Sunday of the Holy Cross



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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Have confidence in Christ!

Do you have somebody you ask for

help? Maybe your parents or your teacher, or a coach or priest? Maybe you ask a big brother or sister for help a lot. You're not shy to ask for help, are you?

Today's epistle reading tells us not to be shy to ask for help...from our Lord, Jesus Christ! The epistle says that Christ can "sympathize with our weaknesses." He understands our problems. So, "let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."



Let's have confidence in our Lord! Don't be shy to ask Him for help. We can pray and ask for help when we are sick or if we know somebody else who is sick. We can pray and ask for help when we are scared about something. We can pray and ask for help when we're having trouble at school or with something at home. We can pray and ask for help if we have a bad habit we want to get rid of. We can pray and ask for help if we don't know what to do.

The Bible tells us that God can "sympathize with our weaknesses." Jesus understands what is going on, because Jesus became a person too! So, let's have confidence in Christ. Don't be shy to ask for help, just like we're not shy to ask for help from our parents or our teachers. God wants us to "draw near" to Him—come close to Him and ask for help!

WORD SEARCH Can you find these words in the jumble? Confidence Cross Euboula Faith Healing Love QDEXNNKYKL Mother Panteleimon Sympathize Weakness WRSUMCMAODL

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here is a little icon of Saint Panteleimon with the two teachers who taught him about Christ.

His mother, Saint Euboula, was his first teacher.

The second teacher was Saint Hermolaos, who helped St. Panteleimon come back to his Christian faith.



SAINT EUBOULA THE MOTHER OF SAINT PANTELEIMON

Have you ever heard your parents in-

troduce themselves as *your* mom or *your* dad? "Hi, I'm Sophia's mother" or "Hi, I'm Paul's father," they might say to your friends or to your teacher at school.

This week, we celebrate a saint we might only know as "Saint Panteleimon's mother." But that's still a wonderful thing! You remember that Saint Panteleimon is one of our best "healer saints." He was a doctor, but he was also a strong Christian. He died for his faith because he wouldn't give up his love for God.



Saint Euboula was Panteleimon's mother. She was a strong Christian too, and she taught her son to love

God, even when he was just a little baby. Sadly, Euboula died when her son was young, and her husband (Panteleimon's father) wasn't a Christian. Later on, he sent their son off to learn how to become a doctor. Panteleimon forgot or ignored his Christian faith. When he was still in school, another saint, Hermolaos, reminded him of what he learned as a little boy from his mother. He told Panteleimon that the real healer is God!

Panteleimon turned back to the faith he first learned from his mother, Saint Euboula. He became an even stronger Christian, and even later a martyr.

We celebrate St. Euboula on Wednesday, March 30th (OC: April 12th).