## "Take up your bed and walk!"

# HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC :-



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"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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## "I have no one..."

**You have friends, don't you?** You have somebody who will listen to you if you have a problem. You have somebody who will try to help, don't you? We all should!

Today is the third Sunday after Pascha (Easter). That's the day we hear about the paralyzed man, the man who had been sick for 38 years! Jesus saw this man, and he had compassion on him. He felt sorry for him and wanted to help. "Do you want to be healed?" Yes, of course the man wanted to be healed! But the poor man said, "I have no one..." to help me get healed.



This man had nobody to help him. What a sad situation he was in!

Then we hear about how our Lord did help him. He told him to get up and walk, and he did! He had compassion. Jesus really thought about this man, and how he needed help!

Let's always remember how our Lord has compassion on all of us. He wants to help us. Let's remember too that even if we feel sad, or if we feel like things aren't going right, we never have to say, "I have no one to help..." like the man in the Gospel today. Our Lord is always ready to help us! He loves each one of us, and we can always say, "I have Someone to help me!"

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### SAINT VUKASIN THE HOLY NEW MARTYR

Have you ever heard somebody say, "History repeats itself"? You might hear that if something happens now that sounds a lot like something that happened many years ago.

Saint Vukasin was an Orthodox Christian man who lived in Klepci, which is in present day Bosnia-Herzegovina (just across the Adriatic Sea from Italy). He lived during World War II, and we really don't know too much about his life. We know a lot about the end of his life though, and we know why he is called a saint of our Church!



Once, Vukasin and some of his family members were snatched up by the authorities because they were Serbian and Orthodox. They were told to say great things about the evil leader and to give up their faith. Vukasin wouldn't do it. Then, a soldier began to hurt Vukasin, again and again, because Vukasin wouldn't give up. The soldier was cruel and horrible. Vukasin wouldn't give in. He was even killed for his faith.

Later on, the soldier told about the evil things he had done. He confessed to a doctor, because he felt awful guilt, and he was really going crazy thinking about what he had done. We know about Vukasin's faith because of what this soldier confessed!

"History repeats itself" when we read the lives of the saints! We hear their painful stories and we see their strong faith. God gives them strength, and the amazing reward! May we have their same strong faith too!

We celebrate Saint Vukasin on Monday, May 16th (OC: May 29th).