

The Good News



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian kids. Copyright 2025 Alexandra Houck.
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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

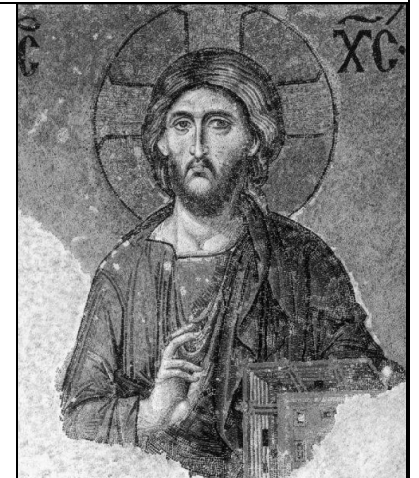
Sunday, March 23, 2025

Volume 13, Issue 12

Christ understands!

Do you know a friend who has had your same teacher or coach or even camp counselor? When you talk about things or about a problem, you know your friend really understands, because he went through it too.

Did you know that our Lord, Jesus Christ really understands us? In today's epistle reading, we hear how He understands us and our problems, because He has been through them too! The epistle says, Jesus "has been tempted as we are, yet without sin." That means He knows how hard it is to do the right thing sometimes.



Today is the Sunday of the Holy Cross. We remember how our Lord was beaten and made fun of and then killed on a Cross. But we also know that Jesus was God then, and He is God today! We know that God is strong and powerful. So how could He have trouble carrying the Cross? How could He be beaten up, and even killed?

Today's epistle reading tells us why. God wanted to be like us. He wanted to show how He understands us. He lived as a man so He could show us how much He loves us. Christ understands us and all our problems, because He has been there too!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

Angel
Annunciation
Cross
Feastday
Gabriel
Good News
Messenger
Sin
Sunday
Tempted
Understand

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

You can see Mary, the Theotokos and Archangel Gabriel in the one icon. Can you see them in the other one? It is a very, very old picture—from just 200 years after Christ lived!



ARCHANGEL GABRIEL BRINGING THE GOOD NEWS!

This week, we celebrate the wonderful feastday of the Annunciation. That's the day, you remember, when an angel visited Mary and told her that she would be the Theotokos, the Mother of God! Nine months later is Christmas, the birthday of our Lord.



Archangel Gabriel

That angel was the Archangel Gabriel, and we celebrate his feastday this week, too. Many people have called Gabriel a leader of the angels, because he had such an important job to do—to announce the good news to young Mary.

But what else did Gabriel do? Well, Gabriel is the angel who explains mysteries. He tells about things that are hard to understand. (Remember, it was hard for Mary to understand how she could have a baby.) Gabriel also told Zachariah that his wife, Elizabeth, was going to have a child... baby St. John the Baptist. Some theologians say that it was Gabriel who told Mary's parents that they were going to have a baby too—the baby Mary. Some say that Gabriel announced the good news of our Lord's birth to the shepherds too. You can also find Archangel Gabriel in the Bible, a long time before Jesus was born.

So you see—The archangel Gabriel is full of good news! Let's remember him this week!

We celebrate the Archangel Gabriel on Wednesday, March 26th (OC: April 8th).