

Thou art the same, and thy years will never end!



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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Our Lord doesn't change!

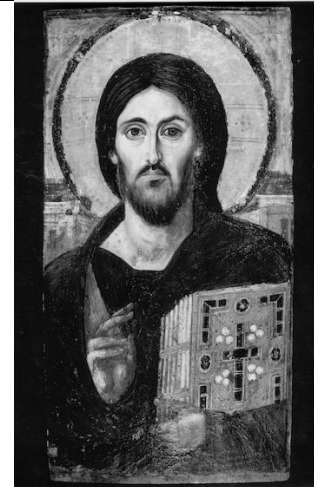
You probably have heard people talk about how things have changed. They might talk about how a kid has grown taller, or how a city has changed, or how we do things differently now than we did before.

Things are always changing, aren't they? Everything changes. Even rocks change. Stars change. People change. Families change. Towns change. Countries change. Everything changes!

Well, not everything! The epistle tells us today of something that never changes. God never changes. God is always the same! The epistle says, "In the beginning, You, Lord, founded the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain...But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Our Lord is the same forever. God is the same God always. He is always loving and fair. He is always ready to care for us. He is always looking to save us, even when we do the wrong thing. God is the same, and His years will never end. God never changes!

These words in today's epistle can be so comforting to us! We will see so many things change. Sometimes we might like the changes, but a lot of times, we won't. But let's always remember that our Lord is the same, and His years will never end. He is here for us always!



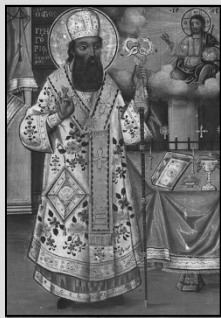
WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

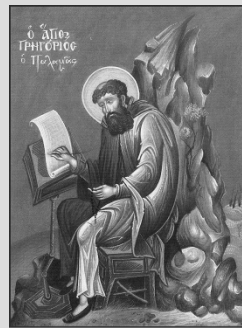
- Archbishop
- Changes
- Epistle
- Forever
- Gregory
- Lent
- Prayer
- Quiet
- Revelation

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?



Here are two little icons of Saint Gregory Palamas. He was an archbishop, so we see him wearing his beautiful vestments in Liturgy. But in the other icon, we see him as a simple monk, quietly praying, and writing his important works!



BEING QUIET SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS

How many times have your parents or your teachers told you to sit still, to be quiet?



Every Sunday during Lent we remember something different. Today we hear about a saint who made a big difference in our Church. Saint Gregory was the saint who told us how important it is to be still, to be quiet.

Why? Because when we're quiet, we can listen. We can listen to our Lord. We can pray to Him. We can say the Jesus prayer, again and again. If we have a question for God, if we are wondering what to do, we can be still and pray, and God will listen to us. And...we can listen to God!

When Saint Gregory Palamas lived, about 700 years ago, another monk (named Barlaam) said that we humans can't know much about God. He thought it was more important to study than to be still and pray. But Saint Gregory wrote many, many things to explain how God wants to reveal Himself to us. God wants us to know Him. And we can try to know God better when we are silent. We can try to know God better when we are still. We can try to know God better when we are praying to Him! So that's why today is such a big day. This Lent, let's try to listen to Saint Gregory's example—Be still! Be quiet!

We celebrate St. Gregory Palamas on the second Sunday of Lent.