

Our Church is our Home!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2021 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

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Now is the time!

Have you put off doing something?

Maybe you knew you were supposed to start your homework, but you didn't feel like doing it. Or maybe you knew you were supposed to wake up and get ready for the day, but you just rolled over and slept. Sometimes we just need a push to get going!

In today's epistle reading, we hear Saint Paul telling us to get going! He wrote, "Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation." Saint Paul goes on to write about all the troubles he had, the troubles he put up with because he was doing what God wanted him to do! Saint Paul knew he couldn't sit around and do nothing. He knew, "Now is the acceptable time...now is the day of salvation."

We all know that we should *do* something about being a Christian. We know we can't just sit there, thinking about it. But sometimes we just need a push to get going! So, Saint Paul gives us this push today. What will *you* do to get going? Will you pick up your Bible today and read a little? Will you say some special prayers tonight? Will you do something nice for somebody?

Let's remember Saint Paul's words today and always. "Now is the time!"



WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Blaise
- Throats
- Healing
- Bishop
- Sebaste
- Time
- Saint Paul
- Prayers
- Salvation
- Emperor

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

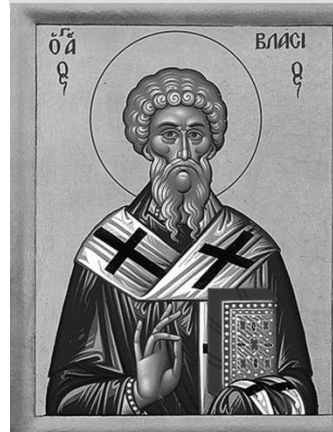
This icon tells another story about Saint Blaise.

The emperor's helpers wanted to get wild animals to trample and hurt this saint. But they found these wild animals grazing peacefully outside Saint Blaise's cave! Somehow, the animals knew he was a holy man, filled with the grace of God.



SAINT BLAISE

THE SAINT FOR SORE THROATS!



Have you ever watched a carpenter work? Maybe you have seen his toolbox, and maybe you watched as he pulled out one tool for one job, and then another one for another. It's great to have a full toolbox that will help with anything!

Did you know, in our Church we have an excellent toolbox too? Our toolbox is our saints, and we can turn to our "tools" for anything we need help with! This week, we celebrate a saint who is one we can turn to if we have a sore throat, or if we know somebody who has a problem with his throat.

Saint Blaise (or Vlasios, in Greek) was a bishop who lived in the Middle East, not so far from the Jordan River. He lived 300 years after Jesus lived on earth. Why do we remember Saint Blaise especially for help with throats? Well, because Saint Blaise once helped a child who was choking on a fish bone! The emperor sent for Blaise because he knew he was a strong Christian, and this emperor wanted to have him killed. On the way to his martyrdom, faithful Christians came to Blaise and asked for his prayers. They knew Blaise was a strong and holy Christian.

A woman came with her child, who was choking. Saint Blaise healed him and gave him back to his mother. People remembered this special story, and we can still come to him for help—even 1700 years later! Remember this special "tool" for your toolbox. You might need him in your prayers!

We celebrate St. Blaise on Thursday, February 11th (OC: Feb. 24th).