

Saint Marina, pray for us!



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 light to the world!



The Gospel says, "Let your light shine!"

Have you ever seen a lighthouse? Did you know that in the United States there are over a thousand of them? Some people spend their vacations just visiting these lighthouses—on the ocean coasts and on big lakes.

Lighthouses *are* beautiful, but they have a purpose, too! They shine out their bright lights at night so ships won't wreck on the rocks or on the coast. Lighthouses

have saved the lives of many, many sailors.

Today's Gospel tells about bright lights, too. Jesus told His disciples, "You are the light of the world...Men do not light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

When we act like good, strong Christians, we are like bright lights, shining out. Sometimes we might be afraid to show our faith to other people. Sometimes we might be afraid to speak out. Sometimes we might be afraid to show that we follow our Lord, Jesus Christ. But today we hear in the Gospel that God wants you to "Let your light shine," so others can learn to love God, too!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Courage
- Example
- Faith
- Gospel
- Lighthouse
- Listen
- Marina
- Martyr
- Saints
- Shine

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Sometimes it's hard to see the difference between saints in their icons!



Saint Marina



Saint Eugenia



Saint Aspasia

SAINT MARINA

A SAINT WHO STILL LISTENS

Do you have a friend who is a good listener? It's easy to notice somebody who really listens to you when you tell him or her something.



You know, saints are good listeners too! How do we know that? Because many, many people pray to them, asking them for help. They listen, and then they help!

Saint Marina lived many years ago—only two hundred years after our Lord did! Her father was a pagan priest who worshipped idols, but he had a Christian nanny for her, who taught her the faith. Saint Marina grew to have a strong Christian faith too. Later on, she suffered and even died because of her love for our one, true God.

But that's not the end of the story, of course! Saint Marina is still alive with our Lord in heaven. Many people love her very much, and they pray to her for help. On the island of Andros, in Greece, a family prayed to Saint Marina to heal their sick boy. She helped the boy, and was even with the doctors in the operating room!

In Albania, up high on a mountain, there is a monastery named after Saint Marina. Christians, and even Muslims too, visit this holy place. The people of Bulgaria also love Saint Marina very much. Her feastday there is a big deal!

Always remember that the saints listen to us. When we learn about their lives, we will want to talk and pray to them even more!

We celebrate Saint Marina on Monday, July 17th (OC: July 30th).