

Saint Anna, pray for us!



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

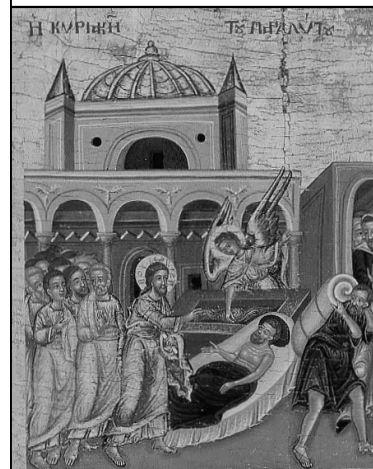
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The Fear of God



Are you afraid of anything? Everybody has something he's at least a little afraid of: maybe snakes, or the dark, or going up on high places.

Today, in the Gospel reading, we hear about a different kind of fear. First, we hear how our Lord heals another man who couldn't walk. After Christ healed him, the man stood up and walked home! The Bible says, "When the crowds saw it, they were *afraid*, and they glorified God."

But why were they afraid? Are we supposed to be afraid of God, too? When our priest is ready to give us Holy Communion, he says, "With the fear of God, with faith and love, draw near." Should we be afraid, just like the crowds in the Gospel today were afraid?

Well, this time, when we have fear, it's not like when we are afraid of snakes or spiders or sharks. We stay away from those! But when we have fear of God, we show that we are amazed by Him! We show God that we are amazed at what He has done. We are amazed by His power. We are amazed by His love.

When we come for Holy Communion, we come with fear. God is so powerful that He could heal the paralyzed man in the story today. God is so powerful, but He is also so loving that He wants us to come closer to Him!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Afraid
- Anna
- Fear
- Glorify
- Grandmother
- Healing
- Intercede
- Joachim
- Miracles
- Praise

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

In this icon, you can see Jesus' Mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother!

Can you find Saint Anna, whose feast-day we celebrate tomorrow?



SAINT ANNA

THE GRANDMOTHER OF OUR LORD

Do you get to talk to your grandparents often—maybe on the phone, or even in person? Would you like to know about Jesus's grandparents?

In just about 3 weeks, we will celebrate the falling asleep (the Dormition) of Mary, the Mother of God. We celebrate it (instead of being sad about it), because the Theotokos was close to God and we know that she is still close to Him!



Well, tomorrow, we celebrate the Dormition of *her* mother, Saint Anna. (She was the grandmother of Jesus.) We celebrate her death, because we know that she is in heaven too!

Saint Anna lived a life close to God too. She and her husband, Joachim, were very old, but they prayed to God for a long time that they would have a baby. God heard their prayer, and gave them one of the best gifts ever—baby Mary!

Many people pray to Saint Anna if they wish they could have a child, but can't. Also, many married couples pray to Saints Joachim and Anna because they gave such a great example of a loving marriage, and they were always faithful to God. God listens to our prayers, just as He listened to the prayers of Saint Anna and her husband, Saint Joachim!

We celebrate Saint Anna on Monday, July 25th (OC: August 7th).