

Saint Xenia, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2019 Alexandra Houck.
Email is orthodoxchildrensward (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, January 20, 2019

Volume 7, Issue 3

A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



Let light shine



Have you ever visited a cave, or have you gone for a walk in a very dark place? Maybe it was so dark that you couldn't see anything or anybody around you. What did you do? Did you turn on a flashlight and look around? When you turn on a flashlight in the darkness, suddenly you can see what you need to see—

the path or your friends with you.

In the epistle reading today, Saint Paul writes to the early Christians, but he writes to us, too! He writes, "It is the God who said, 'Let the light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ."

God wants light to shine in the world. That light is our Lord, Jesus Christ. He came into the world to be like a light, to bring joy and hope for everybody and everything. We can share this light of Christ around us, when we try to act like our Lord Himself.

Then, we will be like a flashlight in a dark cave! When we turn it on, the light shines everywhere. We can see what we need to see. We can see the path, and we move in the right direction. We can help others see the light too. And, did you know? Even if you have just a little light in a dark cave, you can start to see the path!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

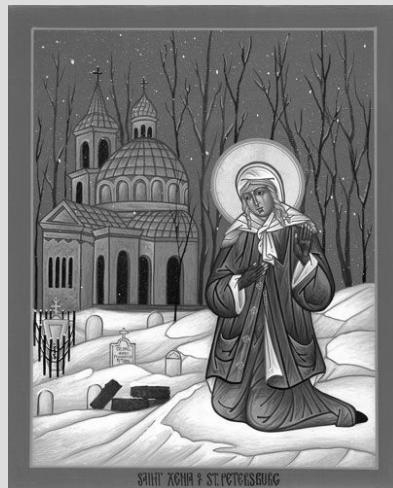
- DARKNESS
- FOOL FOR CHRIST
- LIGHT
- PRAYER
- STARING
- ST PETERSBURG
- TREASURE
- XENIA

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

What's in an icon?

Here is an icon of Saint Xenia that tells a funny thing she did.

At nighttime, she would bring bricks to help build a church near the city cemetery. Nobody knew about it because she would work at night, in secret!



SAINT XENIA OF SAINT PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

Have you ever found yourself staring at somebody? Sometimes we can't help staring at somebody who looks different or does funny things.



Saint Xenia was a saint who probably had lots of people staring at her. She wore old rags for clothes. She didn't have any money. She wandered the streets of the city. People stared at her.

Saint Xenia wasn't always that way. When she was a young woman, she married an army officer, and she had her happy life in front of her. But, sadly, her husband died suddenly, and of course, Xenia was very, very sad. She gave away all her things and her money. She wore her husband's old army uniform. She prayed night and day, and she especially prayed for her husband. She asked God to let him be in heaven with the angels.

People stared at Saint Xenia because she did strange things. But then people started to pay attention to her, because they knew she was close to God. She loved God and she looked to God for everything. People asked her to pray for them, because they knew God listened to her prayers. We can pray to Saint Xenia for help too. She is a saint who helps especially to take care of children, and to help find a job!

We celebrate St. Xenia on Thursday, January 24th (Feb 6, OC).