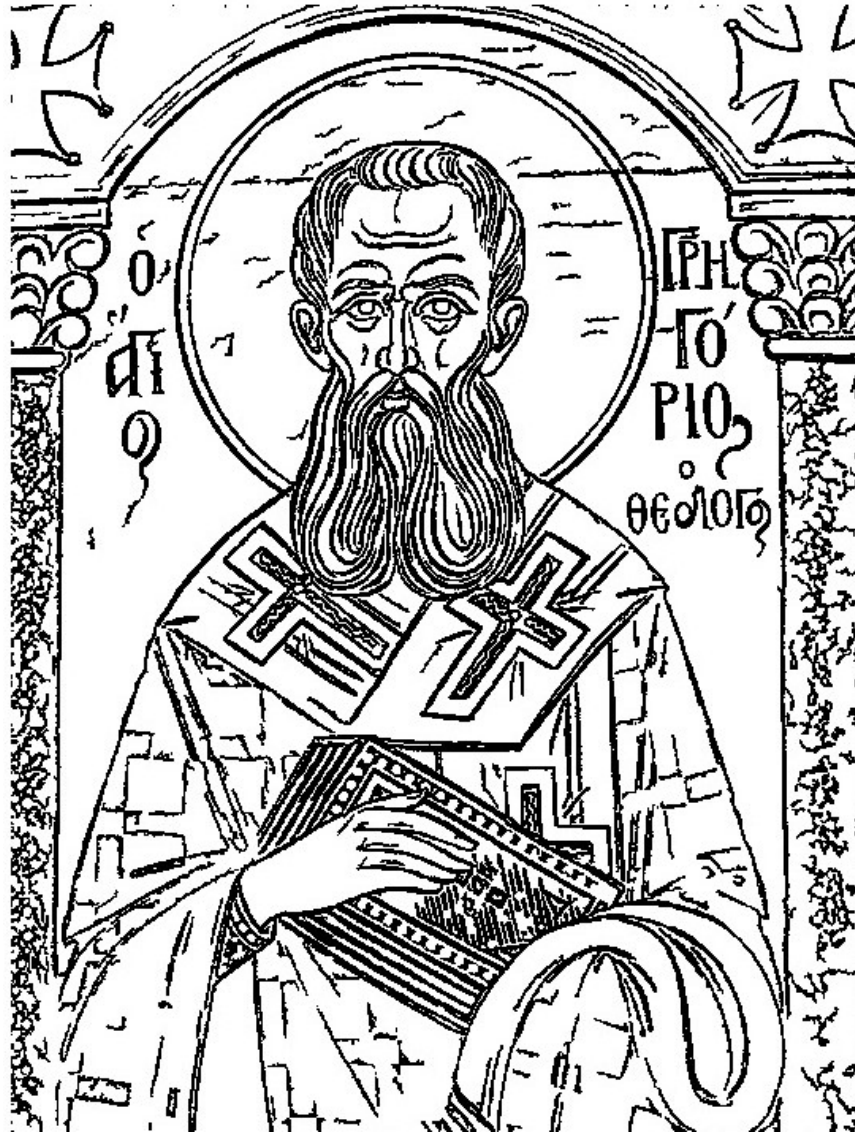


Saint Gregory, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2024 Alexandra Houck. Email is orthodoxchildrensward (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, January 21, 2024

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A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



Thank you...for everything

When do you say "thank you" to God? Whenever He helps you with something? But that's impossible! He is helping you all the time!

Today, in the Gospel reading, we hear the story of the ten men who had the awful skin disease of leprosy. When Jesus healed these ten men, only one came back to say "thank you"! Only one out of ten!



Mother Gavrilia, in India

Do you say "thank you" to God even one out of every ten times He does something for you? Even that is hard, isn't it?

Many of the saints of our Orthodox Church tell us how important it is to say "thank you" to our Lord! Not so long ago there lived a very holy nun named Mother Gavrilia (she died in 1992). Now she is a saint, and we will celebrate her nameday for the first time in March. She spent her whole life helping and healing very poor people, even people with that same awful skin disease, leprosy!

Saint Gavrilia once said that when we really know the gifts of God, "We keep going and saying, Thank you...Thank you...Thank you... We see a person...Thank you. We see a flower...Thank you. We see a glass of milk...Thank you. Thank you...for everything!" Do you think you can follow this saintly woman's example? Do you think you can try to notice the gifts God gives you?

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Basil
- Friendship
- Gavrilia
- Gratitude
- Gregory
- Healing
- Lepers
- Miracle
- Saint
- Thanks

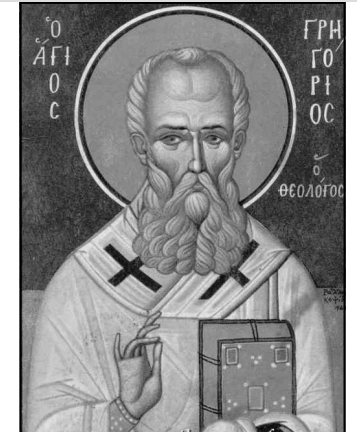
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 W Z T Z H T G T I C W S B I N
 U Y X M Y R F N Q E R S J R R
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 L S C G L I S A B E K D T C F
 B A O P T X Z S L H Q X D L O
 G R I P I H S D N E I R F E B
 Y F X L Z I H F J U P N L S B
 V G P T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

SAINT GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN

A HOLY FRIENDSHIP

Making friends. How do you do it?

Well, usually, friends have to have something in common with each other. Maybe you both like playing soccer, or dancing, or video games, or even pizza. Or maybe you live next door and you play together every day after school. Friends share *something* in common.



St. Gregory the Theologian

This week, we celebrate the memory of a saint who had a very deep and holy friendship with St. Basil. We have heard about St. Basil and his brother, St. Gregory of Nyssa. But Thursday, we remember Saint Basil's great friend, Saint Gregory (who is called "the Theologian"). Both St. Basil and this St. Gregory were bishops. They were about the same age. They met each other in Athens, Greece, and they became friends.

But what did these friends have in common? We can learn about their friendship from St. Gregory's own words. (He wrote them almost 1700 years ago!) St. Gregory said, "Our great pursuit, the great name we wanted, was to be Christians, to be called Christians." And *that* is what these two great saints had in common (not soccer or pizza!) They helped each other become greater Christians, to know more about God and to love Him even more.

St. Basil and St. Gregory show us a great thing about friendship! When we make friends, we can try to have deep and holy friendships too, close to God!

We celebrate Saint Gregory on Thurs., January 25th (OC: February 7th).

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?



Here's an icon of our friends, Saint Basil and Saint Gregory the Theologian.

Remember, they were friends with each other too!