

Most Holy Theotokos, 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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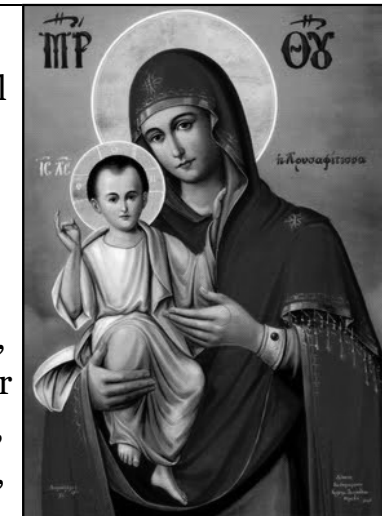
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Trust the Lord

Do you know the story of Jesus walking on water? We hear it today as the Gospel reading.

One night, Jesus sent His disciples out in a boat. After a while, the disciples saw the Lord walking toward them, on top of the water. The disciple Peter, asked Jesus to let him walk out to him too, and He did. Peter was really walking on the water too! But then he started to worry about the wind, and he started to sink. When he lost faith in God, Peter started to sink. He could no longer do that amazing thing!



Tomorrow, we celebrate the great feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos, the day Jesus's mother died and went to be with her Son in heaven. We celebrate what a great person she was. We celebrate how she is the saint above all the other saints. We thank her for her life and all she has done for the world. But how did she do it? How did a simple girl become the Mother of God?

Well, she did what God wanted Saint Peter to do! She trusted in God all along. God told her what He wanted her to do, and she did it. She had complete faith in Him. And even though her life seemed impossible, she put all her trust in the Lord. Then, with God, she could do the amazing things she did, and the amazing things she is still doing through her miracles!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Demetrios
- Martyr
- Miracle
- Peter
- Samarina
- Theotokos
- Trust
- Water
- Witness

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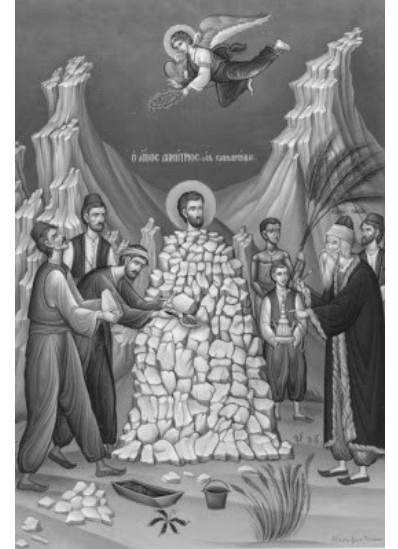
WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Saint Demetrios of Samarina would not give up his love for Christ. Even when he was hurt. Even when the authorities made fun of him. Even when they put him in this strange rock box. He was grateful he could still say his prayers to God!



SAINT DEMETRIOS OF SAMARINA A TRUE MARTYR

Do you remember what a martyr is? When we talk about martyrs like Saint Barbara or Saint George or Saint Alexandra, we remember how these saints died for their faith. They wouldn't give up, even though the rulers were very cruel to them.



Really, a martyr means "witness." A martyr shows other people his strong faith. Many people became Christian when they saw the strong faith of a suffering saint. When Saint George was being hurt because he was a Christian, Saint Alexandra the Empress saw that faith, and she became a Christian too!

This week, we remember a true martyr. Saint Demetrios lived in western Greece, almost to Albania. He had a strong faith in our Lord, and he learned this faith from another saint, Saint Kosmas Aitolos. Sadly, the Turkish authorities learned about Demetrios and they tried their hardest to push him to give up his faith in Christ. Demetrios wouldn't budge! The authorities tried everything they could think of to hurt him. They even surrounded his whole body with rocks, with only his head sticking out. But still, Demetrios would not give in.

This Saint Demetrios was a true martyr. He was a witness to his Christian faith. One man became Christian when he saw how Demetrios stayed faithful to the end. And today, his life still shows us a great example!

We celebrate St. Demetrios on Wed., Aug. 17th (OC: August 30th).