

# BYZI KIDS

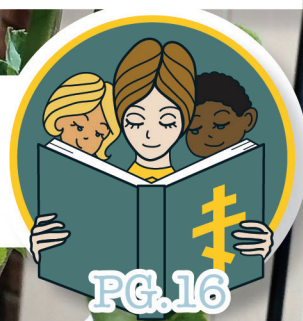
ByziKids  
August 2021



PG.04

Meta-  
morphosis

NICENE  
CREED



PG.16

Hey!  
did you hear?



PG.14

312 AD  
CONSTANTINE



PG.19



Nicene  
CREED

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Dear ByziParents,

If someone taught your son something directly opposed to the Church's teaching, would he know it? Would your daughter recognize an error if she heard it? What would your child do?

Sadly, this was a test I endured when I was in my early teens. Our pastor taught our ECF class something heretical to the faith, openly and without hesitation. When he said this, nobody else in the class seemed to notice anything wrong. However, my parents had taught me differently and had shown me in scripture and in the catechism where this was false teaching, so I timidly raised my hand. Well, this was the beginning of a terrible firestorm at our little parish as my parents, the other kids' parents, and the bishop became involved. Eventually, the issue was corrected, and we students, and even some of their parents, learned the truth. I often wonder what would have happened if no one present had raised their hand. How would the lives of those students have been different today had they believed this lie was true?

Needless to say, as a child of 13, I was distraught by this, but I learned a valuable lesson about standing up for truth. Now, as a mother and soon-to-be grandmother, I understand the value of knowing our faith well so as not to become misled. To keep them morally safe, we must teach the children what we believe, WHY we believe it, and the history behind making those decisions of the early Church.

In the beginning, the Church had a LOT to mentally digest about who Jesus was, what He taught, the nature of the Trinity, the Virgin birth, etc. The early fathers debated these issues and came to conclusions about them at the First Council of Nicea in 325. They wrote the Nicene Creed specifically to refute false ideas and list the truths of our faith so that no one might be misled or confused. We hope this study of the Creed will help you to cement these truths in the minds of your ByziKids.

Enjoy the issue!

*-Written by Lynne Wardach*



# The Time St. Nicholas Got Put in Time Out

## Have you ever been put in time out?

Have you ever been let out of time out when everyone realized you did nothing wrong? Believe it or not, this is precisely what some historians believe may have happened to St. Nicholas at the First Council of Nicea.

All of the bishops gathered together to hear testimony from a particular bishop named Arius, who proposed the idea that Jesus was not truly equal to the Father. During his testimony, many of the bishops became agitated that he suggested things that they just knew were not true. The more Arius spoke, the more nervous they became at what they thought was disrespect toward Jesus and His mother! The tension grew and grew until St. Nicholas could take it no longer. He left his seat, went up to Bishop Arius, and right there in the assembly of bishops, he slapped him squarely in the face!

Imagine how shocking that was! The other bishops all concluded that, even if they agreed with the reason for Nicholas's outrage, this was no way for a bishop to behave. They took away his omophorion, the vestment symbolizing his office there and then. They say that Emperor Constantine, who presided over the assembly, simply asked that St. Nicholas be removed from the gathering and continued listening to the discourse. Guards came and took Nicholas to a cell where he was to wait until the Council ended, and they had time to figure out what they should do with him.

Nicholas was alone in his cell without his vestments or belongings while the Council testimony continued, so he began to pray. He prayed to Christ and His mother, telling them that he was truly ashamed of how he acted, and he knew that violence against his neighbor was wrong. He continued to say that the only reason for his outburst was that he loved them so and could not bear to hear them disrespected in that way. Suddenly, there was a light in the cell that wasn't there before, and from it, Jesus and Mary appeared! They told him that they forgave him and presented a new omophorion to him and a copy of the Holy Bible. St. Nicholas put on his new vestment and spent the night reading scripture.

Once morning came, the bishops gathered and began to speak about how they had spent their first night in Nicea. Soon, and to their great surprise, it became apparent that each of them had a dream about Nicholas, specifically that he wasn't alone in his cell, but that Jesus and Mary were with him! As each realized the significance of their shared dream, they ran to see Nicholas and consider what this meant. When they got to his cell and found him dressed again as a bishop and reading scripture, they realized they had been wrong to confine him in jail, and they released St. Nicholas. The latter followed them back to the assembly, where the community of bishops denounced the teachings of Arius, sentenced him and all of his followers to exile, and went on to proclaim the true nature of Christ Jesus.

**-Written by Lynne Wardach**

•IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME•



# IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME!

WITH FATHER SEBASTIAN

## TRANSFIGURATION

This month we celebrate the *Transfiguration* of Jesus on Mount Tabor. The English word "**transfiguration**" is from a Latin translation of the Greek word *metamorphosis*. This word is a combination of two Greek words, *meta* and *morphos*. The first word, *meta*, refers, in this case, to a "**change**." The second word, *morphos*, means shape. The *-sis* ending indicates "**process of**." Thus, "**metamorphosis**" means the process of changing shape. This word appears in the science realm often. Just think of the change of a little egg to a caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly!



REV. SEBASTIAN CARNAZZO, PHD IS PASTOR OF ST. ELIAS MELKITE CHURCH IN SAN JOSE, CA (STELIASMELKITE.ORG) AND TEACHES ONLINE GREEK CLASSES FOR KIDS THROUGH THE ACADEMY OF CLASSICAL GREEK (ACADEMYOFCLASSICALGREEK.COM).

SUBMIT SUBMISSIONS TO BYZIMOM.COM OR TO LYNNE WARDACH ON FACEBOOK

PHOTOS FROM THE DORMITION ICON PROCESSION SEE PG. 12



< HELENA, 7,  
GABRIEL 5,  
SAMANTHA 3



ISAAC 4, AND VERA >  
2, AND ELIAS IN HIS  
MOM'S TUMMY (KAREN)



# Dormition Fast Flower Vase

Here is a simple idea to help your children count down the days until the Feast of the Dormition! We took a simple poster board and drew a vase on the bottom. Then, the children worked together to create one flower for each day of the fast with construction paper. In the evening, at family prayers, we added a flower to the poster until we had a bouquet for the Theotokos on her feast!

You can also use the poster for decoration in a party for the feast day! Serve flower-shaped foods and invite friends over for a celebration. Dressing up like the icon is always a big hit with all ages and you can use this as an opportunity to teach the meaning behind the icon.

-Written by Jocelyn Abyad



The spiritual powers receive her with honors due to God, and she who is truly the mother of Life departs unto life, the lamp of Light which no man can approach, the salvation of the faithful and the hope of our souls.



THE FEAST OF  
DORMITION, GREAT  
VESPERS, LETE, TONE 2

# Light from Light Experiment

When we recite the Creed we say,

**“Light from Light, True God from True God...”**

What does this really mean? It has to do with the nature of the Trinity. Let’s perform this experiment to see what we mean.

## Hypothesis:

What do you think will happen to a candle flame when it is divided and some of it is taken somewhere else?

**Will it get bigger?**

---

---

**Will it get smaller?**

---

---

**Will it stay the same?**

---

---

## Objective:

To compare two flames, one coming from another.

## You will need:

1. PERMISSION from your parents, or another adult in charge.
2. A cup of water
3. Another empty cup
4. A large pillar, stick, or votive candle
5. A little birthday candle
6. Matches

## Method:

1. Be sure an adult is present before you begin. Roll up long sleeves and be sure long hair is tied back.
2. Take the cup of water and observe its amount and quality.
3. Pour some of the water into the other cup. Observe the amount and quality of each, and set these aside for dousing the candles and matches.
4. Using the matches, light the large candle and observe the size and brilliance of the flame.
5. Taking the little birthday candle in your hand, carefully hold the wick to the flame of the larger candle until the little birthday candle is lit. Move it carefully away from the larger candle flame and hold it in front of you. Note the brilliance and size of its flame.
6. Now, note the brilliance and size of the original flame and answer the questions below.



**Data:**

Did the quality of the water change when you poured some of it away into the other cup? \_\_\_\_\_

Did the amount change? \_\_\_\_\_

Did the original flame (on the larger candle) change in any way once the birthday candle flame was taken from it? \_\_\_\_\_

Did it lose brilliance? (less light from it?) \_\_\_\_\_

Did it get smaller in size? \_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:** We learn that when we divide things the pieces get smaller, such as the amount of water when some of it was poured away. That's usually the way things are. Like an apple pie, the more you divide it, the smaller the original will be and the piece you get is never as impressive as the original pie. When you divide the pie, you may get a piece that is just crust, or a piece of apple alone with no crust, or you may even get an apple seed! Each piece may be substantially different. Flames are not so. God is not so. As the original flame did not change when some of it was taken away, so the Father did not lose any of Himself when Christ was sent from Him down to Earth in the Incarnation! And the little flame, Christ, did not lose any of its brilliance when it came forth from the larger flame, the Father! Both are made of the same substance!

**-Written by Lynne Wardach**

10. DORMITION  
9. SAMUEL  
8. EPHESUS  
7. MOSES  
6. BEHEADING  
3. MATTHIAS  
ACROSS  
5. TRANSFIGURATION  
4. CROSS  
2. LAWRENCE  
1. MAXIMUS  
DOWN  
**AUGUST  
CROSSWORD  
PUZZLE**

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A RECIPE FROM BYIMOM.COM  
FOR AUGUST 8

## St. Myron of Crete Grain Bundles



GOD TELLS THE PROPHET ELIJAH TO INFORM SAINTHOOD ISN'T FOR WIMPS. IT TAKES CHARACTER. IT TAKES A VISION SO PURE AND SO CLEAR THAT YOU WOULD SACRIFICE NEARLY EVERYTHING TO ILLUSTRATE THE SMALLEST MEASURE OF TRUTH, BECAUSE CHRIST IS TRUTH. IN ORDER TO FULFILL CHRIST'S DESIRE THAT WE GIVE OUR TUNIC WHEN SOMEBODY TAKES OUR CLOAK, ST. MYRON, OUR SAINT OF THE DAY, DID SOMETHING SO RADICAL THAT ANYONE MIGHT THINK HE WAS INSANE. IN THE END, HIS GESTURE OF OVER-THE-TOP GENEROSITY WON TWO MORE SOULS AWAY FROM SIN AND INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST!

WHEN ST. MYRON WAS A YOUNG MAN ON THE ISLAND OF CRETE, HE WORKED ON HIS FAMILY'S FARM. ONE DAY, HE CAME UPON SOME THIEVES IN HIS THRESHING BARN, PREPARING TO STEAL HIS GRAIN. NOT REVEALING THAT HE WAS THE OWNER OF THE GRAIN, HE OFFERED TO HELP THEM BUNDLE IT INTO THEIR SACKS AND CARRY IT AWAY. WHEN THE MEN CAME TO REALIZE WHO THEIR ACCOMPLICE REALLY WAS, THEY REPENTED, AND DEDICATED THE REST OF THEIR LIVES TO CHRISTIAN LIVING. AT THE URGING OF HIS NEIGHBORS, WHO MARVELED AT HIS GOODNESS, MYRON ENTERED THE PRIESTHOOD AND IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE BECAME BISHOP OF CRETE. HE LIVED TO THE AGE OF 100 AND DIED PEACEFULLY AT ABOUT 350AD.

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### INGREDIENTS

- Rinse 1c quinoa and cook it for 15 minutes in the small pot of boiling salted water until it is soft and the circular grain is visible.

While this is boiling, prepare the dressing for the grain in a small blender:

- 1 clove of peeled garlic
- a 1/2 inch piece of fresh ginger
- the zest and juice of 1 lemon
- 1/4 c tahini (peanut butter is a yummy substitute)
- 1/2 cup of olive oil, (optional)
- salt and pepper to taste.

### PREPARATION

When the quinoa is fully cooked, mix it, along with:

- 1-2 shredded carrots
- a large handful of coarsely chopped mint (parsley may be substituted) and about
- 1/2 c finely diced red onion

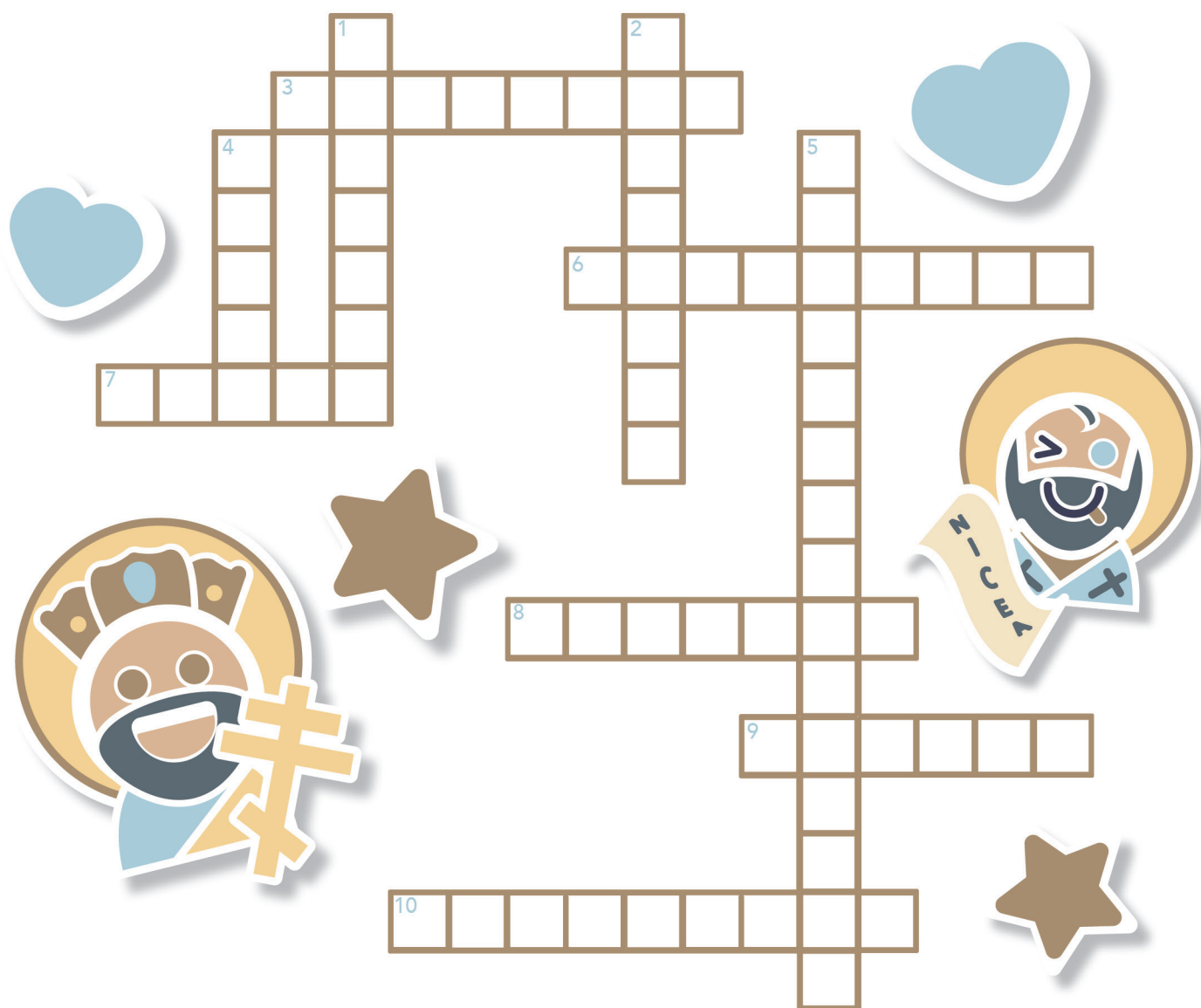
with the dressing and stir everything together to combine. Place a heaping tablespoon of the quinoa at the base of a large soft leaf of lettuce and roll the grain into a bundle ( just like St. Myron!) tucking in the sides as you go, and steal it away, with mom's permission, to enjoy!

Makes 24-30 little bundles

-Written by Lynne Wardach



# August Saints Crossword Puzzle



## ACROSS

3. APOSTLE OF THE SEVENTY, CHOSEN TO REPLACE JUDAS ISCARIOT.
6. THE MARTYRDOM OF THE FORERUNNER SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST, WHICH WAS ORDERED BY HEROD.
7. WISE AND PRAYERFUL MONK OF ETHIOPIA, WHO HAD CONVERTED FROM A SINFUL LIFE AS A ROBBER.
8. THE SEVEN SLEEPERS, ALSO KNOWN AS THE SEVEN HOLY YOUTHS OF \_\_\_\_\_.
9. PROPHET AND LAST OF THE JUDGES OF ISRAEL, WHOSE BIRTH WAS FERVENTLY PRAYED FOR BY HIS MOTHER, HANNAH.
10. ONE OF THE TWELVE GREAT FEASTS CELEBRATED IN AUGUST, FOR WHICH WE PREPARE WITH FASTING.

## DOWN

1. VENERABLE FATHER, THEOLOGIAN, AND SCHOLAR, KNOW AS 'THE CONFESSOR,' WHO COMBATED HERESIES AND WROTE THE 'MYSTAGOGIA.'
2. ARCHDEACON-MARTYR FROM ROME, OFTEN CONSIDERED A PATRON OF COOKS DUE TO HIS MARTYRDOM.
4. THE PROCESSION OF THE HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING \_\_\_\_, A FEAST AT THE START OF AUGUST TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE FROM SICKNESS.
5. THE \_\_\_\_, A FEAST WHICH COMMEMORATES OUR LORD REVEALING HIS GLORY TO PETER, JAMES, AND JOHN UPON THE MOUNTAIN.



# Know it By Heart

**Sweet 9-year-old Kate held a screwdriver in her hand as she looked determinedly at her bicycle.** The seat was too high, and she needed to make it lower. Confident she could fix it herself, she faced just one problem, she didn't know which way to turn the screw to loosen it. Her father was at work, and mom was busy in the house. Who could she ask? Suddenly, she heard a voice. It was not a normal voice. It was a still, small voice that she heard deep inside her. The voice sounded like her father's, but it had no sound. Instead, the voice was of her memory from when her father taught her a little trick to loosen screws. It said: "Lefty loosey; righty tighty." Suddenly, she knew what to do! She turned the screw to the left, and the seat slid down to just the right height. She then turned it again to the right to sure it up. Thrilled with her success, Kate dropped the tool to the floor and jumped on her bike. That is when she heard another voice. This time it was her mother's voice in her memory: "Put things away after you use them." Obediently, she climbed off her bike and returned the screwdriver before running off to play.

God speaks to us just like Kate's memory spoke to her. But, unfortunately, His voice does not come through our ears as a voice we hear.

It doesn't usually tell us new things we never learned. Yet, the Prophet Isaiah gave us a promise full of hope: "Your ears will hear a word behind you, saying, 'This is the way, walk in it,' whenever you turn to the right or to the left (Isa. 30:21).

But what does that voice sound like? Have you ever heard it? Most often, God speaks to us through our memory. Through what we have learned of Him. That is why He tells us to "Hide God's words within your heart." You see, God has spoken through the prophets, the Apostles, and through the Church Fathers. They wrote down God's words so that we can read them. They gave us the Divine Liturgy so we can sing it. If we do not hide these words in our heart we cannot hear God's words in our memory. The Holy Spirit quickens our memory when we need to know The Father's will.

But we have to be careful with our memory because if we fill it with messages from the world, we will become confused and may even wonder if that is God's voice or the world's voice speaking to us.

St. Basil The Great said, "Memory is the cabinet of imagination, the treasury of reason, the registry of conscience, and the council chamber of thought."

Have you ever noticed that we say the same things in Liturgy every week? Like the Nicene Creed, for example. The Church Fathers knew that repeating things helped us remember them. They knew that if we repeated them often enough,

the Holy Spirit would be able to speak to us through our memory when we needed Him to.

For example, if ever we doubt God's love for us, a little voice from our memory can remind us that "for us men and for our salvation [He] came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became man."

When we fill our minds with truth, we can be confident about what we believe. If your friend asked you what you believe, would you know? Three hundred years after Jesus ascended to Heaven, Christians were still asking that question. So the church Fathers talked and debated, and in 325 at the Council of Nicaea, they wrote THE CREED. "Every Christian needs to memorize this," they agreed. "We'll say it at every Divine Liturgy," they agreed. "We'll recite it. We'll pray it. We'll read it. And every Christian will learn it by heart."

Memory used to be far more important to people who did not always have the means to write things down. They would have to memorize whole speeches or histories in order to pass them on. The ancient people used poems and music to help with the big task. Our Church Fathers left us their most important knowledge — God's Words — in the Divine Liturgy. To help us learn it by heart they composed beautiful melodies so it will become part of us as we sing.

Have you ever tried to memorize the Creed? It is an important part of our faith and very good to know by heart. There are all kinds of tricks to help memorize. The "disappearing word trick" works really well.

Start by writing the Creed on a whiteboard and erasing just one word at a time. Then read it back and see if you can remember the missing word. Then erase more words and repeat the steps until you can read and recite the whole thing by memory.

Another way is to listen to a recording of it five times in a row every day and try to repeat it. The memory likes to remember information it hears. Making up hand gestures to go with keywords helps a lot of children to memorize. Some people prefer talking about a passage — defining every word — to fully understand it, and that helps them learn it by heart.

Try one of these tricks to help you memorize the Creed. Then send a note to ByziKids to let us know if it worked. Did you learn it? Which method worked best?

In today's world filled with phones and devices in everyone's pockets, we seem to be forgetting just how important it is to memorize. Sometimes it seems like we know a lot because we can just ask our phone whatever we need to know. But can we remember this information? Can it speak to us? And do we practice obeying the still small voice in our memory? Will The Holy Spirit be able to use your memory to speak to you?

**- Written by Judith Jolma**

BYZIKIDS MAGAZINE IS VERY EXCITED TO INTRODUCE THE NEWEST MEMBER OF OUR TEAM OF BYZIMOM CONTRIBUTORS,



## Shamassy Jocelyn Abyad!

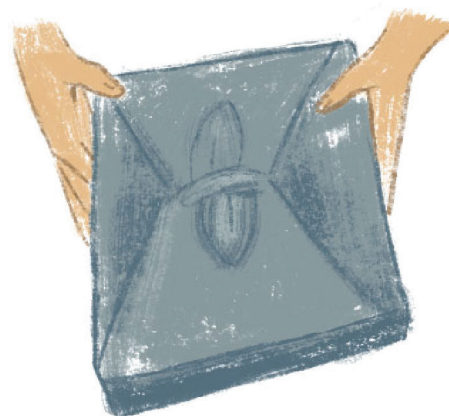
*Pictured are Grace 17, Madelynn 15, Isabella 8, Aidah 6, Hannah 4, Nora 2, Deacon Zyad & Shamassy Jocelyn*

Known for her elaborate homeschool celebrations of our Byzantine Feasts, you may recognize her on social media as the Melkite Momma. She believes that hospitality is the central virtue of the home and she strives to make her house a true domestic church. We are so happy that she has agreed to share her talents with us!

*Hi! I'm Mrs. Abyad, I was born and raised Roman Catholic, but when I met my husband, I became Melkite Catholic. We have six children, and I have a little account on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube where I share liturgical living tips for Eastern Catholics.*

During the Dormition Fast last year, our parish had a unique way to help prepare for the Feast. Our Pastor permitted us to take the Festal Icon to travel among all the parishioners' homes.

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The icon was carefully and reverently packaged in a box that also included a bottle of holy water and a prayer book with instructions for the care and keeping of the icon. It began its procession at one parishioner's home and stayed there overnight. While it was there, the family could reverence the icon and say the prayers provided for them. The next day, that parishioner drove the icon to the next house, and again, that family got to keep the icon overnight with them. This procession continued until the icon traveled back to our parish for the Liturgy for the Dormition of the Theotokos. Each family took a picture of the icon in their home, and we made a slide show at the end with all the pictures.

What a great way to encourage community and fellowship among all of the parishioners! This special procession gave our children an up-close and personal experience with an icon they may not have been familiar with previously. When we strive to make our homes a domestic church, it is so important to have physical representations of our faith for our children to touch and experience. Bringing an icon into the home from church was a memorable and beautiful experience for everyone— young and old!

**-Written by Jocelyn Abyad**

# Blessings during the Dormition Fast



## 1ST: THE FEAST OF THE PROCESSION OF THE VENERABLE CROSS

Today the Dormition Fast begins as we prepare for the commemoration of the falling asleep of the Theotokos. We also remember the custom of the early Christians of Constantinople to carry the cross in procession every day during this fast to ward off the illnesses that used to plague them this time of year. In many parishes, it is customary to bless honey today!



## 4TH: THE SEVEN SLEEPERS OF EPHEBUS

In the Nicene Creed, written in the fourth century, we hear the phrase, "I expect the resurrection from the dead" Still, there were some who didn't quite believe that could happen. God permitted a miracle whereby seven young soldiers would become sealed in a cave and presumed dead for 200 years would come back to life and speak with the townspeople and the local bishop! After such a long time, they were resurrected from the dead that many who didn't believe would now understand that it could happen.



## 6TH: TRANSFIGURATION

When Peter, James, and John found themselves immersed in the presence of God, when he became transfigured into his glorified state, they could want nothing more. They were in the cloud of His Divine presence! At the feast of the Transfiguration, we gather fruit, historically the first fruits of the season (usually grapes), to take as an offering to the church to be blessed and distributed to the congregation. Since some regions of Europe are too cold a climate for grapes to be ready for the feast, they bless other fruits. In parts of Russia, for example, apples are used. In the most northern climates of Russia, it is even too cold for apples, so green peas are the predominant symbol of the feast! As you prepare to take your basket of fruit to liturgy this year, feel free to fill it with whatever fruits you like, whether from your garden or the market, and celebrate how good it is that we are here!



## 15TH: DORMITION

The Dormition fast ends on this day, the commemoration of the falling asleep Theotokos. When she had passed into eternal life, the apostles proceeded to place the body of Our Lady into a tomb and stand vigil there for three days. Once again, it is said that St. Thomas, by an act of God, was late in arriving to say farewell to Mary and was heartbroken. He begged them to open the tomb so that he could pay his respects and venerate the body. When they did so, she was not there. Only beautifully fragrant flowers remained in the place where the body had lain. They all rejoiced as they realized that she had been assumed bodily into heaven! Therefore, we bless flowers on this day. Bring flowers of any kind, from the garden, the woods, the store, or even herbs!

-Written by Lynne Wardach

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# CAUGHT YOU LISTENING

WITH MRS. SYLVIA DORHAM



## August 1

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 17: 14-23

Today's Gospel tells the story of a father seeking a cure for his son. The disciples don't have the faith to cure him. Jesus cures him instead. Write down the definitions to these words from today's Gospel. If you don't know them, ask! Or use a dictionary to find out what they mean.

Write the definitions on the blanks beside each word.

Epileptic: \_\_\_\_\_

Faithless: \_\_\_\_\_

Generation: \_\_\_\_\_

Rebuke: \_\_\_\_\_

Impossible: \_\_\_\_\_

1

## August 8

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18: 23-35

Fill in the blanks in today's Gospel. Use the words in the word bank to help you!

The \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven may be compared to a \_\_\_\_\_ who wished to settle \_\_\_\_\_ with his \_\_\_\_\_. When he began the reckoning, one was brought to him who \_\_\_\_\_ him ten \_\_\_\_\_ talents, and as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be \_\_\_\_\_, with his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and all that he had and payment to be \_\_\_\_\_. So the servant fell on his \_\_\_\_\_ imploring him, "Lord, have \_\_\_\_\_ with me, and I will \_\_\_\_\_ you everything." And out of \_\_\_\_\_ for him the lord of that servant \_\_\_\_\_ him and \_\_\_\_\_ him the \_\_\_\_\_.

WORD BANK: WIFE ACCOUNTS CHILDREN MADE THOUSAND KNEE KINGDOM PATIENCE PAY OWED PITY RELEASED KING FORGAVE SERVANTS SOLD DEBT

2

# CAUGHT YOU LISTENING

August 15

3

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 19: 16-26

A rich young man who was hungry for eternal life came to Jesus in today's Gospel.

Unscramble the words that tell us what Jesus invited him to do.

Og lesl hwat ou sssspoe nad vegi ot het oopr... nda emoc wllofo em.

August 22

4

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:33-42

Read this part of today's Gospel and find the answers.

"Hear another parable. There was a householder who planted a vineyard, and set a hedge around it, and dug a wine press in it, and built a tower, and leased it to tenants, and went into another country."

Find the word that means STORY: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means PUT IN THE EARTH TO GROW: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means A FENCE MADE OF BUSHES: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means REMOVED EARTH FROM A HOLE: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means A PLACE WHERE GRAPES ARE SQUISHED: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means CONSTRUCTED: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means RENTED OUT: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means PEOPLE WHO RENT: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means A GARDEN PLANTED WITH GRAPE VINES: \_\_\_\_\_

Find the word that means DEPARTED FOR ANOTHER PLACE: \_\_\_\_\_

August 29

3

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:2-14

Change one letter to make a word from today's Gospel.

BEAST: \_\_\_\_\_

SERPANTS: \_\_\_\_\_

CARRIAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

MILLED: \_\_\_\_\_

LEAVEN: \_\_\_\_\_

WADDING: \_\_\_\_\_

OVEN: \_\_\_\_\_



## KNOW YOUR FAITH

### Fact or Opinion: What Do We Believe?

When it comes to candy, I love chocolate but I do not like gummy worms at all. That's my opinion. We all have opinions about things and nobody has to agree with us because we each have the right to decide for ourselves what

kind of candy, clothing, music, books or other things that we like and don't like.

What we don't have the right to do is to confuse opinion with fact. For example, we can not declare that our cat can fly because to do so would go against the truth. There is such a thing as absolute truth, and there can be no opinion about absolute truth; it's a fact.

Some opinions of the bishops in the early church were very wrong but very popular. Because they taught their opinions as if they were absolute truth, many people who listened to those opinions were in grave danger. The true Church was concerned that Christians who heard these differing opinions could become severely confused about the nature of God (Who, don't forget, IS Truth) and our relationship with Him, so the Bishops held a council to decide upon and list the basic truths that every follower of Jesus Christ should believe and wrote what became known as the Nicene Creed so every Christian could profess this and know it to be true. Let's take a closer look:

#### I Believe...

Although professed by the Church as a whole, it is a very personal statement. As a Christian, what exactly DO YOU believe?

#### In One God, the Father Almighty,

There is only ONE God and he can do ALL things. A group called the **Gnostics** believed that the God of the Old Testament was different from the God of the New Testament. The Early Church Fathers wanted to be very clear about the fact that this was wrong. There is only ONE God.

**Creator of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.** He made literally EVERYTHING.

**And in one Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, the Only Begotten,** And He has a SON!

#### Born of the Father before all ages.

Did you know that there were some people in the second century who believed that Jesus was merely a good man who was created and then "adopted" by God the Father, rather than having been "born" of Him as a true Son? This was called the **Adoptionist Heresy**. The Fathers wanted to be clear that this was wrong.

**Light of Light, True God of True God, Begotten, not made,** Bishop Arius also believed that Jesus was created and was therefore not worthy to be worshipped as God. The entire council of Nicea was called to discuss this and found it to be a complete misunderstanding. It became known as the **Arian Heresy**. This line was specifically added to clarify that Jesus was a true son to God the Father, and not a created being like the angels or like us.

**One in essence with the Father before all things were made.** He is of the same "STUFF" as the Father and was with him before creation took place.

**Who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and Mary the Virgin, and became man.** It was according to God's plan for us that Jesus was given a physical body and was born to the Virgin Mary. The **Ebionites** were a group who believed that Jesus was the physical, human son of Mary and Joseph and was "elected" by God to become the Messiah. This line was added so that we understand that Jesus is truly the Son of God.

**He was also crucified for us under Pontius Pilate, And suffered, And was buried....** There was another heresy known as **Docetism** which taught that Jesus had no natural physical body but was purely a spirit. They believed that his body was just an illusion and that he didn't really suffer and die. Jesus did have a physical body and really did suffer by it like any other human, and truly died.

**He rose again on the third day according to the scriptures, And He ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And He is coming again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.** We believe that God exists as One, but in three distinct persons. A heresy known as **Modalism** taught that the One God manifested himself in three forms but remained one person. These lines show a relationship. One can sit at the right hand of the other because they are three distinct persons.

**And in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Creator of life, Who proceeds from the Father. Who, together with the Father and the Son, is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke through the prophets.** A group of people known as the **Pneumatomachians (or Spirit-Fighters)** believed that the Holy Spirit wasn't God. This line tells us He is One of the Trinity: Three distinct persons in One God.

**In one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church,** The Church is "Catholic," meaning "universal" or "for all," not just for those **Gnostics** who believed that they possessed a unique knowledge that the average person did not have.

**I profess one baptism for the remission of sins. I expect the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

- written by Lynne Wardach



# I SPY IN MY LITTLE "I"CON

MOSAICS



MOSAIC OF CHRIST // SVIATOSLAV MAKARENKO

**CAN YOU FIND ROCKS, BEADS OR LEAVES AROUND YOUR HOME THAT YOU COULD USE TO MAKE A IMAGE?**

How about creating a design using small dots of colour placed closely together?

**MOSAICS WERE ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR FORMS OF ART IN THE BYZANTINE EMPIRE.**

They were used to depict religious subjects on the interior of churches within the Empire from 6th century to the end of the Empire in the 15th century.

**DURING JUSTINIAN'S REIGN, MOSAICS CAME TO ADORN THE MAGNIFICENT INTERIORS OF MANY CHURCHES THAT HE BUILT, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN CONSTANTINOPLE.**

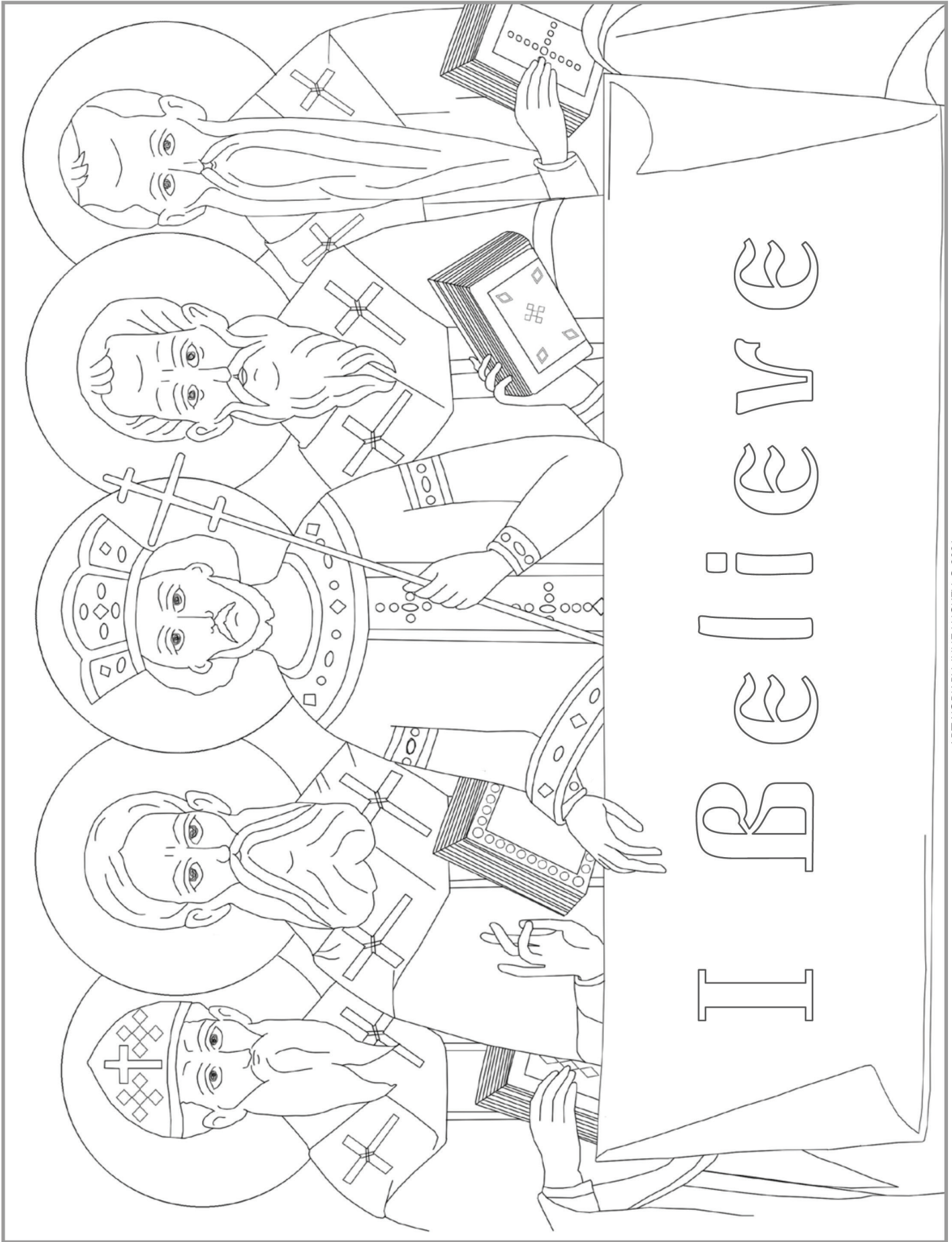
The Byzantine Empire went through several periods of iconoclasm, or the destruction of religious images. During these times of iconoclasm, most mosaics and written icons were defaced or destroyed. We celebrate the victory over iconoclasm on the first Sunday of Great and Holy Lent, the Sunday of Orthodoxy. This close up of this mosaic of Christ is from the icon on Christ the Sower located in Calgary, Alberta.

**HAVE YOU EVER SEEN AN ICON THAT IS A MOSAIC?**

A Mosaic is a pattern or image made of small pieces of colored stone, glass or ceramic, held in place by plaster. Do you have a mosaic icon in your church? Look closely at the colours of the tiles. The slight differences in shades and tones help to create the light that radiates from Christ's face. All the little pieces, each one with its own beauty come together to make a whole, just like each individual member of the church comes together to as part of the Church.

-Written by Kim Bombak

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ARTWORK BY JULIE LUCKEY © 2021

## MEANWHILE...

In the early days after the Resurrection, Christians were persecuted by the Roman government for their faith and were often martyred rather than deny their belief in the One True God and His Divine Son. All that changed one day during a battle in the year 312 AD between the Roman army, led by Emperor Constantine, and a group of rebels led by Constantine's brother in law, Maxentius who was trying to split the empire, taking territory and power for himself. The battle was to take place over the river Tiber on the Milvian Bridge.

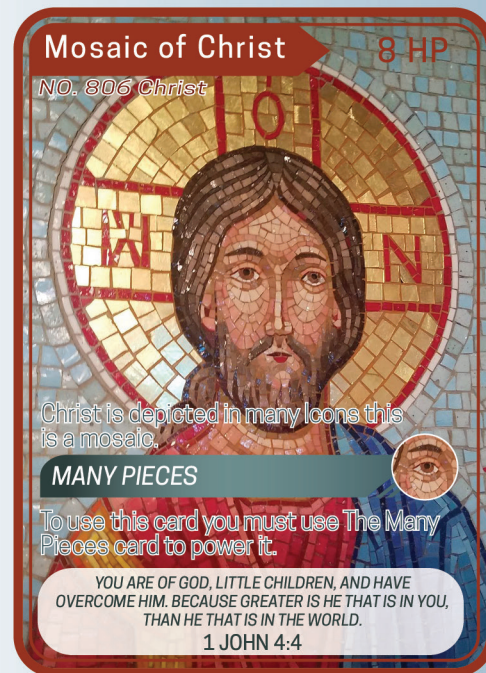


A historian known as Eusebius recorded these events in a biography he wrote on Constantine the Great not long after the emperor died. He tells us that Constantine was a pagan who worshipped a sun-god named Sol Invictus. Yet while he was strategizing for this battle, he saw a sign in the sky ABOVE the sun which appeared in the shape of a cross, with the Greek words for 'by THIS sign, you will conquer'. The sign of the cross intrigued him. That night he had a dream in which he saw Jesus who explained to him that he should use the sign of the cross against his enemies. So Constantine had the image of the cross emblazoned on all of the shields his men would use and adopted the motto, "One God, One Lord, One Faith, One Church, One Empire, One Emperor".

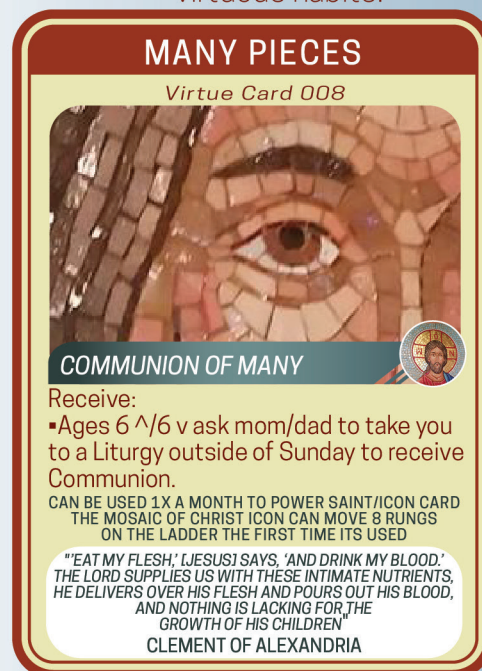
They won the battle, Constantine was converted completely to Christ, and not only did he lift the order to persecute Christians in a document known as the Edict of Milan in 318 AD, but made Christianity the official religion of the Empire. As you can see by his motto, it was important to him that the Church be of one mind so when heretical doctrines arose Constantine, while still only a catechumen, made it his business to unify every Christian in his empire according to one faith and called together over 300 bishops of the Christian Church, both of the east and of the west, at the First Council of Nicaea at Constantine's own summer palace in what is now Iznik, Turkey in 325 AD.

-Written by Lynne Wardach

## THE LADDER TO VIRTUE CARD GAME



Every month there will be a new SAINT/ICON CARD and virtue card. The objective is to move the SAINT/ICON CARD up the ladder to VIRTUE. The VIRTUE CARD entails an objective that must be completed before the SAINT/ICON card can move up on the ladder. We suggest parents give their ByziKids an incentive towards reaching the goal. By the end of the year your ByziKid will have learned about 12 different SAINTS/ICONS and have learned 12 new virtuous habits!





# BYZIKIDS//calendar



# 2021 AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 PROCESSION OF THE VENERABLE CROSS (DORMITION FAST BEGINS)	2 TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF THE ARCHBISHOP & MARTYR STEPHEN	3 ISAAC, DALMATIUS & FAUSTAS, VEN. FATHERS	4 SEVEN HOLY YOUTHS OF EPHEBUS	5 EUSIGNIUS, MARTYR	6 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD	7 DOMETIUS, VENERABLE FATHER
8 6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	9 ELIJAH, PROPHET	10 EZEKIEL, PROPHET	11 MARY MAGDALENE, EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES	12 TROPHEIUS, THEOPHILUS & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS	13 CHRISTINA, MARTYR	DORMITION OF ANNA, MOTHER OF THE THEOTOKOS
11TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	12 MATTHIAS, APOSTLE	13 LAWRENCE, ARCHDEACON & MARTYR	14 EUPIUS, MARTYR	15 PHOTIUS & ANECITUS, MARTYRS	16 MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR, VEN. FATHER	17 TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF THEODOSIUS, VEN. FATHER
7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	16 PANTELEIMON, MARTYR	17 PROCHORUS, NICANOR, TIMON & PARAMENIUS	18 CALLINICUS, MARTYR	19 SILAS, SYLVANIUS, & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS	20 EUDOCIMUS, MARYR	21 PROCESSION OF THE VENERABLE CROSS
15 DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS	18 DIOMEDES, MARTYR	19 MYRON, PRIEST-MARTYR	20 FLORUS & LAURUS, MARTYRS	21 ANDREW THE CENTURION & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS	22 SAMUEL, PROPHET	23 THADDEUS, APOSTLE
8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	22 ISAAC, DALMATIUS & FAUSTAS, VEN. FATHERS	23 SEVEN HOLY YOUTHS OF EPHEBUS	24 EUSIGNIUS, MARTYR	25 TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD	26 DOMETIUS, VENERABLE FATHER	27 EMILIAN THE CONFESSOR, BISHOP OF CYZICIUS
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	24 LUPUS, MARTYR	25 EUTYCHES, PRIEST-MARTYR	26 TITUS, MARTYR	27 ADRIAN & HIS WIFE, NATALIA, MARTYRS	28 PIMEN, VEN. FATHER	29 MOSES THE ETHIOPIAN
9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	30 LAWRENCE, ARCHDEACON & MARTYR	31 EUPIUS, MARTYR	1 PHOTIUS & ANECITUS, MARTYRS	2 HIPPOLYTUS, MARTYR	3 MICAH THE SECOND HOLY PROPHET	4 DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS
BEHEADING OF THE FORERUNNER AND BAPTIST JOHN	10 ALEXANDER, PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPOLE	11 DEPOSITION OF THE CINCTURE OF THE THEOTOKOS	12 GREGORIAN CALENDAR	13 JULIAN CALENDAR	14 GREGORIAN CALENDAR	15 JULIAN CALENDAR
10TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST	17 MYRON, PRIEST-MARTYR	18 FLORUS & LAURUS, MARTYRS	19 JULIAN CALENDAR	20 JULIAN CALENDAR	21 JULIAN CALENDAR	22 JULIAN CALENDAR



: GREGORIAN FASTING DAYS  
 : JULIAN FASTING DAYS  
 : BOTH FASTING DAYS  
 : ACTIVITY ONLINE  
 : FEAST DAY

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