

# The Entrance of the Holy Theotokos



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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## Entering the temple

**When you look around your church,** do you see other kids too? Jesus invites all the kids to be close to Him. And church is a special place where we can worship all together—young people and old people, and everyone in between.

Today, we celebrate a very special feastday of our Church. It's the day we remember when the Holy Theotokos, the Mother of God, went into the Temple. She went there so she could be close to God. She went there so she could spend time praying, and focusing on her Heavenly Father. That's why you come to church, too, right?

Today's epistle reading tells us what a special place the Temple is. It's God's house, just as our church is God's house!

Did you know we have a special prayer we can say every time we enter this holy church? Here it is—maybe you can try to remember it!

*I will come into Your house in the greatness of Your mercy: and in fear I will worship toward Your holy temple. Lead me, O Lord, in Your righteousness because of my enemies; make Your way straight before me, that with a clear mind I may glorify You forever, One Divine Power worshiped in three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.*



# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

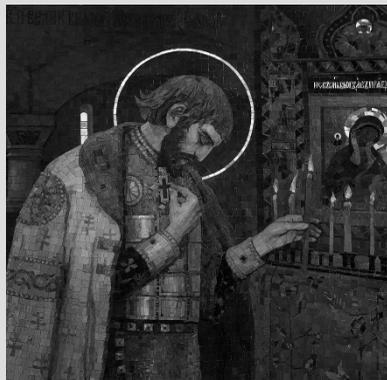
- Alexander
- Entrance
- Epistle
- Prayer
- Prince
- Russia
- Temple
- Theotokos
- Trust
- Warrior

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

# What's in an icon?

In some icons of Saint Alexander Nevsky, we see the saint looking brave and strong.

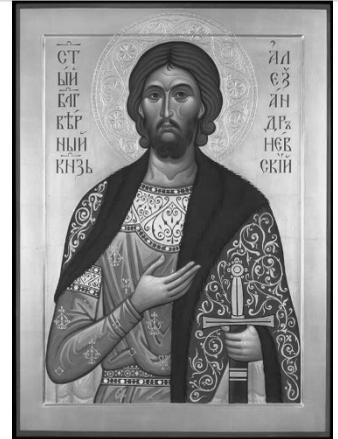
Here we see how Saint Alexander *became* brave and strong! Saint Alexander loved God and always came to Him for help.



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# SAINT ALEXANDER NEVSKY A HOLY WARRIOR

**Can saints fight?** Sometimes, we might think saints are people who never ever fight or even argue! But our Church has many, many saints who were warriors. You might have heard of Saint George or Saint Menas or Saint Theodore or Saint Wenceslas, or many more. These special saints were close to God and they trusted God to help them fight.



Saint Alexander Nevsky grew up in Russia 700 years ago. He was a prince, and the son of a prince and princess. His parents raised him to be a warrior and a fighter, but they also raised him to have a strong faith in God and to love Him with all his heart.

Saint Alexander spent his young life fighting. That's because Russia was being attacked from all sides. Alexander's job was to protect his home. In one enemy attack, things looked hopeless. But before he sent the soldiers to fight, Alexander prayed. He told his soldiers, "The enemy is stronger, but God is on our side." With God's help, they were able to win the battle.

Sometimes it is hard to imagine saints fighting and hurting other people. But Saint Alexander Nevsky had a peacefulness in his heart, because he trusted God in all things. Sometimes he knew he had to fight sometimes, but other times he tried to work with the enemy in peace.

Saint Alexander is a hero to the Russian Orthodox people, and to our Church! He reminds us to trust God in all things, in war and in peace.

**We celebrate St. Alexander on Tues., November 23rd (OC: Dec. 6th).**