

St. Triantaphyllos, 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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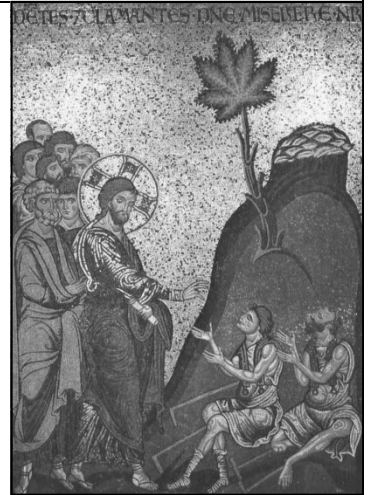


Can you keep a secret?

Has anybody ever told you a secret?

"Don't tell anybody else," you might have heard. But maybe the story was just too hard to keep a secret, and you told somebody else. A surprise party. A present. A fun trip coming up. Secrets are hard to keep!

Jesus did so many miracles when He was living here on earth. In the Bible, we read a few stories of when Jesus healed blind people. In today's story, two blind men followed Christ and called to Him, "Have mercy on us!" When Christ touched their eyes, they both could see again.



In this icon, Jesus is healing two blind men.

After that, Jesus told the men, "See that no one knows it." He wanted these men to keep the miracle a secret. Maybe He didn't want to have lots of people following Him around yet. But how could they keep it a secret? Imagine. They were blind, and now they could see! They went around and told everybody what happened. Lots of people found out about Jesus Christ just from these two men.

God does so many things for us every day. Now, we don't have to keep them a secret! When God answers one of your prayers, you can tell everybody! When you are happy to be a Christian, you can share your news too.

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Blind Man
- Brave
- Good News
- Martyr
- Nameday
- Rose
- Saint
- Secret
- Triantaphyllos

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here is another icon of young Saint Triantaphyllos. You can see he was a sailor by the boat in the background. He is kneeling on the beach, asking God for strength!

This special icon is from a monastery in Andros, Greece. His holy relics (his body) are there too.



SAINT TRIANTAPHYLLOS A BRAVE YOUNG MAN

Have you ever had to be very brave about something? Maybe getting a shot, or even just a splinter out? Staying home alone? Going to school for the first time?

Today we celebrate the memory of a saint who was very brave about his Christian faith, braver than any of us have ever been!

Most of us live in places where we are free to be Orthodox Christians. We can go to church, and we can tell people we believe in our Lord, Jesus Christ! But young Triantaphyllos was born near the city of Volos in northern Greece, at a time when Orthodox Christians were not free to keep their faith. That's because the Ottoman Turks wanted them to join the Muslim faith instead.

Triantaphyllos worked on boats as a sailor. One day, the authorities arrested him. Why? Because he was a Christian. They wanted him to give up his Orthodox faith and convert to become Muslim. But Triantaphyllos refused! He told them he would never turn his back on Christ. He told them they could even kill him!

Well, sadly, that is just what the authorities did. They killed him for his faith. But Triantaphyllos was brave to the end, even though he was only 15 years old! Let's keep his story in our hearts, so we can have his strong faith too. We never want to turn our backs on Christ either.

We remember St. Triantaphyllos today, August 8th (OC: Aug. 21st).

