

Saint Euphemia, pray for us!



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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Look at the birds!

Do you like birds? Do you ever wonder how they find food to survive the winter? Or how they can fly thousands of miles to get to their summer homes? Or what they are doing when it's raining or windy or snowing or very cold or hot?



In today's Gospel reading, Christ tells us, "Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?"

The birds don't worry about the things people worry about! They don't store up food or worry about next year's meals!

If you love to watch birds, you know how much you want to take care of them. Maybe you put out bird seed or a bird bath for them. You'd never hurt them! God provides for us too. He loves us more than He loves the birds, so He will take care of us even more!

God gives us this special passage in the Gospel reading today to comfort us. He wants us to know He will provide for us. He doesn't want us to worry, but He wants us to trust in Him!

The next time you see a bird finding food in the snow, or a flock of birds migrating together, can you remember to thank God for providing for you even more?

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

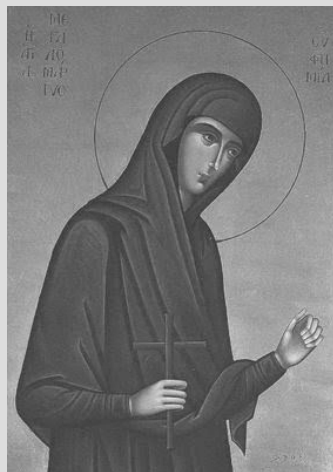
- Birds
- Comfort
- Euphemia
- Gospel
- Icon
- Martyr
- Monk
- Paisios
- Protect
- Saints

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

What's in an icon?

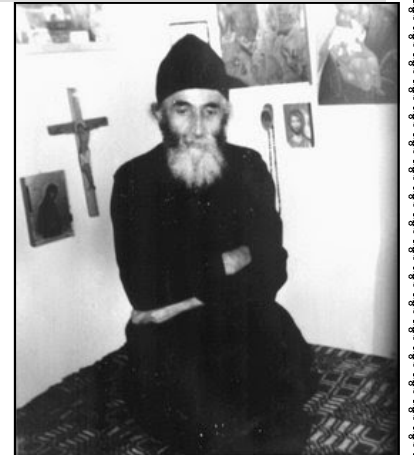
After Saint Paisios saw Saint Euphemia, he told an icon-painter what she looked like!

This icon is the one the artist painted of her, so we know it really looked like Saint Euphemia!



ST. EUPHEMIA AND ST. PAISIOS A HOLY FRIENDSHIP

Have you ever wanted to do time travel? Maybe you wanted to meet somebody from long, long ago! Of course, time travel is just a fantasy, but this week we remember two saints who lived many years apart. But God brought them together to meet each other!



This is a photo of Saint Paisios! If you look very closely on the wall, you can see the icon of Saint Euphemia (see page 2).

Tomorrow, we celebrate a saint who died only 27 years ago. Once, Saint Paisios was having a hard time with something and he couldn't work something out. He thought of Saint Euphemia, a holy martyr saint who helped the Christian church when there were problems many years ago. But Saint Euphemia had died over 1,700 years ago in the year 303!

Saint Paisios knew that the saints are still alive in Christ, so he prayed to her. He asked Saint Euphemia for help. And once, when he was praying, he actually saw this special saint! He wanted to make sure that she was a real saint who loved God, so they prayed together, and they talked. These two saints lived many years apart, but they had a holy friendship, and they really knew each other!

And another connection? Saint Paisios died just one day after Saint Euphemia's feastday. That's why we celebrate the two feastdays one after another (today and tomorrow). Isn't it amazing that God can bring people together—here on earth and in heaven!

We remember St. Euphemia on July 11th and St. Paisios on the 12th (OC: July 24 and 25).