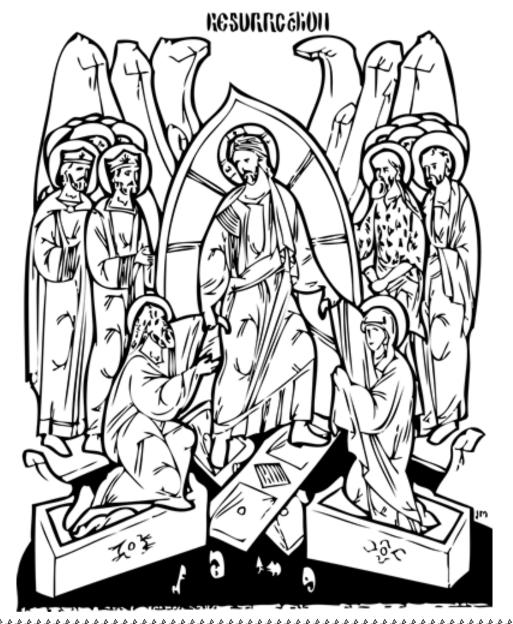
Christ is risen!



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

Sunday, May 2, 2021

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A Ministry of the Orthodox Christian Network



Come, receive the light!



Have you ever tried to find

something in the dark? Have you walked around in pitch black? Maybe you stumbled into things. Maybe you tripped and fell. Maybe you tried to hold onto something that would help you find your way. It's hard to find our way when we don't have a light to guide us!

If you've ever been to church on Easter (Pascha) night, you know how, at first, the whole church is dark. Then, out of the altar, your priest comes with a bright candle. We hear, "Come, receive the light, from the neversetting Light. And glorify Christ, Who has risen from the dead!" With our candles, we remember how dark the world would be without Christ. With our candles, we remember how Christ always helps us find the way. With our candles, we remember how Christ is with us, even when things are dark, even when we are alone and scared.

Sometimes, after church, people try to bring this candle home with them. (It's hard to do that when you drive to church in a car!) We want to keep this light going! But did you know? Our Lord, Jesus Christ, gives us something better than a candle! We can always come receive the light of our Lord. We can ask Him to guide us through life. Then, we will always find the right way! Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!

WORD SEARCH

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What's in an icon?

Can you find these two icons somewhere in your church?

Titus

The first one is of Christ raising up Adam and Eve. The second one is of the myrrhbearers and the angels and the empty tomb!





RECEIVING THE LIGHT!

ALL SAINTS OF GORTYNA AND ARCADIA. CRETE

Have you ever visited a house of

somebody from history? Maybe you've toured the house of a president from long ago—like Mount Vernon, where George Washington lived. Or maybe you've seen the house of an author or another person. These are special places, where we think about how these special people lived.



Today is the great feast of the Resurrection, but it's also the first Sunday of May. On this day each year, we celebrate all the saints who lived in Gor-

tyna and Arcadia, on the beautiful island of Crete, in Greece. This place is special because there are so many saints from this area. This area has had Christians since the time of Saint Paul! In fact, the Bible tells us that Saint Paul stopped here on a ship, on his way to Rome.

Saint Paul directed his helper, Titus, to lead the Christian Church in this part of Crete. Saint Titus helped the Church grow and grow, and he passed on his special job to other Christian leaders. The Church in Crete grew so much, and many faithful people believed the Good News of our Lord's Resurrection. Thousands of people became saints because they loved God so much. And that's two thousand years of saints!

Gortyna and Arcadia are a wonderful example of how the Christian Church can grow. It can grow when we all spread the Good News that Christ has risen, and that He wants to save us all!

We celebrate these holy saints on the first Sunday of May.