

Saint Romanos, pray for us!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian young people. Copyright 2024 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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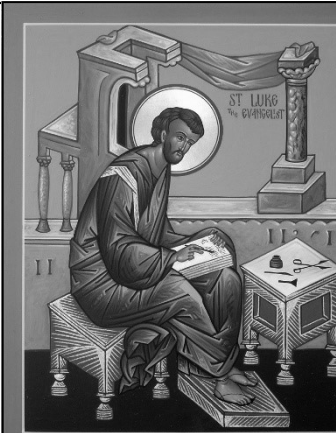
The easy way

Have you ever taken a test? Sometimes you might have some hard questions to answer. Some of them might be kind of easy. And on a test, sometimes the hard ones and the easy ones might be all mixed up together.

The gospel reading today tells us about the hard things and the easy thing we must do if we want to be good followers of Christ. The gospel says, "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them...But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High."

So the easy thing is to love people who love us! The easy thing is to do good to those who do good to us. The easy thing is to give to people who give things back to us. That's the easy thing. We can do that!

The hard thing is to love our enemies, to do good to people who are mean to us, to give to people who might not give us anything back. God wants us to do the easy things, of course. (You're nice to your friends, aren't you?) But God wants us to do the hard things, too. God wants us to be nice to our enemies and to people who aren't so nice to us. You can show you are a Christian by doing the hard things, too!



Saint Luke, writing the Gospel

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Constantinople
- Enemies
- Gospel
- Love
- Luke
- Melodist
- Neighbor
- Romanos
- Sing
- Test

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

In this icon, you can see lots of other great “singer saints” of our Church.

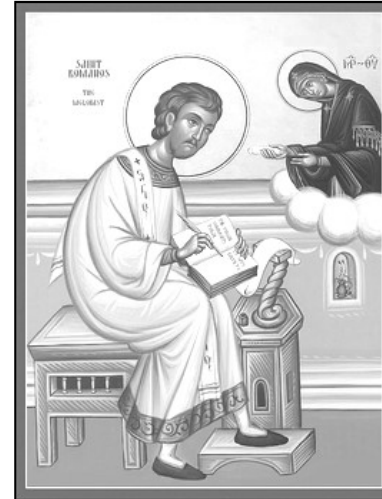
This week, we celebrate Saint Romanos, but we also celebrate Saint John Kukuzelis the Singer and Saint Gregory the Singer of Mount Athos.

Can you find their music scrolls?



SAINT ROMANOS

THE MELODIST OF CONSTANTINOPLE



Has anybody ever made fun of you for something? How you dress? How you dance? How you play soccer or basketball? How you answer questions in school? Pretty much everybody has been made fun of, at least a little bit!

You know, our saints understand us because they lived on earth too. People made fun of Saint Romanos for his bad singing. Romanos worked in the great church of Agia Sophia in Constantinople. He hadn't been to

much school, and he had never really learned how to sing. Plus, he had a bad voice. People laughed at him, and made fun of him—even some of the other priests and deacons did!

Saint Romanos prayed to the Holy Theotokos. He even cried as he prayed again and again, because he wanted so much to sing well. He asked her to help him. That night, Romanos had a dream and the Theotokos gave him a scroll of music. The next day was Christmas, and Romanos sang this music she gave him. He sang beautifully, and everybody was amazed!

Saint Romanos is one of the “singer saints” of our church. He wrote lots of the hymns we hear in our church. The Theotokos helped him more than he ever could imagine!

We celebrate St. Romanos on Tuesday, October 1st (OC: October 14th).