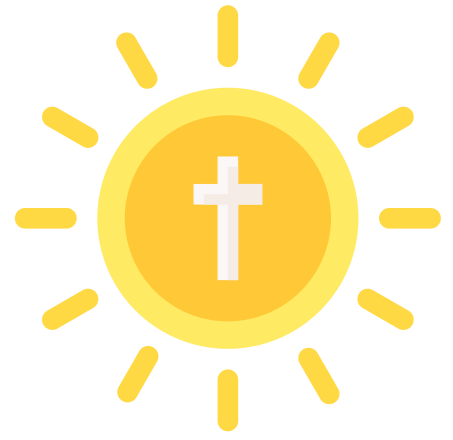


AUGUST 10, 2025

MYOCN PEW PALS



9th Sunday of Matthew

Have you ever been on a boat or maybe in a pool during a storm? Imagine the sky turning dark, the wind blowing hard, and the waves crashing. That's what it was like for the disciples in today's Gospel. They were in a boat in the middle of a storm, and they were scared. When they saw **Jesus walking on the water**— they thought it was a ghost. Peter wanted to be close to Jesus and actually stepped out of the boat and walked on water! But then—uh oh—he noticed the big waves and strong wind. He got scared, and the moment he looked away from Jesus, **he started to sink**. He cried out, “**Lord, save me!**” And right away, Jesus reached out His hand and **lifted him back up**.

Have you ever been riding your bike down a hill and everything is going great—but then you start to worry? “*What if I fall? What if I can't stop?*” The moment you focus on the fear, you start to wobble—and maybe even crash. But if you keep your eyes ahead and trust what you've learned, you stay steady and ride safely. That's like what happened with Peter. When he kept his eyes on Jesus, he did something amazing—he walked on water! But when he focused on the scary things around him, he started to sink. **We can call out to Jesus and He will help us. Jesus is always close by, ready to reach out His hand and help you.**



Family Homework

“Walking on Water” Obstacle Game:
Create a path with pillows or paper “stepping stones.” Kids try to cross while keeping their eyes on a cross or icon of Jesus. If they look away, they “sink” and start again.

Memory Verse

**“Take heart, it is I ;
do not be afraid.”
– Matthew 14:27**

CRAFT - Theotokos Icon Frame

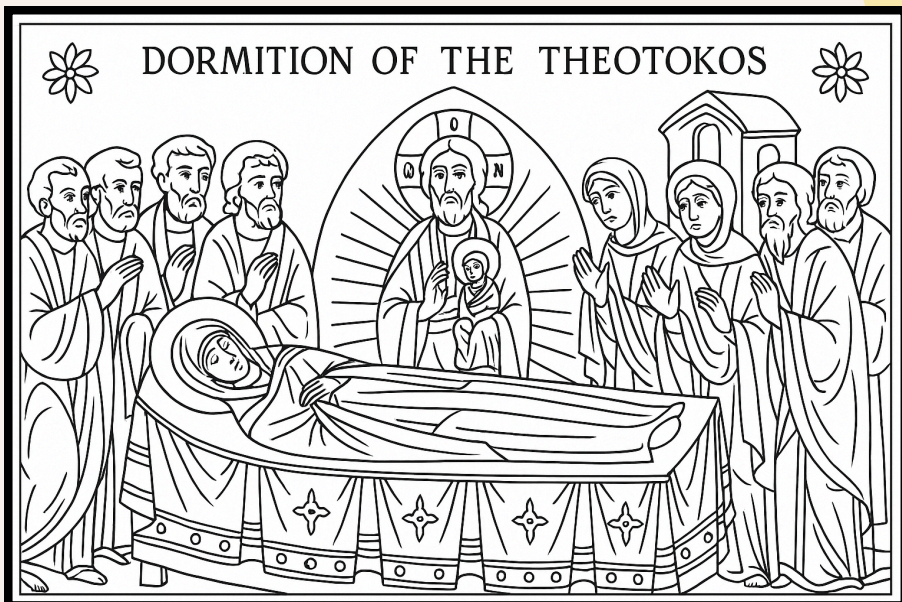
MATERIALS:

- Printable icon of the Dormition (small size)
- Cardstock or construction paper (to create a frame)
- Tissue paper or colored paper (pink, white, purple, or gold)
- Scissors and glue
- Crayons or markers



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. **Prepare the Icon:** Print or provide a small black-and-white or color icon of the Dormition of the Theotokos (about 4x6 inches). Let children gently color it.
2. **Make a Frame:** Glue the icon in the center of a larger sheet of cardstock or construction paper.
3. **Decorate around the icon to make a frame—** Cut small flower shapes or petals from tissue paper (or use small artificial ones).
4. **Add a Title:** Write at the top: "Dormition of the Theotokos" and at the bottom, write: "Most Holy Theotokos, pray for us!"



DISCUSSION PROMPT

What can we do when we're scared or confused? How do we keep our eyes on Jesus even in a storm?"

SAINT STORIES

ST. LAURENCE

The Holy Martyr and Archdeacon of Rome

Saint Laurence lived in Rome during a time when Christians were being persecuted. He was a **deacon**, which means he helped serve the Church and care for the poor. One day, the emperor demanded that Laurence bring him all the treasures of the Church.

So Laurence gathered the poor, the sick, and those in need, and brought them to the emperor, saying:

"These are the treasures of the Church."

The emperor was angry, and Saint Laurence was arrested and martyred for his faith. He is remembered for his love, courage, and for standing up for what is holy and true. His feast day is celebrated on **August 10**.