

God bless our Church!



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

Sunday, August 27, 2023

Volume 11, Issue 35

A Ministry of the
Orthodox Christian Network



A rich man in heaven?

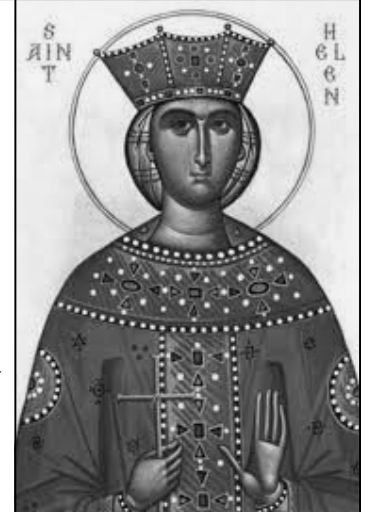
Have you ever wanted to be rich?

Really rich? After you hear today's Gospel reading, maybe you might change your mind.

A rich man asked our Lord, Jesus Christ, how he could go to heaven. He was a faithful man, and he tried to do all the right things. But Jesus told him that he needed to do one thing. He needed to sell all his things and give them to the poor. Wow! How could this man ever do that?

Our Lord knows how hard it is to give up things that we have! In the Gospel today, Christ even says, "It will be hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven." But did you know something? Lots of rich people are saints in our church. Think about Saint Helen. She was an empress who gave lots of her money to build churches. Think about Saint Elizabeth. She was a duchess who gave away lots of her money and things to start a hospital for poor people. These rich people became saints!

If we have money, we can show God that money doesn't mean so much to us. We can show God that we still put Him first. God wants us to help people who don't have money. God wants us to show that we're not attached to our money. Yes, it's hard, but we can think of the saints who gave up even more!



Saint Helen used her riches to help others and help the Church!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

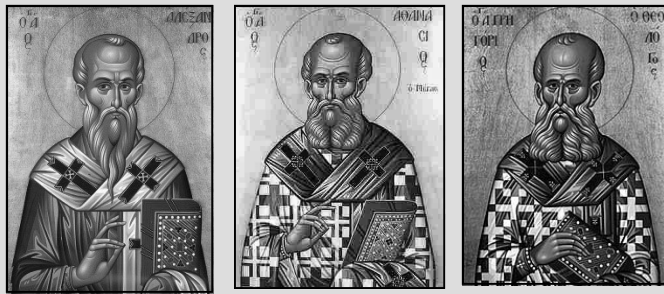
- Alexander
- Bravery
- Compassion
- Constantinople
- Empress
- Faithful
- Generous
- Loving
- Patriarch
- Rich
- Share

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

Some saints look alike in their icons! (Of course, we don't know exactly what they looked like!)

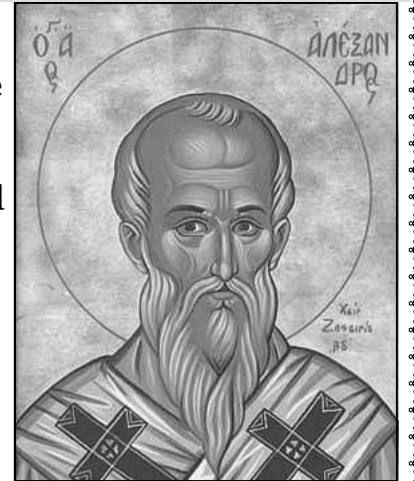
Here are Saints Alexander, Athanasios, and Gregory the Theologian.



SAINT ALEXANDER

THE FIRST PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Do you think God cares what we believe? If you asked Saint Alexander, he would tell you, "Yes! Definitely!"



Saint Alexander was a holy bishop who lived 1,700 years ago. He went to the First Ecumenical Council, a big meeting where the Church leaders talked and agreed on what we Christians believed. One man, named Arius, was telling other Christians that Jesus wasn't really God, and that He wasn't equal to God the Father. Saint Alexander knew that wasn't right. Arius tried to trick the leaders, and he told them he really believed the same thing. Saint Alexander knew it was a trick, and he asked God to make it so Arius would not be received into the Church. And he wasn't.

Another time, Saint Alexander was arguing with somebody who was a pagan (who worshiped idols). Saint Alexander said, "In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, I command you to be quiet!" Suddenly the pagan man couldn't speak! No sound would come out! Then the man showed with his hands that he no longer believed that stuff, and his speech came back.

Let's thank Saint Alexander for his Christian bravery. He teaches us that God really does care what we believe!

We celebrate Saint Alexander on Wed., August 30th (OC: September 12th).