

“The Lord said...”



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2023 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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A happy Lent

Have you ever done something nice

for a friend? Well, of course you have! Maybe you picked out a present for him or her, or sent a card, or helped your friend with something. But did you grumble about it? Did you complain? Probably not. When we do something for a friend, we are happy. We want to help, don't we?

In today's Gospel reading, we hear about how we should act when we fast. That's because tomorrow we start Great Lent, the time when we get ready for Easter, for Pascha! We get ready by eating not-so-fancy foods, by helping the poor more, by going to church more, by forgiving others, and helping people who need our help. Sometimes people might complain about Lent. YOU might even start to complain. You won't get to have a big ice cream sundae when you want it. You might not get to watch a TV show you wanted to watch, because your family is off to church. Or you might miss out on something else you want. But today, the Gospel tells us, “When you fast, do not look dismal (sad).”

Always remember, when we do these good things, we are remembering a friend, our Lord, Jesus Christ. And when we remember Him, we are happy too. Let's see if we can go through Great Lent without complaining about it. Instead, we can remember why we're doing it! Can you have a happy Lent?



Remember why we're fasting!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

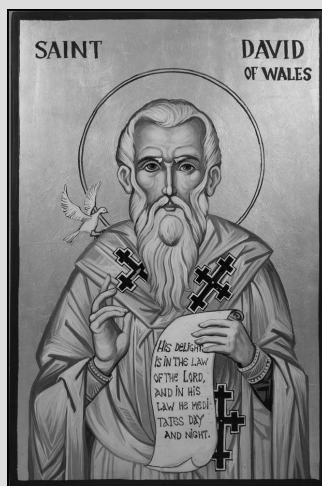
- David
- Dismal
- Faith
- Fasting
- Grace
- Great Lent
- Heresy
- Joyful
- Miracle
- Monastery
- Wales

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Lots of times, the people would see Saint David with a dove on his shoulder.

Do you see the dove resting there?



SAINT DAVID OF WALES

“BE JOYFUL AND DO THE LITTLE THINGS.”

A few weeks ago, we heard the special Gospel reading about Zacchaeus. Do you remember about this short man who climbed up into a tree to see Jesus?



This week, we remember a saint who preached the good news to the people too. Lots of people wanted to see this Saint David, and they got frustrated because they couldn't! Saint David heard them, and amazingly, the place he was preaching from began to rise, like a little hill so the people could see!

This miracle is just one of many special stories that happened with Saint David of Wales (a land near England and Scotland). Saint David is probably the most famous and favorite saints of Wales. David lived around the year 500, and he started many monasteries for people who wanted to dedicate their lives to Christ.

Saint David fought against some problems in the Church too, called heresies. Some people started to believe that Jesus Christ was just a good example for us, but He didn't really have power to save us. Saint David knew that was wrong, and he spoke out against that. He knew that we need Christ to save us. He knew we can't save ourselves!

Saint David did many things, but he also taught people to live simply and to trust in God. At the end of his life, he gave this advice, “Be joyful, keep the holy faith and do your good little things.” Doesn't that sound a lot like the Gospel reading today?

We celebrate St. David on Wednesday, March 1st (OC: March 14th).