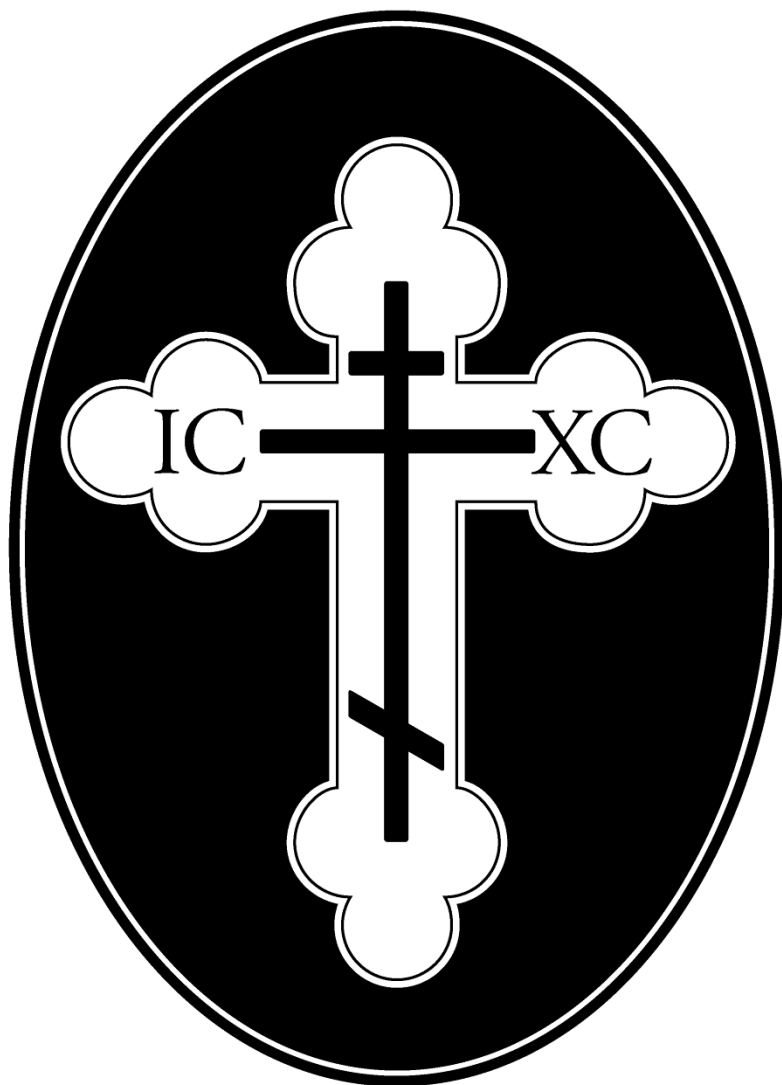


Take up your Cross!



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, March 19, 2023

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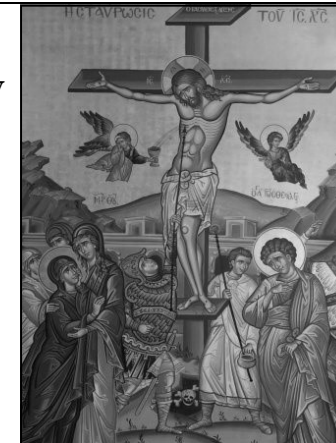
A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



Our Lord on the Cross

In a couple weeks, you might hear people talking about April Fools' Day. That's the day people play jokes on other people. They try to make the other person feel silly or like a "fool."

Today is the third Sunday of Lent, when we remember and honor the Holy Cross. In the Gospel, we hear about how we might have to give up something if we really want to follow Jesus Christ. Today, we look at the Cross, and we see the power of God!



But in another part of the Bible, we read how some people might make fun of us Christians because we worship Christ, Who really died on a Cross! That part says, "For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." So some people might think we are fools—like we are silly or stupid—for worshipping Christ!

Did you know people have made fun of Christians for hundreds and hundreds of years? Archaeologists found a picture from 1,800 years ago. The picture is of a donkey on a Cross. The person who drew it was making fun of our Lord, and also making fun of a Christian who believed in Him! Always remember: Being a Christian might be hard sometimes. People might even make fun of you for believing what you do! But the Cross shows us the power of God, and the love God has for us!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Cross
- Drosis
- Emperor
- Fools
- Life-giving
- Martyr
- Power
- Precious
- Saint
- Venerable

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Saint Drosis was the daughter of an emperor. Saint Alexandra (here) was the wife of an emperor! Do you see their crowns?

Both of those emperors hated Christians and they were so angry when these women learned to love Jesus Christ!



THE EMPEROR'S DAUGHTER SAINT DROSIS THE MARTYR

Have you ever asked somebody to tell you the best restaurant or maybe even the best playground? Your parents may have asked their friends to recommend a good doctor or a good teacher. If you ask somebody who knows, it means more, doesn't it?

On Wednesday, we celebrate the memory of a saint who got a very good review...from another saint! Saint John Chrysostom lived 300 years after Saint Drosis, but he knew about this brave Christian saint. He looked up to her as a great example for him and for us!



Saint Drosis was the daughter of the Emperor Trajan. He was an emperor who was extra cruel to Christians. He made all sorts of laws to try to keep people from believing in our Lord Jesus Christ. Lots of times, Christians were killed because they said they believed in Christ. Then, the emperor wouldn't even let these Christians be buried!

Well, there were some young Christian women who would secretly bury these Christian martyrs. When Saint Drosis heard about the girls, she wanted to join in too. She learned about the Lord, and she became a Christian too. Sadly, the emperor was so terrible that he let his own daughter, Drosis, be killed because of her love for God. He wanted her to be an example for everybody to see.

Saint John Chrysostom tells us that yes, Saint Drosis was an example...but not the way the emperor wanted! She is an example for all of us. She shows how our life with God is what matters most!

We celebrate St. Drosis on Wed., March 22nd (OC: April 7th).