

Christ prayed for His Church!



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

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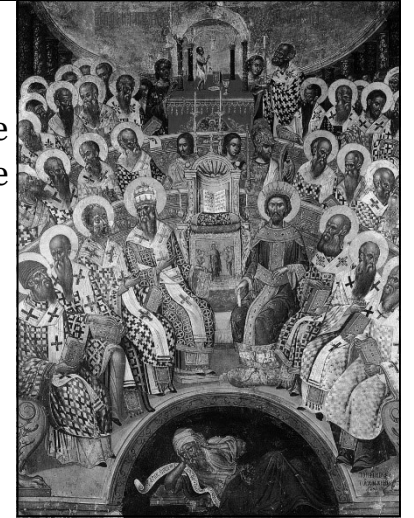
The Holy Spirit guides our Church!

Have you ever wondered how your priest became a priest? Or a deacon became a deacon? Or your bishop became a bishop? Maybe you know, because you've seen the special service in church!

This special service is called an ordination. Your deacon or priest or bishop is given a special role, a special way to serve God and His people! During the service for a priest, the bishop asks God to "fill him with the gift of the Holy Spirit." He prays to God to give him "the grace of the Holy Spirit." You remember that God the Holy Spirit guides the Church. He helps the Church stay on the right path. That's why your priest and your bishop and your deacon need the Holy Spirit when they serve the Church.

Today we read in the Acts of the Apostles, and we hear Saint Paul giving special advice to the leaders of the new Christian Church. He says, "Listen to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which He gave with the blood of His own Son."

The same Holy Spirit has given grace and life to our holy Church ever since it started! Saint Paul asked the Holy Spirit to guide the leaders, and we ask the Holy Spirit to still guide them today!



WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Apostles
- Barnabas
- Bartholomew
- Church
- Gospel
- Grace
- Holy Spirit
- Mission
- Ordination
- Prayer
- Preach

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V	C	M	A	W	P	N	O	I	S	S	I	M	Z	R
F	S	V	I	Z	H	R	G	S	G	F	J	H	Y	O
T	I	Q	A	P	S	J	G	Z	I	Q	R	W	Y	R
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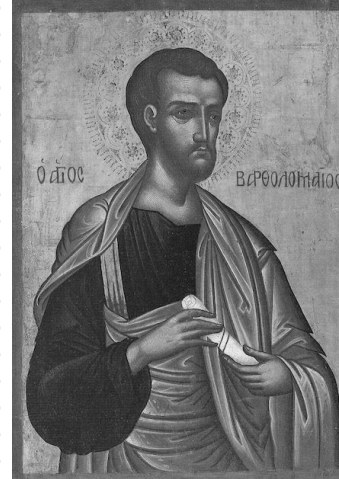
WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

This Saturday we also celebrate Saint Barnabas (along with Saint Bartholomew). He was one of Saint Paul's special helpers.

God gave these apostles the grace of the Holy Spirit. Let's ask Him to keep guiding the Church with His Holy Spirit!



THE HOLY APOSTLE SAINT BARTHOLOMEW



Do you have a friend named Bartholomew? Maybe not! It's too bad that sometimes the best saints don't get too many people named after them!

Saint Bartholomew is also known as Nathaniel, and he is one of the 12 holy apostles of our Church. He was with the Church from the very beginning, and he gave his life to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. What could be better than that?!

Sometimes we know about our saints from history books, or maybe from stories that have been passed down from one person to another. But Saint Bartholomew we know about from reading the Bible. We hear about him in the Gospel of John, and throughout the Acts of the Apostles. We read how he traveled with the Apostle Philip and his sister Miriamne through lots of cities, telling everyone about Christ. He baptized many, many people and he healed sick people too.

Christ told the disciples, "Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without pay, give without pay." So, Bartholomew (Nathaniel) did exactly what Christ had told His apostles to do. What could be better than that?!

We can follow this special saint's example when we are brave in our faith, trusting God to help us!

We celebrate St. Bartholomew on Sat., June 11th (OC: June 24th).