

You are a temple of the living God!



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

Sunday, October 9, 2022

Volume 10, Issue 41

A Ministry of the  
Orthodox Christian Network



## A temple of the living God



**Do you ever look around your church and think about how beautiful it is?** The icons, the gold, the special wood carvings, the priest's vestments, even the building itself? When you walk in, you know it is a special place.

Our church is different from anywhere else you might go throughout your week. We take care of our church—we're respectful and clean and quiet too. That's because church is a special place. It's a temple, where we worship our Lord!

We know that our church temple is a place where God is. But today in the epistle reading, Saint Paul tells us, "You are the temple of the living God." That's right! We are temples, because we have our God in us, in our hearts. We take care of our church temple, but we especially have to take of ourselves too, because we have God with us. Saint Paul tells us how we keep ourselves clean too, on the inside.

When we are baptized Christians, we're different. We try to follow Christ now. We try to be good to our families and our friends, and even to strangers too. We try to watch out for what we say, what we do, what we see, where we go, who we hang out with, and even what we think about! It's a tough job sometimes, but we are "temples of the living God." Let's promise to keep our temple clean and pure, and our Lord promises to be our loving God.

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

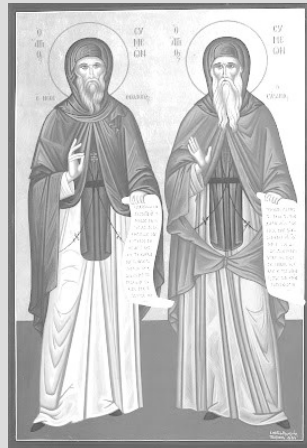
- Church
- Clean
- Faith
- Feastday
- Monk
- Pure
- Prayer
- Symeon
- Temple
- Theologian

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

# WHAT'S IN AN ICON?

Saint Symeon learned a lot from his teacher. His name was Symeon too, and he's a saint too!

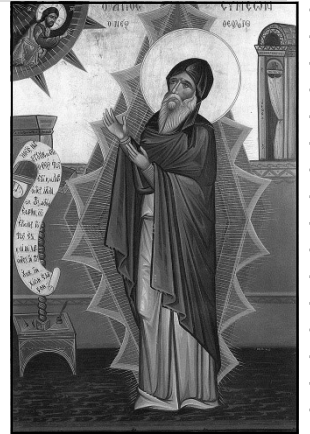
Here are the two Saint Symeons together. We call the older teacher Saint Symeon the Devout, and we celebrate his feastday on March 12th.



# SAINT SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN

## Do you know what a theologian is?

Theology is the study of God, so a theologian is somebody who studies God. Lots of people call themselves theologians, but in our Church, we call only three people (who are all saints) theologians. Those are Saint John (the apostle), Saint Gregory, and a saint we celebrate this week, Saint Symeon.



These three saints get that name, theologian, because they studied God in a different way, a very deep way. They didn't just read a ton of books and give a lot of lectures on God. They knew God in a special way because they were very holy people. They loved God very much, so God let them know Him even better.

Saint Symeon was a monk who lived a little more than a thousand years ago. He lived his life in prayer, deep prayer, always trying to know and love God better. We still have many of Saint Symeon's writings that we can read today.

Saint Symeon gave lots of good advice to other monks and to other faithful people. One thing he said was that we should always be very, very careful with our thoughts. Sometimes we might let our mind wander and think bad things about people, maybe even when we are praying! We should always try to bring our thoughts back to attention. We can follow this special theologian's words, but especially his holy way of life!

**We celebrate St. Symeon on Wednesday, October 12th (OC: October 25th).**