

St. Martin, pray for us!



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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## The good things that have come

**Has anybody ever reminded you to, "Count your blessings"?** It's important to remember all the good things we have and the good things that have happened to us.

Today's epistle reading starts, "When Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come..." What were the good things that have come? Christ's holy resurrection, the best thing that has ever come!

When we hear these words, we remember to count our blessings, especially the best blessing of all. We remember all that our Lord did for us: coming to earth, suffering on the Cross, and rising from the dead. We remember how our Lord did these good things so He could give us hope and open heaven for us.

Today is the fifth Sunday of Lent, and by now some of us might be getting tired of the fasting. We might be getting tired of so many services. We might be getting tired of waiting for Easter too.

But let's remember why we have Lent in the first place. Today, and every day, let's remember to "count our blessings," especially the best blessing of all! Then we can thank God for "the good things that have come," Christ's awesome resurrection.



# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

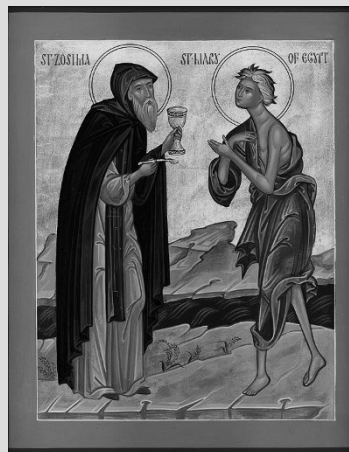
- Confessor
- Exile
- Faith
- Fasting
- Fifth Sunday
- High Priest
- Martin
- Mary of Egypt
- Resurrection

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

# WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Today is the fifth Sunday of Great Lent, and today we remember Saint Mary of Egypt.

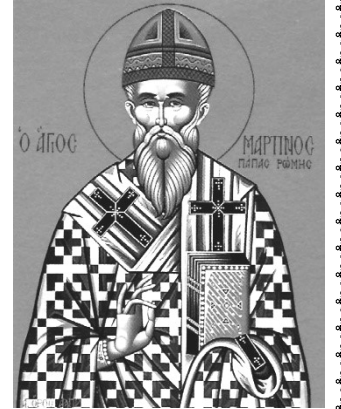
This icon shows her receiving Holy Communion from the priest, Father Zosima. Our saints show us their strong faith!



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# THE STRONGEST FAITH ST. MARTIN, BISHOP OF ROME

**When we come together for Liturgy** each week, we say the Creed together, don't we? We say out loud what we Orthodox Christians believe.



Today, we celebrate the nameday of somebody who said out loud what we believe...but he was hurt again and again for that. Sometimes, he was even so hungry and thirsty, but still Saint Martin wouldn't stop saying the truth.

Saint Martin (who was the bishop of Rome, Italy) lived many years ago, and he died in the year 655. At that time, the emperor wanted all the Christians to believe something about Jesus Christ that just wasn't true. In fact, it was a heresy (a heresy is a belief that goes against the truth)!

The emperor was so angry that he even sent somebody to kill this saint! But something kept the person from doing this awful thing, and he was even blinded on the way back home. Again and again, the emperor did such cruel things to Saint Martin. Finally, the emperor sent Martin to be a prisoner on a little island, and he gave him hardly any food or water. Saint Martin never gave up saying the truth about Christ. He is called a "Confessor" because he was hurt for believing in Christ. (A martyr is somebody who died for believing in Christ.) Always remember—God wants us to stick up for the truth, and Saint Martin did just that!

**We celebrate St. Martin today, April 13th (OC: April 26th).**