

We worked all night, and caught nothing!



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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Fishing—Thy will be done!



Have you ever been fishing? If you have, you might know how hard it is to wait for the fish to bite! But most of us fish for fun. You might not even keep what you catch. Imagine if you were a fisherman, and you had to catch fish to live!

One of Jesus's disciples, St. Peter, was a fisherman. In today's Gospel reading, we hear what St. Peter says when he talked with Jesus, "We worked all night and caught nothing!" Even so,

Jesus asked him to still let down his nets and try to catch some fish. St. Peter listened to Him, and he let down his nets into the water.

What happened then? They caught so many fish that their nets were breaking! St. Peter and the other fishermen could never have imagined it would happen that way. But still, they listened to Jesus and did what He said to do.

Many times, we might think we know what we need, so we pray for it. But did you know God knows what we need even more than we do? That's why in the Lord's Prayer, we say that God's "will be done." That means we are praying for what God wants—which might not be what we want! We might not even know what to pray for.

Just think of St. Peter. He listened to God, and he caught more than he could have ever dreamed. God knows our needs, and He is ready to help us.

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Christianity
- Courage
- Czech
- Feast
- Fishermen
- God's Will
- Good News
- Ludmilla
- Martyr
- Wenceslas

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

WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

This is the beautiful Saint Ludmilla. She is the grandmother of Saint Wenceslas.

She taught her grandson to be a brave and loving Christian, just as she was herself!

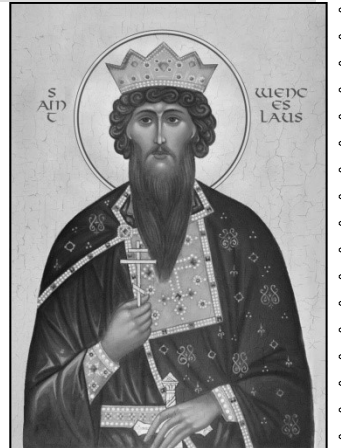
Her nameday was on September 16th.



GOOD KING WENCESLAS PRINCE OF THE CZECHS

You probably have heard of good

King Wenceslas, haven't you? At Christmastime, we sing the carol that tells a story about him. Even though he was a king, he went out into the snow to help a poor man, to give him food and warmth. We hear this carol at Christmas, but we celebrate this good king, St. Wenceslas, this week!



Saint Wenceslas lived in what is now the country of the Czech Republic. He was born in the capital, Prague. His grandparents became Christians when they heard the Good News of Jesus Christ from Saints Cyril and Methodios, two special saints of our Church. Sadly, it took a long time for the people of the Czech land to turn to Christ. Many people were still pagan and worshipped false gods.

Even Wenceslas's own mother was a pagan, and she tried to teach him her ways. But his grandmother, Ludmilla, taught Wenceslas about Christ. She taught him to be good and loving and Christ-like. He kept these ways in his heart all his life. St. Wenceslas built churches for the Christians. He helped the poor and the needy, even after he became king.

Later on, Wenceslas's brother (who wasn't a Christian) got jealous of St. Wenceslas, because he wanted to be king himself. He plotted against him and had him killed! St. Wenceslas is a special example to us. He was a humble man who was really a Good King.

We celebrate St. Wenceslas on Wednesday, Sept. 28th (OC: October 11th).