

Righteous Aaron, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2022 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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Don't be a show-off!

Do you know somebody who's a show-off? You know, somebody who likes to show everybody how much he knows, or how he can dribble behind his back, or how much money he has, or how he's done different things. Nobody likes to hear from a show-off!



Tomorrow starts our special season of Great Lent, and the Gospel tells us how we shouldn't be church show-offs either! Our Lord gives this advice, "When you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men...But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret."

God doesn't want us to show off all the good things we're doing in church. God doesn't want us to tell everybody how hard we are fasting, and how much we are helping the poor, and how much we are going to church. Of course, it's good to do those things, but we shouldn't show off about it!

This Lent, when we do something good, let's try to keep it to ourselves, just the way God wants us to do. When we talk about it, and show off about it, we lose what's special about it. Let's keep it a secret. It's a secret, between God and you!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Aaron
- Almsgiving
- Exodus
- Fasting
- Journey
- Lent
- Moses
- Phineas
- Prayer
- Priest
- Sacrifice

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WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

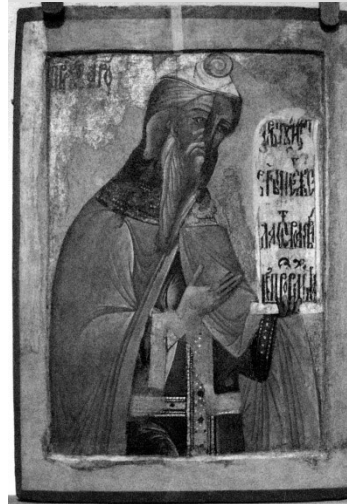
On Saturday, we also remember Saint Phineas. He was Aaron's grandson (and Moses's great nephew!)

Phineas was a high priest too, and he offered sacrifices to God.



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SAINT AARON THE HIGH PRIEST BROTHER OF MOSES



You remember a little bit about Moses, don't you? You remember the story of the Exodus out of Egypt, and the burning bush, and the Ten Commandments. God chose Moses to do many special things for His people.

Moses had an older brother, Aaron, and God chose Aaron to serve Him too. The Bible tells us that Moses was "slow of speech" when he spoke to his Hebrew people. Maybe he was nervous, or maybe he just talked in a funny way. God told Aaron to speak for his brother; God would tell something to Moses, and Moses would tell it to Aaron, and Aaron would speak to the people.

Later on, Aaron also spoke to Pharaoh (the king) for Moses too. Do you remember when they asked him to let the Hebrew people go, to be free?

After that, Aaron became a high priest. That meant he could make sacrifices to God, asking God for help. The Hebrew people would come to Aaron, because they knew he had this special place with God.

We can read many other stories about Aaron in the Bible. He is one important person who brought us all closer to God. Did you know he is a great, great (many greats...) grandfather to Saint John the Baptist?

We remember Saint Aaron on Saturday, March 12th (OC: March 25th).