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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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Let us pray to the Lord!

Have you ever been afraid of the weather? Maybe a hurricane was supposed to come, or a tornado, or even just a bad thunderstorm. Bad weather can make us wonder what is going to happen!

In today's Gospel reading, we hear the story about our Lord's disciples, who were traveling in a boat to the other side of the big lake. Jesus came to meet them, walking on the water! St. Peter, you remember, asked Jesus if he could



walk out to Him, and he did. But then St. Peter grew afraid of the weather. The wind was so strong, and the waves were so high!

But you remember what happened then. Jesus caught Peter, and He saved him from sinking. The wind stopped when Jesus got into the boat. The wind stopped suddenly, because Jesus Christ is God, and God is more powerful than anything! He is more powerful than the weather, for sure!

Sometimes we can be afraid of big things, like storms or sickness or even sadness. But God is more powerful than any of these things. We can turn to God, like St. Peter did. We can ask Him to help us! During our Divine Liturgy, we even pray to the Lord, "For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times." Let's always remember to turn to God and ask Him to help us!

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Do you like to read about history? Do you like to hear stories about people who lived long ago? Sometimes, you might hear a story about somebody in history...that might not actually be true! Like George Washington and his wooden teeth. Sometimes people make up stories over the years, and we have to sort out what is true or just a story.

Many, many years ago (only 300 years after Christ's birth), a church historian named Eusebius wrote down stories about things in the early church. He wrote about some saints too—what they did and why they were so special.

Tomorrow, we celebrate three saints who lived

during the same time as this famous historian, Eusebius. Saint Timothy, Agapius, and Thekla lived in Palestine. They were Christians who lived when the emperors were really cruel and really hated Christians. These emperors did everything they could to totally wipe out the Christian faith. But remember, God is stronger than emperors! And these three saints knew that. When the emperors had them arrested, they trusted in God. They trusted in God, even though they were going to be killed and hurt and even attacked by wild animals. These three saints knew they would soon be with their sweet Lord in heaven!

We celebrate these three saints on Monday, Aug. 19 (Sept. 1, OC).