

“Let the little children come to me”



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian kids. Copyright 2025 Alexandra Houck.
Email is orthodoxchildrensword (at) gmail.com. Find it each week at orthodoxchildrensword.org.

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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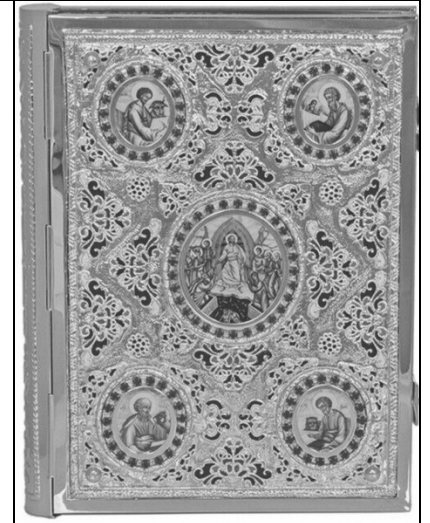
Shine in our hearts

Have you ever lit somebody else's candle with your own candle? Maybe you did that at the Resurrection service on Pascha. Do you remember how one light shines a little bit, but when everybody's light is shining, the whole church is bright?

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus tells His disciples, “You are the light of the world...Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” That light comes from God. When we do good things, we are spreading that light of God.

You might not hear it, but every time we read the Gospel during the Liturgy, the priest says a special prayer before that. “Shine in our hearts, o good Lord, the pure light of your divine knowledge, and open the eyes of our mind that we may understand the proclamation of your Gospel.” Your priest is asking that the Gospel will shine in our hearts. The words of God are like a light, and we can let that light shine in our hearts!

We can all remember this special prayer too, and we can pray it every time we read the Bible! Let's pray that God's word will shine like a light in us. Let's pray that other people can share that light with us too!



WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

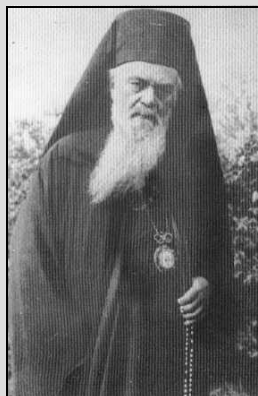
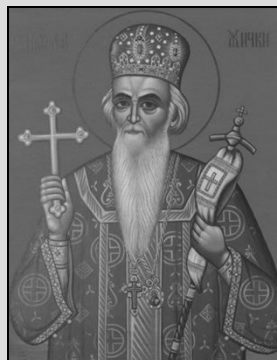
Abbot
Advice
Antioch
Dios
Gospel
Knowledge
Light
Prayers
Shine

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

St. Nikolai lived about 1,500 years after St. Dios, but he knew about him and he prayed to him!

Here is an icon and a photo of St. Nikolai.



SAINT DIOS THE ABBOT OF ANTIOCH

Can you think of the oldest person you know? A grandparent? A great-grandparent? Somebody in your church or neighborhood?

This week, we celebrate a saint who lived a very long time. In fact, when he was already very old, he grew very sick. Everyone thought that maybe it would be his last day on earth. But this holy saint, Saint Dios, had a vision from God. St. Dios told the people that he would live even 15 more years! And he did.



Saint Dios lived and grew up in Antioch, in Syria. But later on, he lived in the city of Constantinople, which was a great Christian city then. He became the abbot of a monastery there, and many people came to him for advice. They asked St. Dios to pray for them too, because they knew he was a holy man. He also helped many sick and homeless people too, with his prayers to God.

Many, *many*, years later, another saint wrote a hymn about St. Dios. This saint, Saint Nicolai Velimirovich, lived almost 1,500 years after St. Dios lived. He lived in Serbia, which is not so close to Antioch. But St. Nicolai knew about St. Dios because of his great love for God. He know about all the wonderful things God allowed him to do. Isn't that neat?

We celebrate Saint Dios on Saturday, July 19th (OC: August 1st).