

St. Phoebe, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2022 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensword@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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That's not fair!



This servant is begging his master to forgive him!

"That's not fair!" How many times have you heard those words? If you have a brother or a sister, probably lots of times!

Did you know that God is always fair? Today in the Gospel, we hear a story about someone who was *not* being fair. A man owed a lot of money, and was going to be thrown into prison for it! But his master gave him a break. He told him he didn't have to pay it.

But then, what happened? That same man made *his* servant pay *him* back. He wouldn't forgive his servant, even though his master had forgiven him!

That's not fair! Our Lord, Jesus Christ, told this story so that we Christians would always try to be fair. God forgives us when we do something wrong, even when we do lots and lots of things wrong! So we should forgive others when they do something wrong to us.

One of our saints, Saint Silouan, tells us this same thing. Once, he wrote, "If you forgive, it means that God has forgiven you. But if you do not forgive your brother, it means that your sin remains with you." So, let's always try to be fair. Don't hold grudges. Don't stay mad at people. Forgive other people, and God will forgive you!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Deaconess
- Fair
- Forgive
- Grudge
- Master
- Pay what you owe
- Phoebe
- Repent
- Saint Paul
- Saints
- Servant

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

In this little icon, you can find Saint Phoebe *and* Saint Priscilla. Do you see how the women are all following Christ?



SAINT PHOEBE

“WORTHY FOR THE SAINTS”

Have you ever introduced yourself to somebody? Maybe you said something like, “Hi! My name is Mary. I’m in your class at school,” or “My name is Jacob. I play soccer too!” Introductions help us get to know somebody better.



On Saturday, we celebrate a saint who had an introduction from Saint Paul! He wrote about her because he wanted some other Christians to get to know her better. We can read about it in the Bible. “I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church at Cenchreae, so that you may welcome her in the Lord as is worthy for the saints, and help her in whatever she may require from you, for she has been a benefactor of many and of myself as well.”

Saint Phoebe was another one of Saint Paul’s helpers (like Saints Aquila and Prisca on page 1). She helped Saint Paul with his work. But she also helped lots of people learn about our Lord, Jesus Christ. Church scholars think that she probably used her own house as a church, too.

Many years later, Saint John Chrysostom said great things about Saint Phoebe too! He said she was an example for Christian men and women.

We celebrate St. Phoebe on Sat., Sept. 3rd (OC: September 16th).