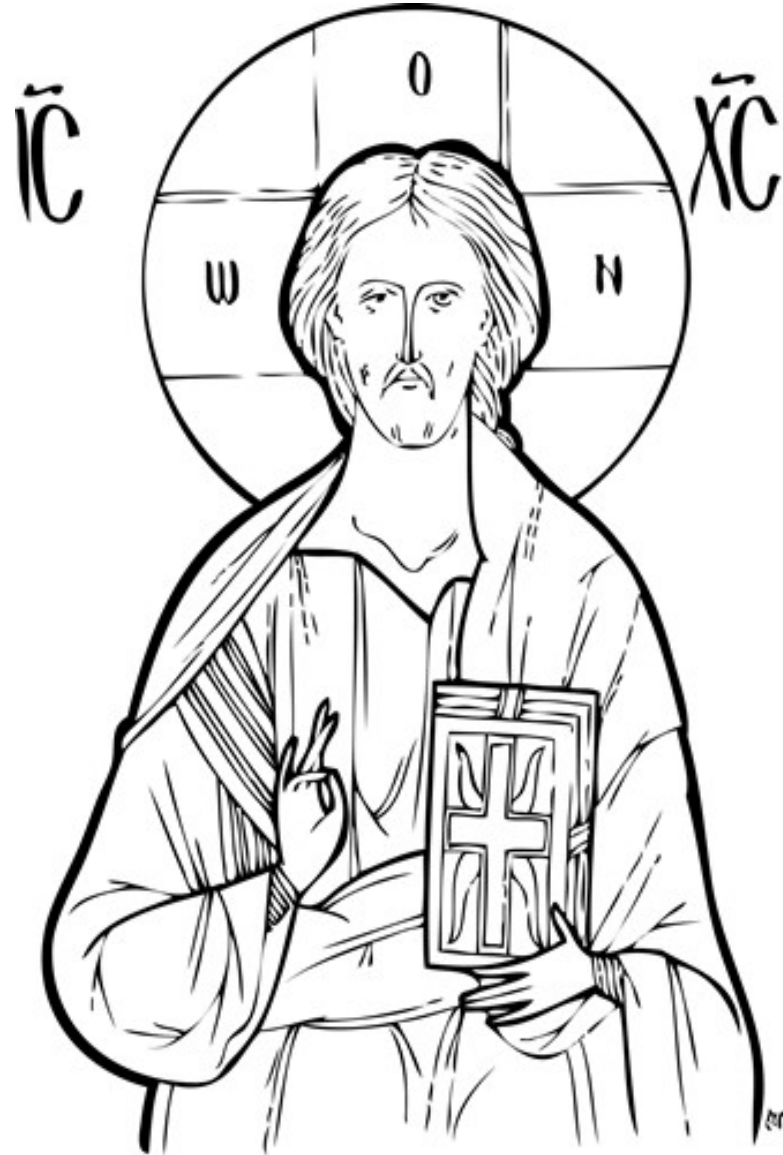


“Come, o Blessed of My Father”



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2023 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, February 19, 2023

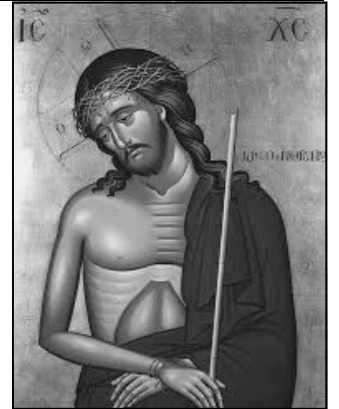
Volume 11, Issue 8

A Ministry of the  
Orthodox Christian Network



## Christ is in our midst!

**When you see your friends, what do you say?** “Hey, what’s up?” “How’s it going?” We always have something to say, don’t we? At church, you might hear people greet each other in a different way. “Christ is in our midst!” Christ is with us! And you can answer, “He is and ever shall be!” He always will be with us!



We know that our Lord, Jesus Christ, is with us always: when things are going well and when they’re not, when we’re in church and when we’re somewhere else, when we’re with our Christian friends and family and when we’re not. But today, in the Gospel reading, we hear about how Christ is with us in a different way too. We hear how God wants us to think about our Lord anytime we see another person!

The Gospel says, “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,” and more. And for those people, God says, “Inherit the kingdom prepared for you.” He invites these people to be with Him in heaven! Then the people wonder when they gave Jesus food or drink or clothes, or when they visited Him. But He answers that as you did it to “the least of these,” you did it to Him. So when we help another person, we are really helping Christ too!

Let’s always remember, “Christ is in our midst!” He is with us! Let’s do our best to give Him food and drink and clothes, and love—every time we help another person!

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

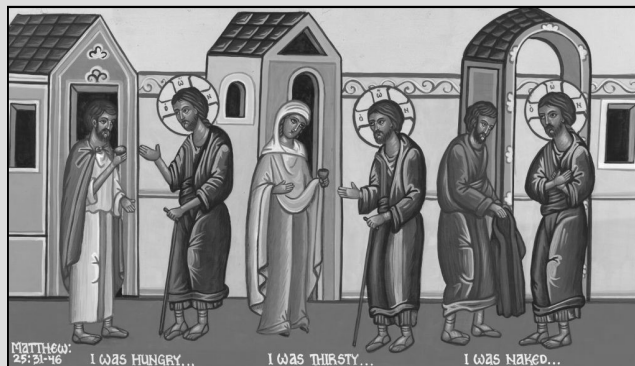
- Baptist
- Gospel
- Hungry
- Helping
- John
- Least
- Meatfare
- Ministering
- Relic
- Thirsty

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

## WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

This icon shows us exactly what was in today's Gospel. When we help others, we help Christ!

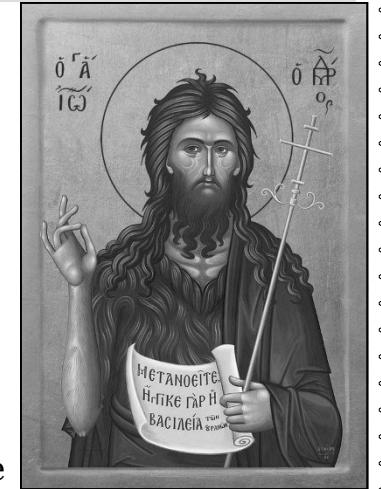
"I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink..."



## SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST

### THE 1ST AND 2ND FINDING OF HIS PRECIOUS HEAD

**Do you know what a relic is?** A relic means the "remains of" something or somebody. A relic can be a part of somebody's body, or a piece of his clothes, or anything left over from him. In our Church, you might have heard of a relic of a saint. Lots of times, this is a little piece of the saint's body. If you've seen a relic, maybe it was in a special box, or even part of an icon.



A relic is something very special to us, because it helps us remember the saint. It was a part of the saint, when he or she lived on this earth! We might kiss it, or even bow down in front of it, or light a candle in front of it. A little bone from a saint is so special to us, because we love that saint!

On Friday, we celebrate an interesting day, when, long ago, some faithful Christians found the relic of Saint John the Baptist. Do you remember how Saint John was killed by the king? His head was even cut off! What a horrible thing! After that, Christians took his precious head, and they kept it in a special place. Over many, many years, many, many people prayed in front of St. John's relic. God healed and helped many people through Saint John's prayers.

We celebrate this day, because relics are important to us Orthodox Christians. We honor saints' bodies because we love the saints!

**We celebrate this special day on Friday, Feb. 24th (OC: March 9th).**