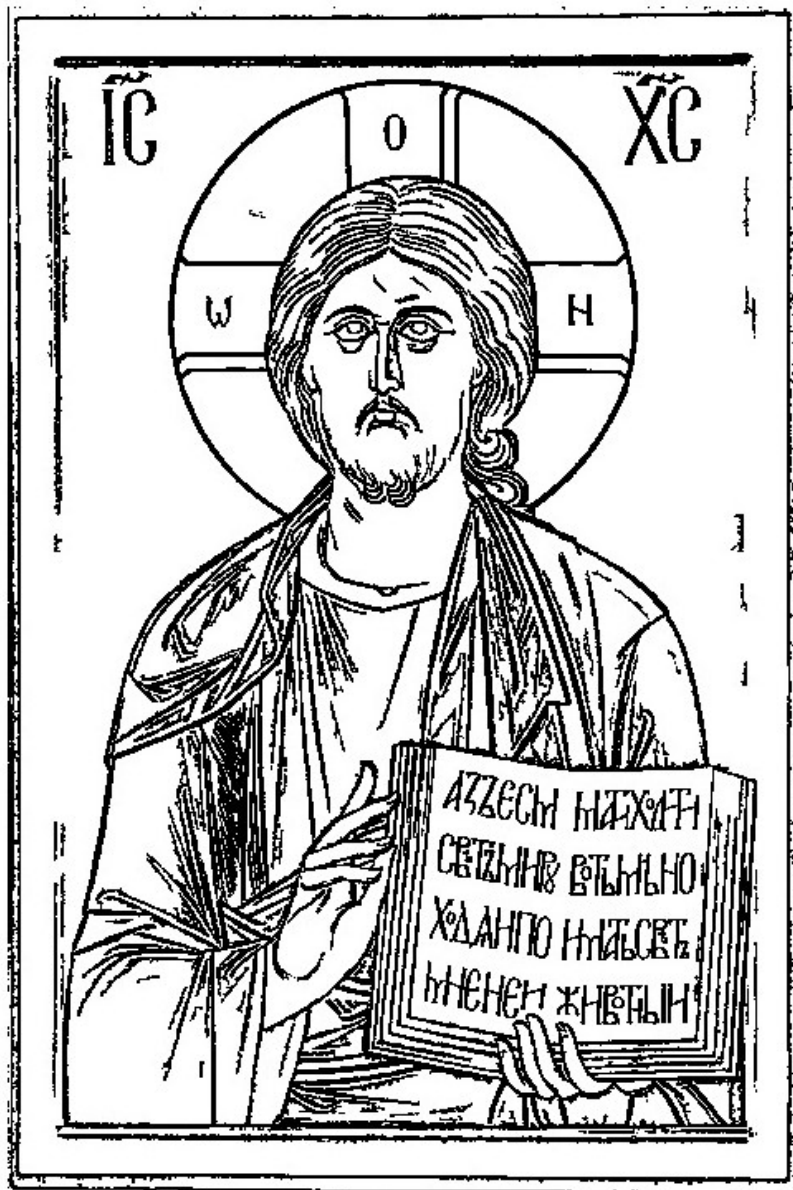


God keeps His promises!



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

Sunday, April 3, 2022

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God's promises

Have you ever promised something to a friend? Did your friend believe you? Did you keep your promise?



In today's epistle reading, we hear about a promise God made. He promised Abraham that he would have a son. Abraham was an old man by then, so at first he didn't believe God! But God kept His promise, and Abraham and his wife Sarah really did have a baby son, Isaac.

God has promised so many things to us, too! Can you think of one of His promises? We can find them in the Bible. If you live close to God, He says, "Ask and you will receive, that your joy may be full." Another time, we hear, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him." And another, "Everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him should have life forever, and I will raise him up on the last day."

We have so many promises from our Lord! He says if we love Him, He will take care of us. He says if we love Him, He will reward us. Do you believe His promises? God always keeps His promises. Now, can you make a promise to God? Can you promise to love Him, and to try to grow closer to Him? Then, of course, we have to keep that promise!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

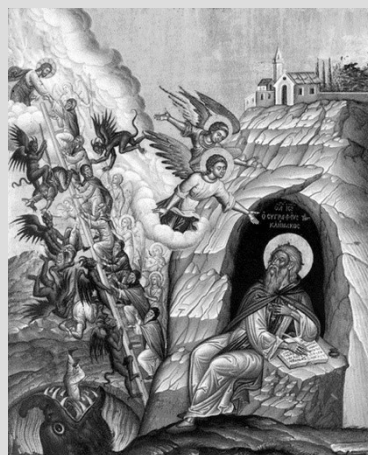
- Abraham
- Encourage
- Fall
- Fasting
- John
- Ladder
- Love
- Prayer
- Promises
- Sarah

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

In this icon, you can see Saint John in the corner. He is writing his famous book, "The Ladder of Divine Ascent."

Can you see the ladder, as he is thinking about it?



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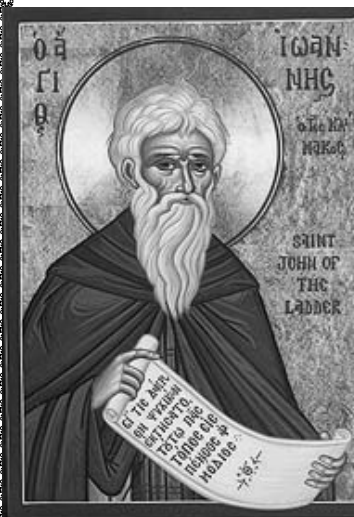
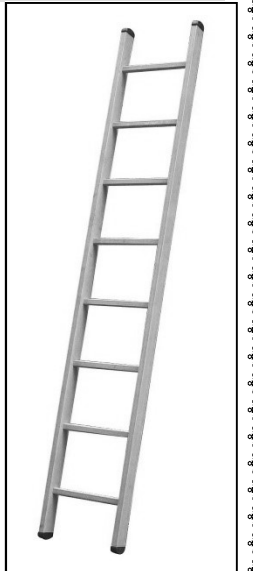
SAINT JOHN WRITER OF "THE LADDER"

Now, we're more than halfway finished with Great Lent! Today is the 4th Sunday, when we remember St. John Climacus. St. John was a monk who wrote an important (but very hard to read!) book. He was a very thoughtful and prayerful man.

In this book, St. John gave advice about how we can go up the ladder—to heaven! (That's what Climacus means— "of the ladder.") He wrote how we Christians must always be trying harder and harder to grow closer to Christ. That's our goal.

Maybe one day, when you're older, you'll have a chance to read and study his book. But for today, let's remember one thing he wrote: "Do not be surprised that you fall every day; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And truly, your guardian angel will honor your patience."

So remember, as YOU are trying every day to climb the ladder to grow closer to our Lord—you're going to make mistakes! But as St. John encourages us, don't give up! Be brave and try harder next time!



We celebrate St. John today, the fourth Sunday of Great Lent.