

Saint Menas, 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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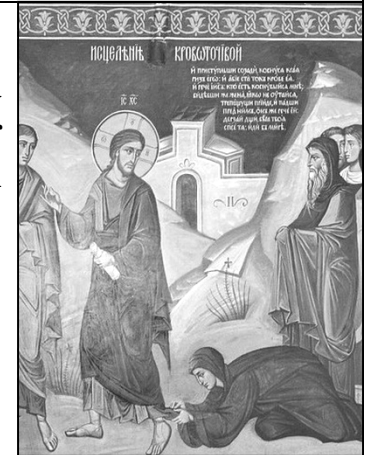
A Ministry of the
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We are God's children!

Does your family call you a special name that nobody else calls you? Maybe you have a nickname that only your family knows. Maybe your parents call you a favorite name, or maybe they call you "son" or "daughter."

In our lives, the only person who calls us "son" or "daughter" is our parents. But in today's Gospel reading, we hear how Jesus calls a woman "Daughter," even though they weren't related!



Jesus had been out, healing many people. First, he went to visit a young girl who was very sick. But on the way, a woman who had been very sick for many years came close to the Lord. She touched Him, because she knew that Jesus had special power from God. When Jesus asked her about it, she explained why she had touched Him.

Our Lord answered her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

Why did Jesus call the woman "Daughter" when they weren't related? Because Jesus is the parent of us all, because He is God! Think about how special that is, that we are part of God's family!

You love your parents, and your parents love you. How much more does God love us?! God even loves us more than our parents can love us!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Daughter
- Egypt
- Family
- Healing
- Love
- Menas
- Power
- Rank
- Warrior

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

This is one of the oldest icons we still have (about 1500 years old!).

It's Saint Menas with our Lord, Jesus Christ! Do you see how the Lord has His arm around him? That's because the Lord really loves the saints who love Him too!



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HOLY GREAT MARTYR ST. MENAS OF EGYPT

Would you give up a medal, or something you were very proud of? That's what our holy Saint Menas did!



Saint Menas held a high rank in the Roman army. When the emperors started to fight against Christians, Saint Menas gave up his soldier's belt, something that he must have been proud of. He wouldn't serve those evil emperors. Later on, the rulers found him and decided to punish him because Menas bravely declared he followed our one, true God. Saint Menas is called a great martyr, because he was killed for his Christian faith. God saw his bravery and love for the Lord, and He rewarded Menas with an even higher rank—a place in heaven!

So many Christians love Saint Menas because he loves God and because he listens to our prayers. He is a special saint we can pray to if there is a war (because he was in the army, after all). About 60 years ago, during the awful World War 2, the evil German (Nazi) army was about to start a battle in Egypt. They stopped at a place called El Alamein (which means "the place of Menas"). There was an old church to Saint Menas there too. Saint Menas appeared to the German troops that night, just as he looked in the icons. The soldiers were so frightened. After that, the Germans began to lose the war. Saint Menas helped the good guys win the terrible World War 2!

Let's pray to Saint Menas for peace in the world! You can also pray to Saint Menas if you need help finding something that was lost.

We celebrate St. Menas Thursday, November 11th (OC: Nov. 24th).