

Grow close to God!



The Children's Word is a weekly bulletin for Orthodox Christian kids. Copyright 2026 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

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Use your gifts!

Did you ever get a present or two that you never even used? Maybe your parents gave you a present that you acted excited about, but then you kept it in the closet for years? Now how do you think your parents would feel if you never even used it? Maybe they would wonder why they gave it to you at all.



Today's epistle reading reminds us about the gifts God has given us! We all are good at different things, but whatever we're good at, God wants us to use them. Saint Paul writes that if we're good at serving people, then we should serve. If we're good at teaching, then we should teach. If we give money, then we should give as much as we can. We have to use our gifts, not just keep them hidden, like the gifts we might hide in the closet.

When we're little, we can't do as much as when we're big. You might not even know what you're good at yet! You can pray, you can try to get better at things, you can learn as much as you can. But when you grow up, try to find out what you're good at, and use the gifts God has given you in the right way. There are so many ways to serve God and His Church. But the important thing is to not hide these gifts. Use them, just like Saint Paul tells us today!

WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- Epistle
- Gifts
- Heaven
- Hidden
- Julitta
- Kyrikos
- Martyrs
- Reward
- Teach

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

WHAT'S IN THE ICON?

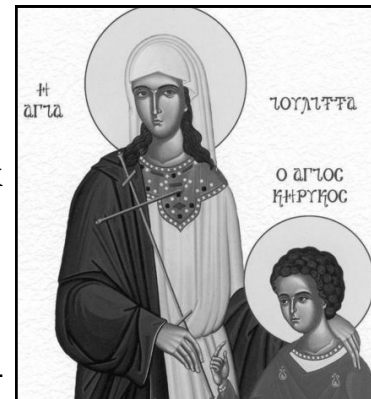
Here is another icon of Saints Julitta and Kyrikos. Do you see how the mother is helping her son in his Christian faith? Kyrikos is making the sign of the Cross. Do you know who taught you to make the sign of the Cross?



A HAPPY ENDING

SAINTS JULITTA AND KYRIKOS

Have you ever heard a very sad story? You've probably read a book or watched a movie that started very sad and maybe ended, "happily ever after." This week we hear a story of two saints that really does end "happily ever after"!



Saint Julitta lived many years ago during the time when many Christians were hurt and persecuted and even killed just for being Christians.

Julitta lived during the time of the emperor Diocletian, the same emperor who killed Saint George. Julitta's husband died young, and so Saint Julitta had to raise her little son, Kyrikos, all by herself. She knew it was her job to make sure he grew up to be a strong and faithful Christian.

The governor heard that Julitta was a faithful Christian and he wanted to make an example of her. He took her little three-year-old son, Kyrikos, and he tried to make her give up on Christ. Kyrikos was a little boy, but he already knew he loved Christ very much. He told the governor, "I am a Christian! Give me back to my mother." This made the governor very mad. Kyrikos said again, "I love Christ!" Soon, the little boy and his mother were hurt by the rulers, and they were then killed.

As Christians, we know that that isn't the end of the story! God rewards those who love Him and want to be with Him. We know that these special saints—the faithful mother and faithful son—are with our Lord "happily ever after."

We remember Sts. Julitta and Kyrikos on Wednesday, July 15th (OC: July 28th).