Saint Nektarios, pray for us!



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

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Making the most of the time



Do you ever make a list of

things you want to do, during a break? Maybe on the last day of school you think of the things you want to do: go fishing, go to a water park, start a garden, go on a trip. You have to make the most of your time, because summer vacation goes by fast!

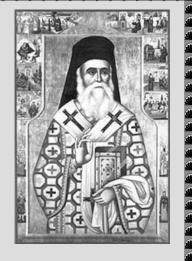
In the epistle today, Saint Paul tells us to make the most of the time...not our summer vacation, but our whole lives. We hear, "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of the time...Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is."

Saint Paul is telling us not to waste our time, because life goes by fast! Sometimes we might waste our time playing video game after video game, or being lazy, or looking at things for hours on the internet, or anything else. But instead we can think about how we can "make the most of the time." We can use our time in the right way too! We can help others, we can read helpful books, we can visit people, we can call a friend who is lonely, we can go to church, we can say a little prayer.

Let's try to "make the most of our time." Saint Paul gives us good advice!

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

On page 3, you can see an icon of Saint Nektarios and his death. But we really remember saints by how they lived! Here is an icon of Saint Nektarios. We remember him as a loving teacher and bishop, who still helps people!



SAINT NEKTARIOS MIRACLES FROM HIS RELICS!

Do you ever pray to saints?

Our saints are special people who were close to Christ when they lived on earth. Now, they're even closer to Christ after they have passed on to heaven!



One very special saint is Saint Nektarios, who died less than 100 years ago. We

celebrate his big feastday today, but we also remember another important day for Saint Nektarios in September. We remember his relics, and all the miracles that have happened with them!

What are relics? The relics are part of the saint's real body (or maybe of his clothes or things he or she owned). We Orthodox Christians know that these things are holy, because the saint is holy too! That's why every church has a little piece of a saint's relic in the altar table. That's why we might kiss the relics and pray to the saint too.

After Saint Nektarios died, his body was still here on earth (his soul went to be with Christ). If you go to Greece, you can pray to Saint Nektarios and kiss his relics there. You can also find a beautiful shrine to Saint Nektarios in Charlotte, North Carolina, and you can kiss part of his relics there too. Saint Nektarios is a saint who especially helps people who are sick. If you go to Charlotte, people will tell you about miracles that have happened with the relics. Sick people have gotten better by touching the relics, or even just by touching some holy oil from the shrine! Even now, Saint Nektarios is still close to God, and he helps us with his prayers to God.

We remember St. Nektarios today, November 9th (OC: November 22nd).