

“Many will rejoice at his birth!”



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2023 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, June 18, 2023

Volume 11, Issue 25

A Ministry of the  
Orthodox Christian Network



## Picking teams

**Have you ever chosen teams** for a game? Usually you have two captains, and they take turns picking the best ones to be on their teams. How do they choose the players? Well, first they choose the strongest and the fastest and the most athletic ones, right?



Some of Christ's disciples were poor fishermen!

Today, in the Gospel reading, we hear about how Jesus started picking His disciples. And how did He choose them? Did He choose the smartest or the fastest or the richest or the most athletic? No, not really! He started with the apostles Andrew and Peter. They were poor fishermen, casting a net out into the sea! But Jesus knew that they would be good followers. He knew that they would learn from Him, and one day they would teach other people about God's truth!

Before we heard the Gospel reading, we heard the epistle reading. Today, Saint Paul tells us in his letter. “Glory and honor and peace for every one who does good...For God shows no partiality.” That means that God gives His rewards in a fair way! He gives glory and honor and peace to anybody who does good...not to the richest or the strongest or the most athletic or the funniest or the smartest. Who is on God's team? Everyone who does good! Can you try to be on His team too?

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Apostles
- Baptist
- Birthday
- Calling
- Faith
- Feastday
- Fisherman
- Follow Me
- John
- Rejoice

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

# WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Here is an icon of the birth of Saint John the Baptist. Can you find his mother, Elizabeth? Can you find his father, Zacharias?

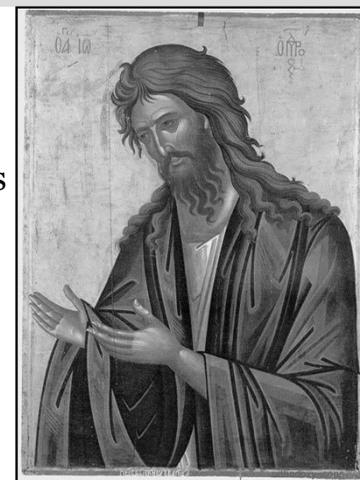
Now, can you find the baby?



# A GREAT BIRTHDAY

## THE BIRTH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

When you were born, your parents probably wondered what you would look like, what you would do, what you would be interested in, maybe whether you'd be famous someday. They probably still wonder these things!



When Saint John the Baptist was born, his parents, Elizabeth and Zacharias, knew their son would be great. How did they know this? Because an angel of the Lord told them so!

The angel told Zacharias something before the saint was born. "And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth; for he will be great before the Lord," he said.



This church in Saint Petersburg, Russia is named after the birth of Saint John!

Saint John the Baptist was Jesus's cousin. He came before Jesus and told everybody to expect somebody to save them (a savior). He told them to get ready for the savior to come. He told them to repent—to say they were sorry for the wrong things they did.

Saint John is such an important saint for us that we have six namedays for him. Plus, every Tuesday of every week is set aside to pray to Saint John.

This week, we can celebrate his birthday, and we can "rejoice at his birth"!

**We celebrate this feastday on Saturday, June 24th (OC: July 7th).**