Saints Peter and Paul



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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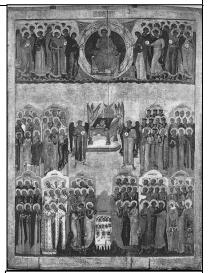


Saints are like stars!

Have you ever looked up into the

sky on a very dark night? Did you ever try to count how many stars are up there? Maybe you did...but you probably lost count! There are billions of stars up there.

Today is All Saints Sunday. That's the day we remember and celebrate all the saints of our Church. We remember their strong faith in God and what they did (and still do) for all of us! They did what the Gospel today says for *all* of us to do—to remember God, even in front of our friends and even in front of our enemies.



How many saints are there? More than in this icon!

One of our saints, named Saint Dimitri of

Rostov, said something about our saints. He said, "The lives and praises of the saints are like the bright stars. Because of their number, we do not know the names of all the saints. Still, they amaze us by their radiant majesty, as do the stars." When we look up at the night sky, we see thousands and thousands of stars! We can't even count them. But they give us so much light. Did you know that the saints are the same way? They give us so much light and beauty because they all point to Christ. There are too many saints to count and to name, but we look to them to shine in our lives, too!

What'S in an icon?

Here are Saints
Peter and Paul,
holding a church
because they
helped start the
Christian Church.

What are the other saints holding?











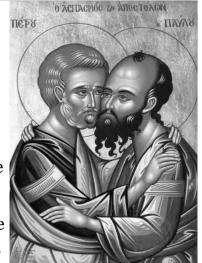
SAINTS PETER AND PAUL FIRST IN RANK

Have you ever wondered how

the Christian Church started? Christ rose from the dead. Then what?

Well, then Jesus's followers worked and worked to tell people about Jesus Christ. They wanted everybody to know what Jesus had done for us. They wanted everybody else to know how God wants us to follow Him.

It wasn't easy to do this! Lots of times people were angry at Jesus's followers. On Tuesday, we celebrate the nameday of two of Jesus's



best helpers. The church hymn about them calls them "first in rank." They did everything they could to keep the Church going. Their names are Saint Peter and Saint Paul.

In a letter, Saint Paul tells what he put up with. He was whipped with lashes. He was hit with rods. People threw stones at him. He was shipwrecked three times. He was cold, hungry, thirsty. Lots of times, his life was in big danger.

But Saint Paul kept at it! He knew what God wanted from him. Saint Peter and he both knew that their job was to spread the good news about Jesus Christ. This week, let's remember all that these two great men did to start the Christian Church!

We remember Saints Peter and Paul on Tuesday, June 29th (OC: July 12th).