

“He will save His people!”



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

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What's in a name?

Do you know how you got your name? Maybe you were named after your grandparent? Or after a saint? Or maybe your parents liked the meaning of your name?

When a baby is born, everybody first asks, “What’s his name?” A name means so much!

When we read the Bible, and we read the stories of our Lord’s birth, we hear *many* names for our Lord. Do you know what they all mean?

“Jesus” means “God saves.” And that’s just what He came to do...to save us all. “Christ” means the anointed one. That means that He was the one God sent. God chose Him to save us. “Son of David” means that the new baby was King David’s great, great, great, great (and many more greats) son. Baby Jesus was royalty. And everybody knew that the Savior would be a son of King David.

Today, in the Gospel, we hear that the new baby was called “Emmanuel.” That name means “God is with us!” On Christmas, let’s celebrate because with Christ, God is with us. And He came to save us!



The three magi bring gifts for the young Jesus Christ

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Celebrate
- Christ is born
- Christmas
- Emmanuel
- Eugenia
- Faithful
- Generous
- God saves
- Martyr
- Monastery
- Nativity

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WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Can you find an icon of the Nativity (the birth of Christ) in your church?

Now, can you look in the corner and see this detail of baby Jesus getting his first bath?

This shows that He was a real person. He had the same needs that any newborn baby has!



SAINT EUGENIA

KEEPING YOUR EYES ON CHRIST

Have you ever forgotten to do something, because you're just too busy? Just when you're so busy wrapping Christmas presents and hanging your stocking up, some of us might forget about one of the best saints of our Church—Saint Eugenia. Every year, we celebrate her nameday today, on Christmas Eve.



Saint Eugenia's father was a prefect—a nobleman in Alexandria, Egypt, which means he ruled over people there. But even though Eugenia probably had lots of money and lots of other things to think about, she learned about Jesus Christ. She was even baptized as a Christian. (When she lived, being a Christian still was not allowed.) When she was a young woman, she secretly left Alexandria and joined a monastery. She wanted to focus only on being a good Christian.

Later, some people found her and tried to get her in trouble. They brought her to the prefect, who happened to be her own father! She told him that she was Eugenia, and she also told him about Christ. Her father became a Christian then, too. That didn't get them off the hook though. They were Christians, and that meant they would be put to death. St. Eugenia faced her death with love and hope for Christ!

Let's not forget St. Eugenia! Let's remember her bravery, always focused on Christ, even when things were hard for her.

We celebrate Saint Eugenia today, December 24th (OC: January 6th).