

In Spirit and Truth

THE SAMARITAN WOMAN



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 22, 2022

Volume 10, Issue 21

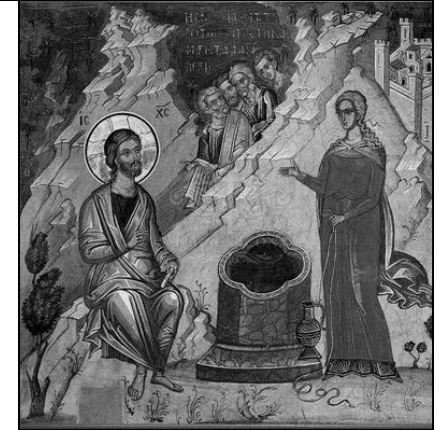
A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



We worship in spirit and truth

Where do you go to church?

Maybe you go to a big church in a big city or a tiny church in a little town or something in between. Maybe you even go to church in a little village on a mountainside.



When Jesus lived, people wondered: Where was the right place to find God. Was it Jerusalem? Was it Samaria? Was it somewhere else? Today, in the Gospel, we hear a conversation our Lord had with a woman who asked that very question!

Jesus says in the Gospel today, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father...But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for such the Father seeks to worship Him."

Jesus foretold that we will worship in spirit and truth. God sent His Holy Spirit to strengthen us and to fill all things. God gives us the Church to be our special house of truth. We come together so we can find God together and worship Him.

No matter where your church is—if it's big or if it's little— we worship in spirit and truth every time we gather in the Orthodox Church to pray! Jesus foretold it!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

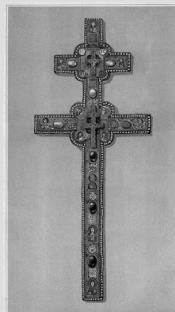
- Church
- Compassion
- Euphrosyne
- Peace
- Polatsk
- Prayer
- Samaritan
- Spirit
- Truth

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

In many icons of Saint Euphrosyne, you can see this special cross. It was made just for her, and it was fit for a princess!

It lasted for almost a thousand years, but it was stolen in World War II, and nobody has ever found it!



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SAINT EUPHROSYNE

A PRINCESS OF POLOTSK

Does the icon here look like a picture of a princess to you? No, not really, but Saint Euphrosyne *was* a princess, who lived a thousand years ago in Polotsk (which is now in the country of Belarus).



Her name was Princess Predslava, and she had everything going for her! She was rich and smart, and her parents wanted her to get married to a nobleman. Predslava felt that she wanted to spend her life in another way though. She left her comfortable life to become a nun, taking the new name Euphrosyne.

Euphrosyne lived in the basement of the beautiful Saint Sophia Cathedral. They didn't have computers and printers in those days, of course. Euphrosyne spent long hours every day copying books, word by word. She made some money, and she always gave it to the poor. Later on, she left this work because the bishop asked her to start a new women's monastery. She taught young girls to read and write, and taught them to earn their living in other ways too.

Saint Euphrosyne lived a long life, helping others and trying to do what the Lord wanted her to do. She died in Jerusalem, and eventually her relics were moved back to the monastery she started. She is a special saint many people still love today!

We celebrate Saint Euphrosyne on Monday, May 23rd (OC: June 5th).