

Saint Juliana, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2022 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensward (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, December 18, 2022

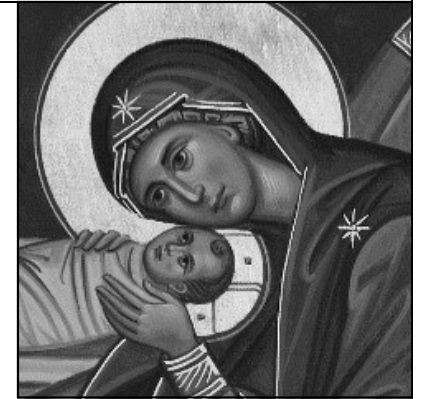
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Call His name Jesus

Sometimes you might hear somebody say, "He was born to do that." A great runner might be "born to run," or people might say a great scientist might be "born to" find a cure for some disease. If somebody is really good at something, people might say that God made him for that whole reason.



Today is the Sunday before Christmas, the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. In the Gospel reading today, we hear the long story of where Jesus came from—it tells who Joseph was, who Joseph's father was, who *his* father was, and so on. You might remember how Joseph had a dream before the baby, Jesus, was born. In the dream, an angel of God told Joseph where Jesus came from. He told him that the baby was from God! The angel told Joseph, "Call his name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." (The name "Jesus" means "He saves.")

Jesus was born to save His people from their sins! As Christians, we always know why Jesus came to us. It wasn't just to make blind people see again. It wasn't just to make people who couldn't walk, to walk again. It wasn't just to tell stories about how to be good people. Jesus came to save us. He was born as a baby to grow up and "save His people from their sins." Let's thank God for Jesus, and what He was born to do!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Beauty
- Bride
- Genealogy
- He saves
- Jesus
- Juliana
- Nativity
- Saint
- Wedding

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Many saints were beautiful during their lifetimes. Think of Saint Katherine, Saint Elizabeth the Grand Duchess, and Saint Juliana this week.

They knew that real beauty meant having a beautiful soul. That's why we remember them as saints!



SAINT JULIANA

“GO AND SEE YOUR BEAUTY”

Have you ever been to a wedding?

If it was an Orthodox wedding, you heard prayers, asking God to make the man and the woman “one in Christ.” That means that our Lord, Jesus Christ joins them together so they can both follow Him.



This week we celebrate a saint who knew how important it is to marry somebody who is also a Christian. Saint Juliana was a young woman who was engaged to a pagan man. (He worshiped many false gods.) Juliana was a secret Christian. She did not want to marry this man. He was smart. He was rich. He was important. But he didn't worship the one, true God. Juliana told her parents, no, she would not marry him.

This man, Eleusius, was really mad and he was embarrassed. He tried everything to get her to still marry him. When he found out Juliana was a Christian, he told the Roman governor. She was sent to jail. Eleusius hurt her again and again. He even burned her face with an iron, and he told her, “Go look in the mirror and see your beauty now!” But Juliana told Eleusius that when she died, these horrible marks wouldn't be there anymore. She would be alive with Christ.

Saint Juliana was finally killed, but now she is a special saint in our Church. She reminds us what real beauty is!

We celebrate St. Juliana on Wednesday, Dec. 21st (OC: Jan. 3rd).