

What are your treasures in heaven?



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 orthodoxchildrensword.org.

# 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 2, 2025

Volume 13, Issue 9

## Treasure on earth, treasure in heaven

**Do you have a secret hiding** place, where you keep some of your special things? Maybe you keep a favorite toy, a diary, or some candy—all because you don't want your brother or sister to take it! We all want to keep our treasures staying nice, and away from people who might get into it!



In the Gospel reading today, we hear what our Lord, Jesus Christ, Himself said about taking care of our treasure. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal."

So you see, we might try hard to keep our treasure on earth nice. But the things we want to keep nice here might get destroyed, or somebody might take them. Our Lord tells us that the *real* treasure is heaven, and when we have that, nobody can take it away. That's the treasure that really matters. So we can try hard every day to get that real treasure—to be with God forever in heaven. How do we do that? We can try hard to love God and to love the people around us! Our Lord is happy to give us the treasure of life in heaven!

# WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Conon
- Faith
- Gardener
- Heaven
- Lent
- Martyr
- Moth
- Persecution
- Rust
- Thieves
- Treasures
- Trust

T	N	J	W	T	M	F	G	F	T	X	Z	I	N	U
X	G	E	S	O	S	O	R	A	H	R	N	H	L	F
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Q	R	A	H	A	Q	S	G	T	T	D	K	T	T	B
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M	O	F	E	S	O	H	T	Q	Y	D	V	N	M	L
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D	T	K	R	B	Z	A	H	O	U	E	A	V	C	R
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T	H	P	R	D	N	P	I	O	I	L	E	E	O	D
C	S	L	T	P	U	A	P	Z	K	L	U	K	L	N
T	D	H	Y	V	L	E	K	W	V	J	E	X	K	H
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# WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

This is another icon of St. Conon. This saint had such a strong faith in God! Even though the rulers were so mean and cruel to him, he always looked to Christ. Do you see the little icon of Christ in the corner?



# SAINT CONON THE GARDENER

**Have you ever had to do something very, very hard?** Well, Saint Conon did. His whole life was hard, and his death was too.



Saint Conon was born and raised in Nazareth, in the same area where our Lord, Jesus Christ lived as a child. Later on, he lived in what is now Turkey. Saint Conon worked hard all his life as a simple gardener. He had a little garden with vegetables, which he sold to others and kept some for himself to live.

Once, Saint Conon was surprised that the governor wished to see him. He was surprised, because he was just a simple gardener, and Conon wondered what the mighty Governor Puplius wanted him for! Well, Governor Puplius just wanted to hurt Christians. Conon knew he had to look to his Lord, Jesus Christ for help. Conon told the governor that he was a Christian and that he would never back down.

Saint Conon never did back down, even though the governor sentenced him to lots of terrible punishments. He was even tied to the governor's chariot and made to run after it. Saint Conon had a hard life, but we know that God rewards us for our struggles. In the Bible, we read Christ's words, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest." And surely God has given rest to this wonderful saint!

**We celebrate St. Conon on Wednesday, March 5th (OC: March 18th).**