

Sunday of Orthodoxy



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2019 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, March 17, 2019

Volume 7, Issue 11

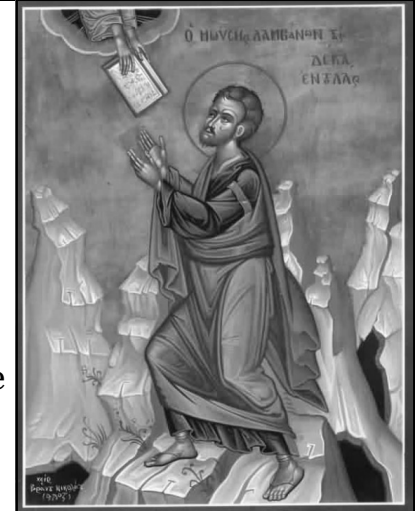
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Orthodox Christian Network



Choose God first!

If you had a choice, would you choose to be a prince, or would you choose to be close to God? Would you choose to have lots of riches, or would you choose to do what God wanted from you?

Did you know that Moses had that choice? Do you remember how the Pharaoh's daughter found baby Moses in a basket, and she took care of him? If he had wanted to, Moses could have been a prince!



But the epistle reading today tells us, "By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God." Moses was faithful to God, and he knew that God wanted his help. God wanted Moses to be close to Him, and God wanted Moses to help His people. The Bible tells us that Moses gave up being a prince so that he could be close to God.

Today, on this great Sunday of Orthodoxy, our Church reminds us to always choose to be close to God first. Lots and lots of saints gave up lots of things, just so they could be close to God, so they could do what God wanted them to do, and so they could have the reward that God wanted to give them—joy and peace and life with Him!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

APOSTLES
BLESSED LENT
FAITH
IRELAND
MOSES
ORTHODOX
PATRICK
SAINTS

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

What's in an icon?

Here is another icon of Saint Patrick.

Do you see what he is holding in his hand? It's a shamrock, a three-leaf clover. Saint Patrick is said to have used the shamrock to teach people about the Holy Trinity. It is three, but one!



SAINT PATRICK ENLIGHTENER TO IRELAND

Today, at the end of Liturgy, you will hear your priest read some special words. He says, "This is the Faith of the Apostles. This is the Faith of the Fathers. This is the Faith of the Orthodox. This is the Faith which has established the Universe."

But what is this faith, and why did so many saints risk their lives to tell people about it? Our faith is our love for God, and our faith is how we have learned to worship from Christians who came before us!

One of these Christians was Saint Patrick, a bishop of Ireland. He is a saint we remember today. When St. Patrick was little, he was not a Christian. He was born in about the year 373 in Britain. He wrote about his life, and he wrote that when he was 16 years old, he was kidnapped and brought to the island of Ireland. Well, he escaped, and he went back home to Britain. But when he got home, he somehow knew that God wanted him to be back in Ireland!

Sooner or later, he became a Christian, and he left for Ireland. He knew that he wanted to follow Saint Paul's example and tell the world about our Lord, Jesus Christ, and what He has done for us! Saint Patrick became a bishop and he worked his whole life to do just that. Today, let's celebrate the right way and thank Saint Patrick for his good work!

We celebrate St. Patrick today, Sunday, Mar. 17th (March 30th, OC).

