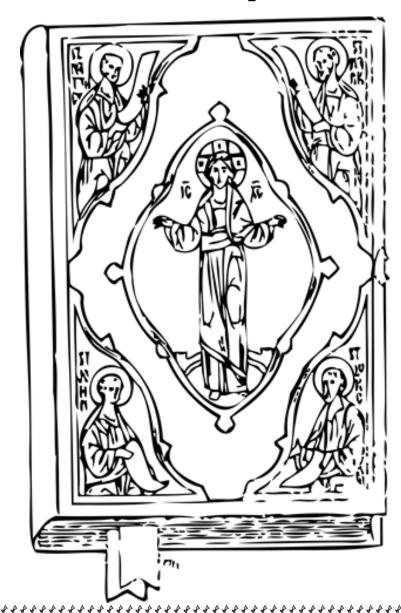
Wisdom! Sophia!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian kids. 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, October 19, 2025

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God doesn't want sadness!

We've all heard sad stories, haven't

we? Sometimes things are hard for people, or even for us. In today's Gospel reading, we hear one of the saddest of all. We hear about a woman whose son had died. She was already a widow—her husband had died. Now her son had died, too. Of course, she was very upset!

When Jesus saw her, He felt sorry for her, too. "Do not weep," He said. "Don't cry." Right then, He touched her son, and he rose up! The boy was alive again!



Lots of times, especially when you were little, your parents might have seen you sad or crying. "Don't cry," they said. Of course, your parents don't want you to be sad.

Just like your loving parents, God does not want us to be sad either. And sometimes it's hard to look past the sadness in this world, and to think about the joy God will give us in the world to come. God knows there is sadness in this life, but He will make things right for us in heaven. God has given us something to be very happy and joyful about. He gave His own Son, Jesus Christ. He opened up heaven for us, so that one day, we can be in a perfect place forever! "Don't cry," God tells us, too! But even better, God gives us a place where we won't even want to cry!

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Here is an icon of St. Gerasimos. In the background you can see a beautiful church dedicated to him there.

And here is a photo of it too!





SAINTS STILL HELP US! SAINT GERASIMOS OF CEPHALONIA

Sometimes we hear about saints

from a long, long time ago. Do you ever wonder if they know about us or if they hear our prayers?

Tomorrow we celebrate the feastday of Saint Gerasimos. He was born 500 years ago, just a few years after Christopher Columbus discovered America! But St. Gerasimos still listens to prayers, and he especially protects the people on his island of Cephalonia.



Cephalonia is an island off the coast of Greece. It is right in the middle of an earthquake zone, and the people there notice lots of little earthquakes and tremors all the time. But sixty years ago, a huge earthquake hit, and it destroyed almost everything on the island.

Lots of people said they saw Saint Gerasimos then! He comforted the people who were very scared. He also helped people who were trapped in buildings. The saints care about us very much, and they understand our problems because they lived here too. Do you see how St. Gerasimos understood and cared for the people on his little island?

We can ask saints to protect us and help us! Can you think of a prayer you could say to a saint?

We remember St. Gerasimos on Monday, October 20th (OC: November 2nd).