

Saint John of Chicago, 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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## God's voice is in the Bible

**Have you ever wished you** could see a miracle? Maybe you thought a miracle would change things for you, or show you how you should act.



In today's Gospel reading, we hear a story about the rich man and the poor man who both died. The poor man had suffered a lot in his life, and God took him to be with Him in heaven. The rich man had had a comfortable life, and he never thought of people who needed help (like the poor man, Lazarus). The rich man didn't get to be with God in heaven.

After the rich man died, he wanted to warn his family what would happen to them too! He said, "If someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." But sadly, it was too late. "If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead."

Sometimes, people want to see a sign or miracle to convince them to do something. To go to church. To love their families. To give to the poor. To ask forgiveness. The rich man wanted to give his family a miracle to show them and to change their lives.

But we can remember the words today. If they do not hear the Bible, they won't even be convinced with a miracle. Let's read the Bible as much as we can. That way, we can hear God's voice there! We can hear what He wants us to know. He can show us how He wants us to act.

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Bible
- Chicago
- Help the poor
- John
- Lazarus
- Martyr
- Miracle
- Prayers
- Priest
- Signs

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

# What's in an icon?

Here is an icon of Saint John of Chicago. (You can see a photograph of him on page 3.)

Do they look alike? Maybe not so much...but look at the icon of Saint John on page 4!



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# DO YOU KNOW SAINT JOHN OF CHICAGO?



**We all want to be first at something, don't we?** First in line. Or first to finish our work. Or even first to invent something important or solve some great puzzle.

Saint John Kochurov of Chicago was first at something that not many people would want to be first at! A hundred years ago in Russia, a big group of people hated the Church, and they hated their Christian leaders too. They (called the Communists) started a huge rebellion, and they wanted to throw out all the leaders and put their own people in charge. Saint John Kochurov was the first priest to be killed by these God-hating people. He was the first one...out of many, many Christian priests.

Before that though, Saint John grew up in Russia and he studied to be a priest. He wanted to go to America, to serve as a priest where there weren't too many Orthodox churches yet. The bishop sent him (along with his wife) to Chicago, Illinois. Saint John worked hard to teach the people there, and many people became Orthodox Christians. Saint John built churches here in the United States with help from Tsar Nicholas (the king) in Russia. He was a great priest with lots of energy.

Sadly, when he went back to Russia, things were becoming hard for Christians. He was a very popular priest, and the rebels didn't like that. He was killed for his Orthodox faith. But Saint John loved his flock in the U.S., and now we can pray for his help!

**We celebrate St. John today, October 31st (OC: Nov. 13th).**