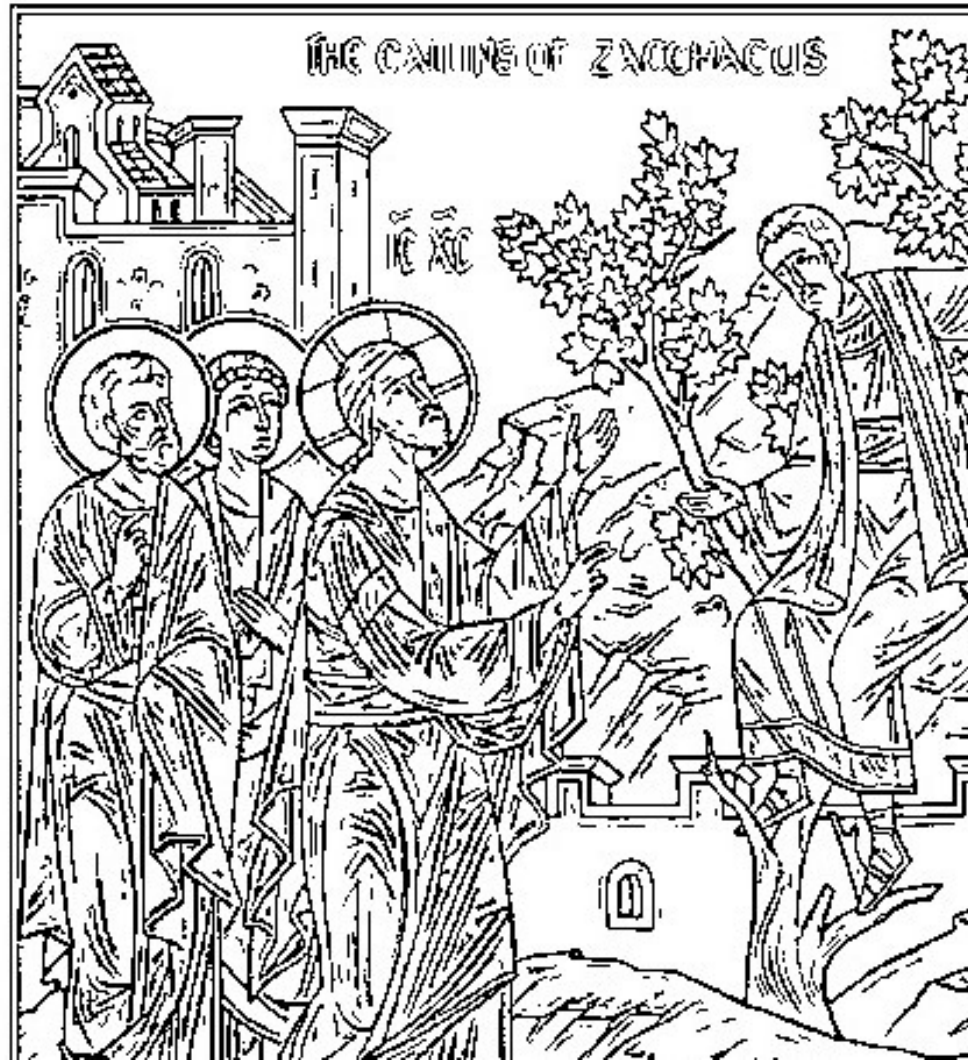


Zacchaeus, come down!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2025 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, January 26, 2025

Volume 13, Issue 4

A Ministry of the  
Orthodox Christian Network

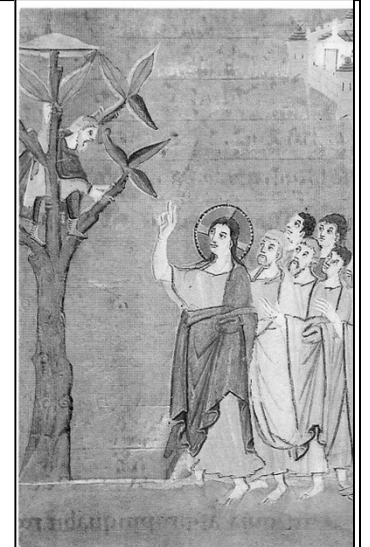


## "I must stay at your house today!"

**Have you ever had an unexpected visitor at your house?** Maybe somebody called your parents and said, "I'm coming over!" All of a sudden, everybody is running around. We have to clean the house! We have to find something to serve for dinner! We have to change out of our sloppy clothes and into something nice!

In today's Gospel, we hear about a man named Zacchaeus who saw that Jesus was coming to his town. There were so many people, and Zacchaeus was so short, that he climbed up a tree so he could see Jesus! But the Lord saw Zacchaeus up in the tree, and He told him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down! I must stay at your house today!" Imagine! Jesus surprised him, "I must stay at your house today!"

Today, and every day, let's always remember to be ready for our Lord. God always wants us to be close to Him, just like He wanted to be close to Zacchaeus. We have to be ready to invite Him to be with us. That means we talk to God in prayer. That means we learn about Him in the Bible. That means we help other people, who are God's children too. That means we visit with Him at Church. When we're always ready to receive Christ, He won't seem like that unexpected visitor! We'll be waiting for Him!



"Zacchaeus, I must stay at your house today!"

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Dimitri
- Disciples
- Maria
- Martyrs
- Paris
- Prepare
- Priest
- Short
- Tree
- Zacchaeus

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

# WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Here are icons of Saint Dimitri of Paris, and also Saint Maria of Paris.

St. Dimitri was St. Maria's priest and her helper at the shelter.



# SAINT DIMITRI

## A PRIEST IN WARTIME PARIS

### Have you ever helped

somebody, in secret? The Bible tells us that it's good to help people in secret. Then, God, "Your Father, Who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."



Father Dimitri with his family

Tomorrow, we celebrate a newer saint who helped many people in secret. In fact, he saved their lives! Eighty years ago was the terrible World War 2. In France, an Orthodox nun named Saint Maria started a special shelter to help people who became poor and sick during the awful war.

Also, during the war, many Jewish people were being hurt and killed by the evil Nazi rule. These French Jewish people weren't Christians, but they went to the Orthodox Christian shelter for help. Saint Maria helped them there. The priest, Father Dimitri Klepinin helped them too. He knew that if the Jewish people said they were Christians, they would be safe. So, the priest signed his name on pretend baptism certificates to keep them safe. With the certificates, the Jewish people could save their lives!

Soon, the Nazi rulers figured out what Father Dimitri had been doing in secret. They sent him to prison, and he was later killed. God saw what Father Dimitri had been doing in secret too, and as He promised in the Bible, He rewarded him! Now he must be joyful in heaven.

We celebrate St. Dimitri on Monday, January 27th (OC: Feb. 9th).