too. We have lots of friends who are saints, but they are all different, aren't they? Some were rich, some were poor, some were old, some were young, some lived a long time ago, some lived not too long ago. We have lots of different kinds of saint-friends. But what do they have in common?

The Gospel today tells us what the saints have in common. The Gospel says, "The Lord said to His disciples, 'Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven.'" Our Lord wants us to remember Him and to think about Him and to love Him. The saints did that! We have so many different kinds of saints, but they all remembered God. They thought about Him and they served Him and they love Him...still! Today and every day, let's remember our saint-friends, and try to be like them. Let's remember God and love Him!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- ACKNOWLEDGE
- ALL SAINTS
- BRAVE
- FATHER
- FRIENDS
- HOLY
- LOVE GOD
- MARTYRS
- PRAYERS
- SUNDAY

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

What's in an icon?

Here is the main icon we see to-day on All Saints Sunday.

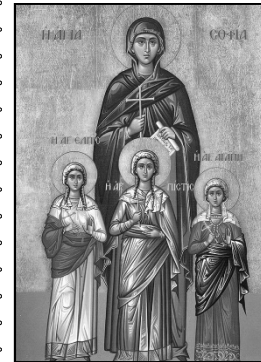
In the icon, you can see lots and lots of saints.

But WHO is in the middle of them? Who are all the saints looking to?

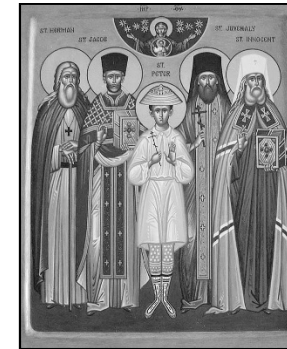


THE BRAVEST KIDS KIDS WHO ARE SAINTS

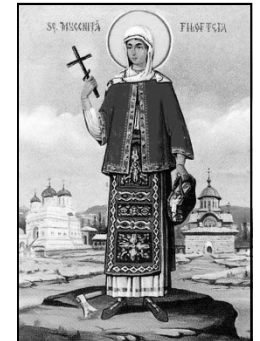
Can kids be saints? Yes! Our Orthodox Church remembers lots of children who became saints. And why are they saints? Well, because they loved (and still love) God very much! Even though they were kids, they knew that loving our Lord, Jesus Christ is more important than anything. Some of these saints were hurt or even killed because they refused to give up their love for God. Here are just a few of their stories. We can pray to these saints to help us be strong Christians!



Saints Faith, Hope, and Love (and their mother Saint Sophia) were child saints. The emperor worshipped idols, and wanted everybody else to do that too! But Faith, Hope, and Love all said "We are Christians!" and now they are with our loving God in heaven!



Here is an icon of **St. Peter the Aleut** with some other saints from America. He lived in Alaska a few hundred years ago. He became an Orthodox Christian, and a strong one, too! He was hurt for his faith, but he never gave up his love for God!



Saint Philothea was a 12 year old girl who lived in Romania many years ago. She gave away lots of her things (and even her food) to poor children. Sad to say, her father was not a Christian and he even sent her away to be killed when he found out she was a Christian! Lots of people pray to her now and she listens.

Today is All Saints Day, so we remember all of these holy saints!