

The Church is our Home!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2020 Alexandra Houck.
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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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Covering our mouths!

These days, what do we all have to wear on our faces? When we are around other people, we have to cover our faces with masks, don't we? The masks are supposed to keep our germs in, just in case we're sick.

In the epistle reading, we hear about how God wants us to cover our mouths in a different way! Saint Paul tells us in the epistle, "But now put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and foul talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another." Saint Paul is telling us to keep these things in, and don't let them out. Don't let them spread to others!

In a way, we have to cover our mouths so we won't let these bad things out. We have to be careful so we don't get really mad, or say mean things about another person. We have to be careful that we don't lie about people or gossip. We have to be careful not to say bad words.

We wear masks so we can keep germs away from other people. But as Christians, we have to *always* wear an imaginary mask over our mouths! We wear this mask so we don't let these horrible things out. The epistle reminds us that Christians don't do these things, because now we imitate God. So, let's wear our imaginary masks all the time, and keep our mean words from others!



WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- AMBROSE
- ANGER
- BRAVE
- CHRISTIAN
- LIES
- MARTYR
- MASK
- PURE
- ROME
- SEBASTIAN
- STRONG
- VICTORY

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

SAINT SEBASTIAN THE CROWN OF VICTORY

Have you ever done something wrong...and you tried not to get caught? Maybe you stole a treat from the kitchen, and you ate it in secret! It's hard to take the punishment.



This week, we celebrate a saint who did everything right, but he still got in trouble for it! He knew he was going to get punished, but he even looked for the person who would punish him!

Saint Sebastian lived in Rome, just about two hundred years after Saint Paul lived there! He loved Christ, and he knew he would never give up his strong faith. The emperor Diocletian knew about him and had him tied to a tree and shot with arrows. But Sebastian didn't die from these arrows. Another Christian took him and healed him. Still, Saint Sebastian didn't give up! He even went to the emperor again, to warn him that he had done these awful things. He told the emperor he had sinned! This time, Diocletian made sure Sebastian was killed, and Sebastian received the best reward, a place in heaven with the Lord.

Just about 100 years after Sebastian's death, another saint from Italy (Saint Ambrose) wrote about Saint Sebastian. He said whenever there are "crowns of victory" you have to have "tests of strength." Saint Ambrose tells us how Saint Sebastian won the "crown of victory" because he passed these hard tests. He kept his strong faith all along!

We celebrate St. Sebastian on Friday, December 18th (OC: Dec. 31st).

What's in an icon?

We always know it's Saint Sebastian in the icon when we see the arrows!

Do you think Saint Sebastian looks calm and brave? Let's ask Saint Sebastian to help us be strong Christians too!

