

Thomas said, “My Lord and my God!”



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

Sunday, May 1, 2022

Volume 10, Issue 18

A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



“O wonderful doubt!”

Has anybody ever told you something that you just wouldn’t believe? Maybe you even found out later that it was true! A weird animal in your yard, crazy weather, something funny at school. Maybe you thought it was just a big joke...but it wasn’t!



Today is the first Sunday after the Resurrection. Today, we hear the Gospel story of Saint Thomas, Jesus’s good friend and follower. Thomas, you remember, wouldn’t believe the other disciples when they told him, “We have seen the Lord!” He wasn’t with them, and he just wouldn’t believe it. But, of course, now we (and Thomas too) know it *was* true!

Doubting things isn’t always so bad! That’s why in our Church, we say good things about Saint Thomas! Last night, at vespers, we could hear a hymn that says, “O wonderful doubt of Thomas! It brought the hearts of the faithful to knowledge. And with fear he cried, ‘My Lord and my God, glory to You.’”

Let’s thank God for that “wonderful doubt of Thomas”! Saint Thomas didn’t believe at first, but he brought lots of other people to believe that the Lord had risen! Maybe even, because of him, we can all say today, “My Lord and my God, glory to You.”

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

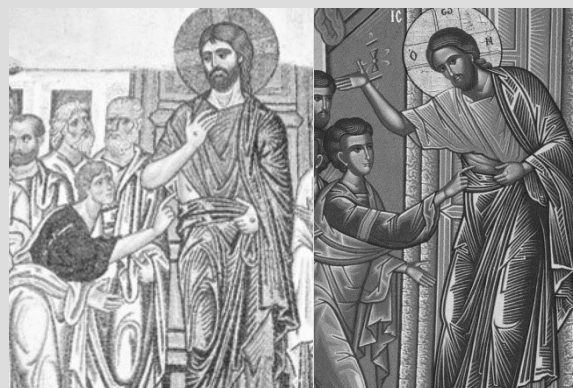
Alexis
Believing
Doubt
Faithful
Minneapolis
My Lord and My God
Risen
Saints
Thomas
Wilkes Barre

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

We can find lots of icons of Saint Thomas touching the side of the Lord.

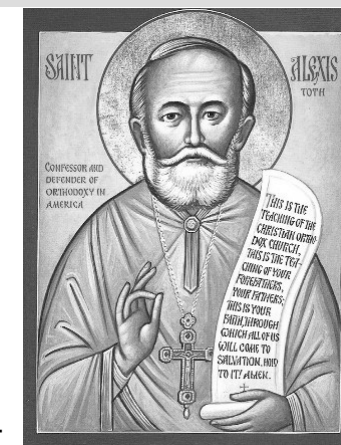
Sometimes Thomas looks very bold to touch Him. Other times, he looks a little shy. What do you think?



© Alexandra Houck 2022

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT SAINT ALEXIS?

Did you know that on any day of the year, you can find a long list of saints we remember? Some saints we've heard of, and some we haven't. But on Thursday, we see the name of Saint Alexis of Wilkes-Barre. Where's that? In Pennsylvania, USA!



Saint Alexis was born in 1854, in Europe. He grew up, became a priest, and was sent to America. He first lived in Minneapolis, Minnesota and later lived in other places in the country. Many, many people became Orthodox Christians because of what St. Alexis taught them. Usually, he traveled by horse and buggy, all the while telling people about the Orthodox Church. The Orthodox Church in America grew a lot because of St. Alexis's work.

Later on, St. Alexis lived in Pennsylvania, in coal-mining country. Many families there had lost their fathers because of the dangerous job of coal mining. St. Alexis helped these families, so they could take care of themselves.

St. Alexis died in Pennsylvania, and his holy body (his relics) are still there at the Orthodox school of St. Tikhon (in Pennsylvania). Some of his relics are in Minneapolis too, and you might hear somebody say "St. Alexis of Minneapolis" because he is special to the people there too!

We celebrate Saint Alexis on Saturday, May 7th (OC: May 20th).