

St. Agathonikos, 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, August 18, 2024

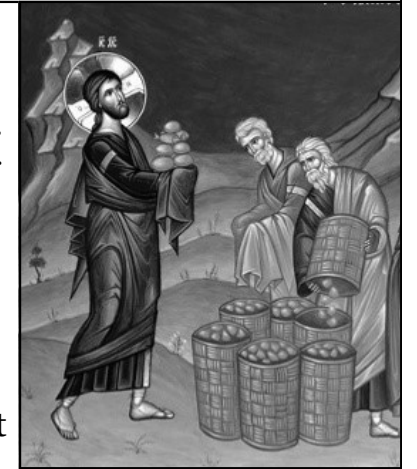
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"All ate and were filled"

Have you heard a story of a miracle—a true story that happened even today? In the Bible, we hear lots of stories of Christ's miracles. Today, we hear the familiar miracle story of the feeding of the 5,000. You know, when Jesus fed the huge crowd of hungry people with just five loaves of bread and two fish.



We read the Gospel and hear the miracle story again and again, and we might think "Wow! That was a great thing that Jesus did long ago! He fed lots of people some bread." But did you ever think about the bread you receive each week—the bread and wine that become the Body and Blood of Christ? The Gospel today says, "Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled."

Let's thank God for the miracle He gives us each time we come together for Divine Liturgy! Just like in the miracle we hear about today, our Lord blesses the gifts. Just like in the miracle today, He gives them back to the people. And just like in the miracle today, we can all eat and be filled—this time with the Lord's own Body and Blood! God feeds His people—not just long ago, but today too!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Actions
- Agathonikos
- Award
- Bread
- Communion
- Fish
- Forgive
- Give thanks
- Loaves
- Nameday
- Servant
- Sorry
- Team

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

SAINT AGATHONIKOS

“AND THOSE WITH HIM”

Have you ever been part of a team that won an award together? For sports, for school, for dance, for anything? You might have even had your picture taken, all of you holding a trophy or a prize.



Soon, we will celebrate the nameday of Saint Agathonikos. Agathonikos lived 250 years after Christ did, but he spent his life telling people about the Lord.

Lots of people who worshipped idols changed their ways. They listened to Agathonikos’s words, and they came to believe in our one, true God. This kind of thing made the emperor so angry, and he sent people out to capture and kill Christians...especially the ones who were preaching about Christ!

Saint Agathonikos was captured, beaten up, and killed for his faith. Finally, Saint Agathonikos got to be in heaven with His Lord Jesus Christ, the One he had talked to people so much about!

When we read about saints, sometimes we read about some saints who might have died with them...like “Saint Agathonikos and those with him.” They celebrate their nameday together. They are all part of a team together...the team that loves Jesus Christ. And of course, they won an award together too! Do you know what that award is?

We celebrate St. Agathonikos on Thursday, August 22nd (OC: September 4th).

WHAT’S IN THE ICON?

Here is another icon of Saint Agathonikos.

It’s a mosaic-style icon. Can you see the little pieces of rocks that come together to make up the icon?

