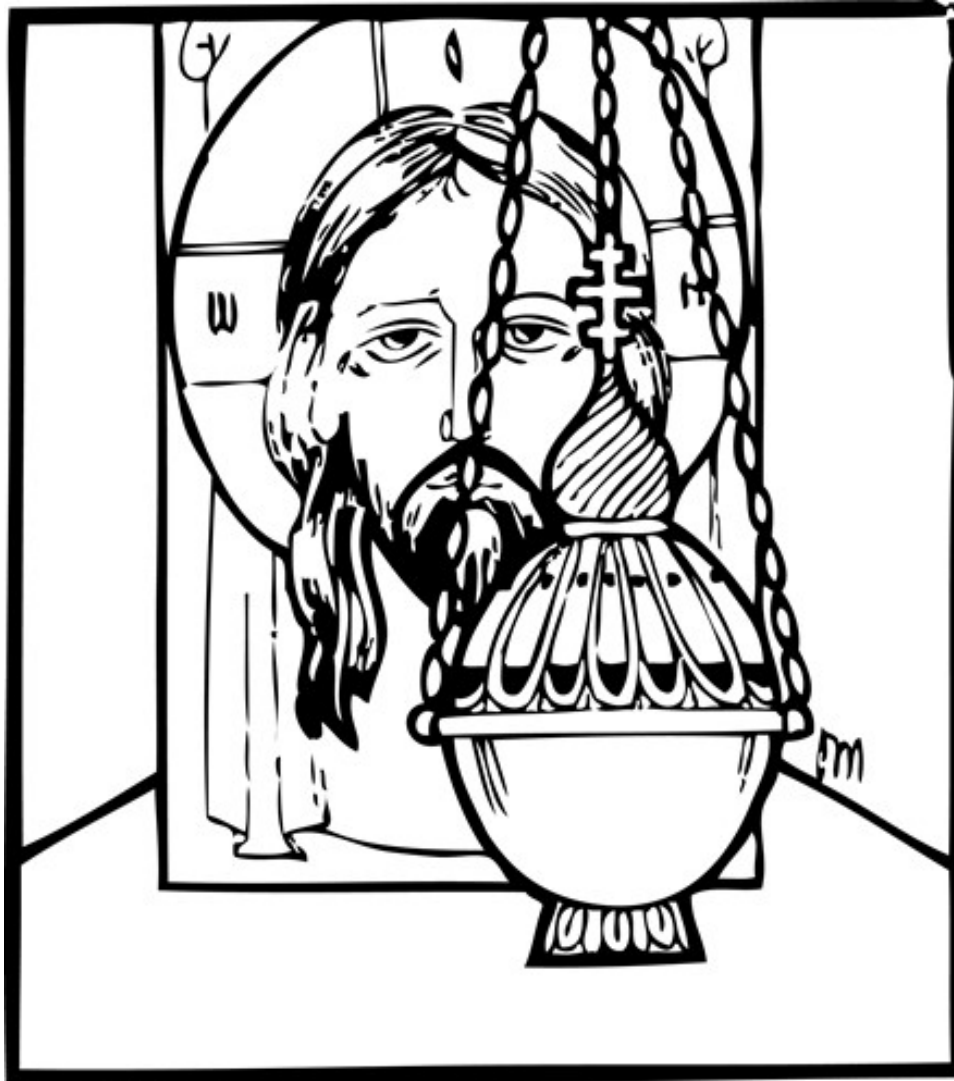


“The Eye is the Lamp of the Body”



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, July 3, 2022

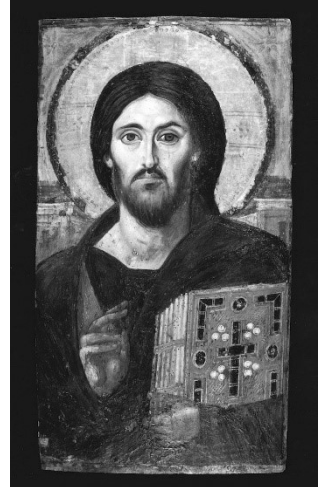
Volume 10, Issue 27

A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



The Lord in our hearts

Do you remember meeting somebody for the first time? Maybe you remember a friend you met on the first day of school or at a team practice. Sometimes we choose our friends just by looking at their faces, don't we? Sometimes we like people when we first look in their eyes!



Today's Gospel reading tells us, “The Lord said, “The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is sound, your whole body will be full of light.” This little passage can be a little confusing. What's the eye? What's the lamp? What's the light? Sometimes we have to ask for help from an expert—your priest, your teacher, or when you're a little older, you can read some of our expert saints, the Church Fathers.

One holy saint, St. John of Kronstadt, once said something about this passage. “May your eye be the Lord in your heart.” When people see you and know you are a faithful Christian, they will see the Lord in your heart. Isn't that the best? When we are close to Christ and when we love Him very much and when we try to be like Him, we can show others the Lord in our hearts.

That means, when we have the Lord in our hearts, our whole body will be full of light. Everybody will see it! Let's always try to grow closer to God, so we can help others grow closer to Him too.

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Barbara
- Elizabeth
- Equal
- Eye
- Faithful
- Friend
- Light
- Lamp
- Servants

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Here is another icon of Saints Elizabeth and Barbara. Can you tell who is who?

Saint Elizabeth wears the big cross around her neck. That shows she was in charge of the convent (where the nuns lived). Can you find her on page 3?



EQUAL IN HEAVEN

SAINTS ELIZABETH AND BARBARA

Do you ever wear a uniform?

Maybe to school or to a club? Maybe one of your parents wears a uniform to work. When we wear uniforms, people look equal, don't they? Some schools like uniforms for kids, because nobody worries about his or her clothes.



On Tuesday, we celebrate the namedays of two saints who wore kind of a uniform too. Saints Elizabeth and Barbara were nuns, so they wore special robes that made them look almost the same. (You can see in the icon). But before they became nuns, Saint Elizabeth was a Grand Duchess (like a princess) of Russia, and Saint Barbara was her servant, her maid. Later, they worked together to build a hospital for the poor people of Moscow.

Sadly, Elizabeth and Barbara lived at a time when the Communists were in charge in Russia. These Communists hated Christians, and they even killed many, many people who believed in Jesus Christ. And 104 years ago, they killed both of these holy nuns. But now they are saints together in heaven, in peace with the Lord!

St. Elizabeth, the Grand Duchess, knew that our Lord welcomes *everyone* to have the gift of life with Him. Everyone—servants and rulers, rich and poor.

We celebrate these two saints on Tues., July 5th (OC: July 18th).