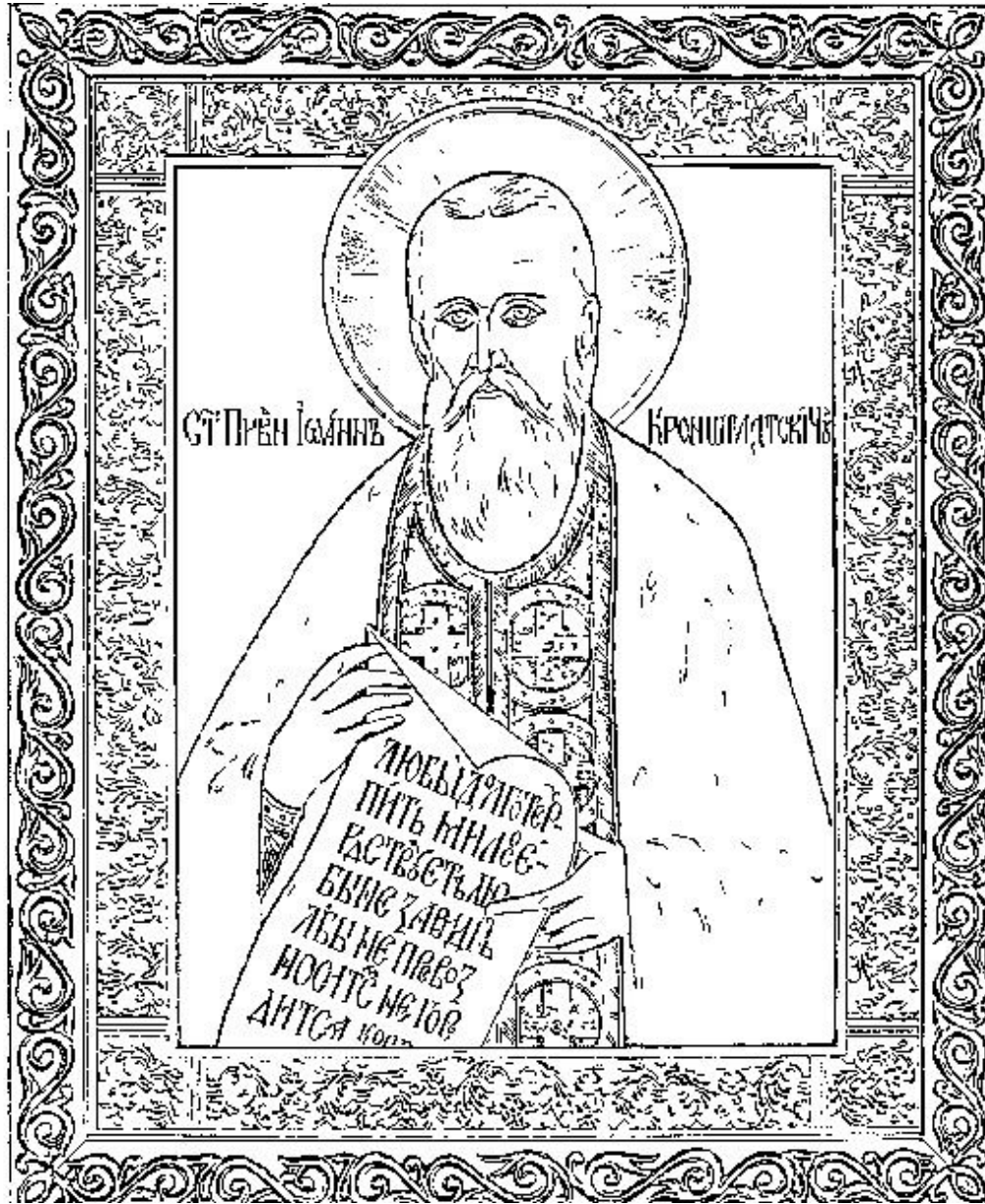


Saint John of Kronstadt, pray for us!



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

Sunday, October 17, 2021

Volume 9, Issue 42

A Ministry of the  
Orthodox Christian Network



## Let your faith grow!



**Have you ever tried to grow a plant?** If you wanted it to live, you had to put it in a sunny spot, give it good dirt, water it, and take care of it.

Today's Gospel reading tells us about how a farmer tried to grow his plants too. It tells about how some seeds grew up to be strong plants. Other ones started out ok, but died out after a while. Other ones didn't grow at all because those seeds were planted in the wrong spot.

Jesus tells us this story because He wants us to get our faith to grow! Just like a little seed, our faith and our love for God can start off small, but then it can grow bigger and better every day.

When you get baptized, that's like a little seed just starting off. But you grow up, and you have to take care of that seed. You have to take care of your faith! You can go to church with your family. You can read stories from the Bible, and also stories about saints of our Church. You can think about other people and help them. You can go to Sunday School and learn with your friends. You can receive the special sacraments, like Holy Communion and Holy Confession.

Sometimes people think all you need is a little seed. They think all you need is to be baptized. But you have to take care of that seed, and help it grow bigger and stronger. What can you do to help grow your faith and love for God?

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Alms
- Baptism
- Faith
- Famous
- Grow
- Holy
- John
- Kronstadt
- Sower

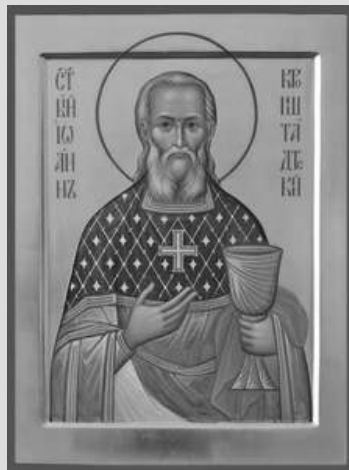
H	G	K	D	A	Y	S	Y	A	J	T	J	O	M	J
B	I	R	U	Y	M	J	L	Z	R	X	V	K	C	G
T	E	B	B	S	E	A	O	V	N	U	V	F	J	R
Q	G	A	E	M	L	A	H	W	S	D	K	O	E	B
F	E	P	O	M	W	X	K	I	W	U	H	W	Q	S
W	A	T	S	O	T	D	A	T	S	N	O	R	K	W
P	F	I	U	B	Q	Z	Y	D	O	S	Y	M	H	F
N	T	S	T	P	Q	Q	U	X	F	X	Q	N	A	C
J	M	M	E	H	V	A	I	P	B	B	B	H	C	F
B	D	S	V	Z	B	M	L	H	M	C	T	J	Y	M
J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

# WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

You can see the photo of Saint John on page 3.

Here is an icon of him!

Do you think they look the same?

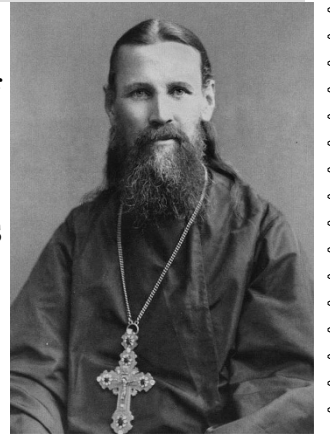


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# SAINT JOHN OF KRONSTADT

## A FAMOUS SAINT

**Have you ever seen somebody famous?** Really famous? Today is the feastday of a saint who was really, really famous when he was alive. Thousands of people would visit him each day. When he travelled around, huge crowds of people would gather around his horse carriage!



But why? Did he have a huge mansion? Was he good at basketball? Did he star in all the popular movies? No! The people loved Saint John because he was a holy man.

Saint John was born almost 200 years ago, in Russia. He served as a priest in Kronstadt—that's near the great city of Saint Petersburg. He helped many, many people during his lifetime. Princesses talked about all the miracles that came from him. When he was dying, the tsar (the king) of Russia called Saint John to him to give him Holy Communion.

But Saint John especially helped the poor. Lots of times, people would give Saint John money to give to the poor. Saint John would not even look at the money or count it! He would take it and stuff it in his pocket. Then, the next beggar he saw would get the money!

Saint John gave lots of great advice, especially about how to pray. Saint John knew he had a lot of followers, but he wasn't trying to be famous. He was just following Christ, and he was helping others follow Christ too!

**We celebrate St. John on Tuesday, October 19th (OC: Nov. 1st).**