

St. Dionysios, 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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How long will I be with you?

Have you ever asked for help for something...again and again? Maybe you had trouble tying your shoes. Maybe you like to cook, but just can't get something right. Maybe you ask for help with your math or spelling. Sometimes we keep asking our parents or our teachers for help...again and again.



Today, in the Gospel reading, we hear about how Jesus's disciples asked Him for help with something. But this was something that was very serious. Somebody was very sick, and they wanted to heal him. But as hard as they tried, they just couldn't do it! So what did they do? They asked their Teacher, our Lord Jesus Christ, for help.

Christ told them, "How long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him here to me." And when they did, He took care of the sick man and healed him.

When Christ asked that question, "How long am I to be with you?" He was talking about His time here on earth. But you know that He is still with us, don't you? You know that you can ask Him for help, again and again? You know that He will listen to you, again and again? Our parents or our teachers might get impatient with us, but the Lord never does. He is always ready to hear us and help us.

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Dionysios
- Disciples
- Fasting
- Feastday
- Gospel
- Miracles
- Patience
- Prayer
- Relics
- Zakynthos

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

SAINT DIONYSIOS OF ZAKYNTHOS AND HIS HOLY RELICS

Have you ever forgiven somebody, and it was very hard to do? Somebody might have done something to you that made you really sad, but you knew that God calls us all to forgive...no matter what.



Saint Dionysios was a man who forgave something that was very, very hard to forgive. Dionysios was a monk on the island of Zakynthos, Greece. Once, a man rushed to Dionysios's room at the monastery. This man confessed that he had killed somebody, and people were chasing him to punish him for the crime! Dionysios talked to this criminal, and he realized it was his own brother (the saint's) this man had killed! The people came for the criminal, and they asked Dionysios if he had seen him. But Dionysios hid the criminal in his cell and the people left. This holy monk had forgiven the man for this terrible crime.

Saint Dionysios is an example to us for his perfect forgiveness. He became an archbishop of Aegina (where St. Nektarios later lived). He is also a special saint who has worked many, many miracles with the power of God. Ask your parents to look him up, and read some of these amazing stories together.

Saint Dionysios has two feastdays. His main one is in December, but the people of Zakynthos also celebrate on August 24th. This is the day we celebrate when his holy relics (his body) were brought back to the monastery where he had lived.

We celebrate St. Dionysios on Wed., Aug. 24th (OC: September 6th).

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Sometimes people mix up the icons of Saint Dionysios (who was archbishop of the island of Aegina, Greece), and Saint Nektarios (who was bishop of Aegina 300 years later). Their icons do look alike, don't they? (St. Dionysios is on the right.)

