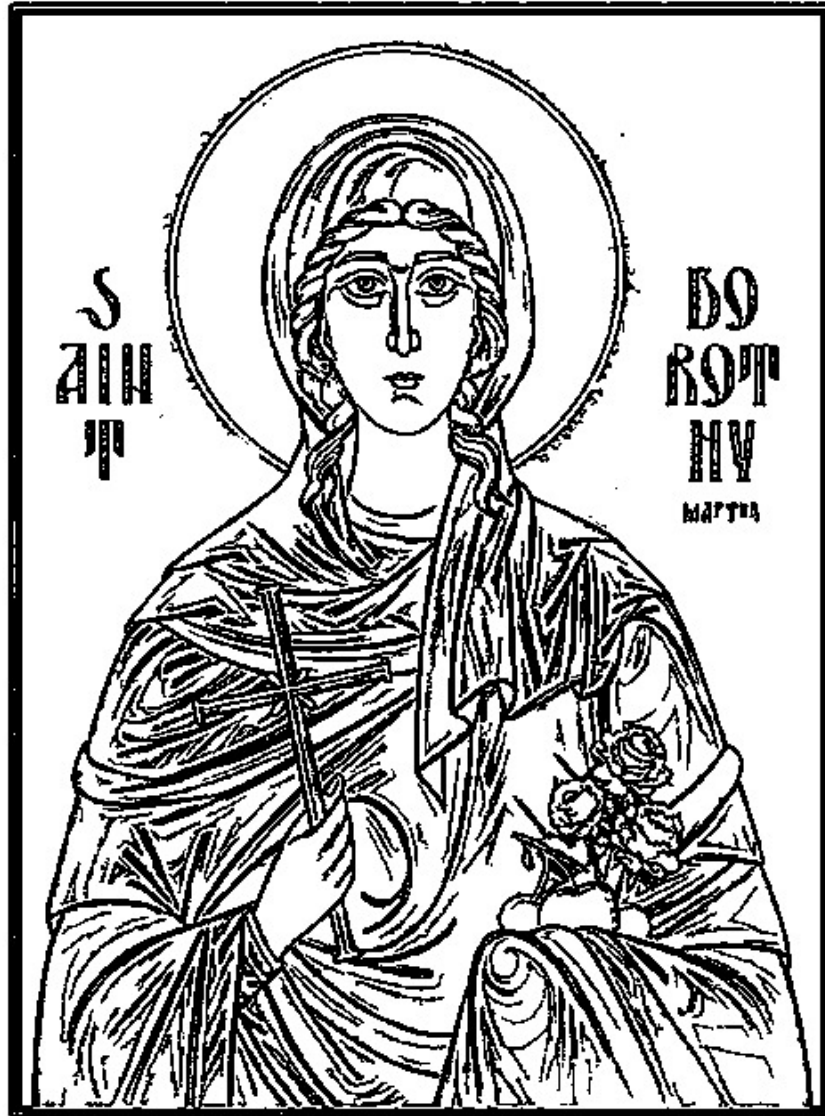


Saint Dorothea, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2024 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, February 4, 2024

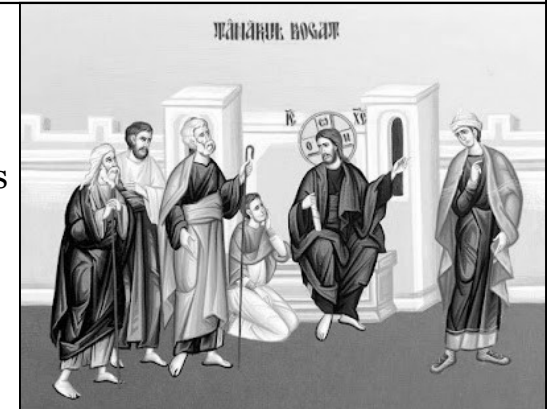
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Two answers to a test

Have you ever taken a test, and you weren't quite ready for it yet? Maybe you had a spelling test, and you didn't get a chance to study. Sometimes you don't have much time, so you have to look over things really fast to get it into your head. That's called "cramming."



In the Gospel today, we hear about how a man was trying to give Jesus a test! Of course, that's a funny thing, because our Lord God knows everything, so He could answer any question. The man said, "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the law?"

Jesus knew that man was trying to trick him, but He answered him anyway. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And the second is like it, You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the law and the prophets."

Sometimes we have to make choices about what to do and how to act. If we can just remember these two commandments, it's like getting the answers to a test! We don't even have to cram. Let's remember: love God, and love our neighbor. If we do that, then we know we're passing the test!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

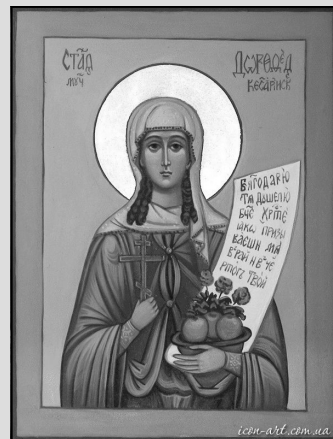
- Apples and Roses
- Dorothea
- Gospel
- Influence
- Love God
- Love our Neighbor
- Martyr
- Saint
- Test
- Theophilus

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

In this icon of Saint Dorothea (or Dorothy), do you notice the apples and roses in the saint's hand?

These remind us of the special miracle that Saint Dorothea prayed for. Theophilus (who is a saint now too!) laughed at her and said, "Send me some apples and flowers from your paradise!" It was cold in February, but Dorothea did just that!

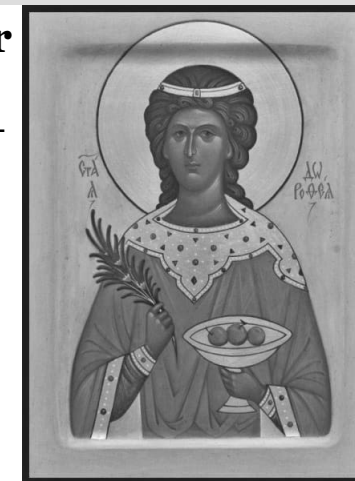


SAINT DOROTHEA

A GOOD KIND OF INFLUENCER

Do you know what an influencer

is? An influencer is somebody who tries to get people to buy something or do something. A company that sells shoes might get an influencer to tell everybody how great a pair of shoes is. If people trust that influencer, they'll keep watching on the internet, and then they'll buy the shoes! Sometimes people make decisions because of what they see influencers do.



Saint Dorothea lived about 1,700 years ago, but she was an influencer too! She was the best kind of influencer though, because she helped lots of people make good decisions about really important things. Saint Dorothea was a Christian, and everybody knew it. The authorities knew it too, and they punished her for it. Once, they sent two young women (who used to be Christians) to try to convince Dorothea to give up her Christian faith. But, that didn't happen, because Dorothea influenced *them* to turn back to their faith. She told them that God forgives.

Another time, Dorothea prayed for a special miracle to convince one of the authorities, Theophilus, to believe in Christ too. When God granted the miracle, Theophilus told everyone he believed in the God of Dorothea, our one, true God.

Saint Dorothea is a wonderful saint who reminds us that, with God's help, we can all be influencers. We don't need to tell people what shoes to buy, but we *can* help others make good decisions, to turn to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We celebrate Saint Dorothea on Tues., February 6th (OC: Feb. 19th).