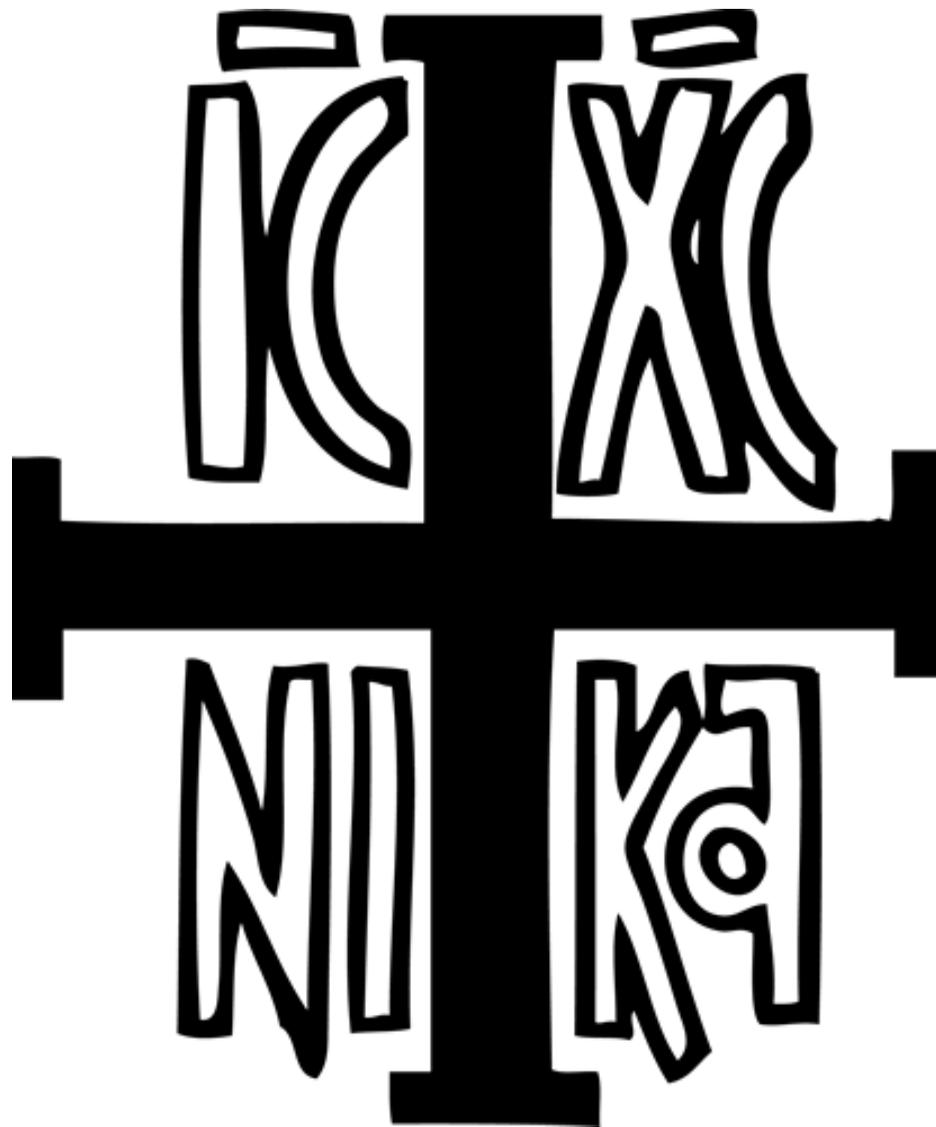


Jesus Christ conquers!



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, September 19, 2021

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Deny yourself!

Have you ever tried to read the Bible, all by yourself? Sometimes, in the Bible, we hear some things that don't make sense. Maybe we don't understand something. Sometimes that happens for grown ups too!

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells us, "If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."



What does that mean—to deny yourself? Well, when you deny yourself something, you keep yourself from having it. Maybe you want an ice cream sundae, but it's Lent, and you know you should keep the fast. Maybe you got some money for your birthday, and you want to spend it for yourself, but you know you should remember to help the poor. Maybe you want to say something mean to somebody, but you know you shouldn't, so you keep quiet. All these things are denying yourself. You are keeping yourself from doing them.

Whenever we deny ourselves to really help another person, we are doing what our Lord tells us today. And if we really wish to come after Jesus, we have to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him! Can you think of some things *you* can do to *deny* yourself? Let's follow Christ!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Christian
- Cross
- Deny
- Follow Christ
- Holy
- Polyxenia
- Prayer
- Saints
- Sisters
- Spain
- Xanthippe

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

XANTHIPPE AND POLYXENIA SISTER SAINTS IN SPAIN



Have you ever heard somebody say, “brothers and sisters in Christ”? What does that mean? Another Christian might not be your brother or your sister you live with, but you might call him or her your “brother in Christ” or “sister in Christ.” That’s because we are all part of one Christian family!

This week, we celebrate two saints who were sisters in Christ and also sisters in their family. Saint Xanthippe and Saint Polyxenia lived in Spain, just a few years after our Lord Jesus Christ lived on earth! They had the great blessing of hearing the good news of Christ from Saint Paul himself.

We know that it wasn’t a very easy thing to be a Christian during Saint Paul’s time. The emperors persecuted many Christians because they would not worship the false idols. But Xanthippe and Polyxenia were not killed as martyrs. They lived and told people about the Lord during their lives, and died when they were old.

Saint Xanthippe was the wife of an important official. Saint Polyxenia never got married. Both of them served the Lord though, and they were sisters and sisters in Christ!



We celebrate these saints on Thursday, Sept. 23th (OC: Oct. 6th).

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here is a special icon of Saints Xanthippe and Polyxenia together in Spain.

Can you guess which is which?

St. Xanthippe is on the left, with her hands up.

