

“The Lord is with you!”



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2022 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensward (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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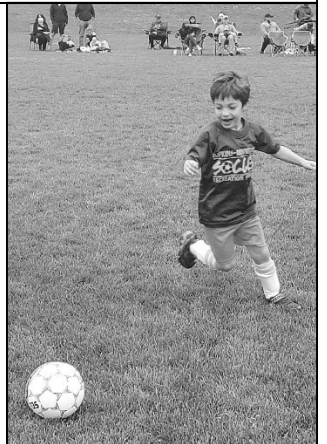
“That’s too bad!”

Has anybody ever told you something sad? Maybe a friend hurt her foot playing sports. Maybe your father had a flat tire coming home from work. Maybe a classmate told you he is having trouble with an assignment.

When you hear something sad, you might say something like, “Oh, that’s too bad!” and then you start thinking about something else. Sometimes we don’t try too hard to feel sorry for the person or even to do something about it!

But in today’s Gospel reading, we hear about some friends who really felt sorry for their friend. Their friend was paralyzed; he couldn’t walk. But this group of friends didn’t just say, “That’s too bad!” and start thinking about other things. They felt sorry. They tried to do something about it. They knew that Jesus was healing lots of people, and when He came to their town, they brought their paralyzed friend to Him. They even put him through the roof so he could get through to Him!

This Lent, let’s really try to feel for others. It’s easy to say, “Oh that’s too bad” and move on. But the best thing is for us to really try to help, just like the friends in the story today. God wants us to look out for each other! And the best way to do that is to ask God to help us, just like the friends did, too!



WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Annunciation
- Catacombs
- Compassion
- Friends
- Gabriel
- Gospel
- Healing
- Hymns
- Icon
- Mary
- Paralytic
- Roof

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Do you want to see the very oldest icon we have of the Annunciation? Archaeologists found this picture on a wall in underground Rome. It is probably from about the year 170.

Can you see Mary sitting on a throne, and the angel pointing at her, telling her something?



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THE ANNUNCIATION THE BEGINNING OF OUR SALVATION

Do you know how many Christmas songs there are? Almost 10,000 songs! And every year, people write even more. We love Christmas because we celebrate how our Lord Jesus Christ came to earth for us. Our God became man.



This week, we celebrate again how our God became a man. We remember the special news that the angel Gabriel gave Mary, the Theotokos. The angel told her she would have a baby, Jesus. He would be called the Son of the Most High. His kingdom would last forever!

The Annunciation is such a great feast in our Church, but do you know any Annunciation songs? Do you ever hear Annunciation songs on the radio? No, we never do!

We can start to learn the special song for this feastday. It starts, "Today marks the crowning of our salvation." On the Annunciation, we celebrate how Jesus is already here on earth, He is already with His mother, the Theotokos. On Christmas, we celebrate Jesus's birthday, but this week, we celebrate how Jesus is already here, growing in His mother.

We can learn this one Annunciation hymn, because this is a big day! God wants to save all of us, and this is the beginning of His plan!

We celebrate the Annunciation on Friday, March 25th (OC: April 7th).