

# Proskomen!

*Saint Nicholas of Myra*

February, 2011 ~ Volume 1, Issue 2

*... building hope by building character*

<http://www.nicholasofmyra.org>



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## *Saint Nicholas of Myra . . . Its Mission, Beliefs, & Motto*

The mission of Saint Nicholas of Myra is to build hope for the future by building character in our youth. To this end, Saint Nicholas of Myra encourages families to live fully the life of the Domestic Church and supports parents in reclaiming their God-given and time-honored role as primary caregivers and moral teachers of their children.

Saint Nicholas of Myra believes that . . .

- the family unit is the icon or image of the Church; therefore, it is properly referred to as the Domestic Church.
- a wedding is an ordination for service in the Domestic Church; husband and wife are called to a unique sharing in Christ's priesthood by their holy crowning.
- "Of all holy works, the education of children is the most holy." - Theophan the Recluse
- parents are the first and primary educators of their children.
- education is not an end in itself; it is rather a means to attain personal holiness.

The motto of Saint Nicholas of Myra is "building hope by building character." It is taken from Romans 5: 3-5: "Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us." It is not easy to be a parent these days, especially one that tries to follow the narrow path.

## *An Address on Vainglory and the Right Way for Parents to Bring Up Their Children*

Our Father among the Saints, John Chrysostom wrote, “To each of you fathers and mothers I say, just as we see artists fashioning their paintings and statues with great precision, so we must care for these wondrous statues of ours. Painters when they have set the canvas on the easel paint on it day by day to accomplish their purpose.<sup>17</sup> Sculptors, too, working in marble, proceed in a similar manner; they remove what is superfluous and add what is lacking. Even so must you proceed. Like the creators of statues do you give all your leisure to fashioning these wondrous statues for God. And, as you remove what is superfluous and add what is lacking, inspect them day by day, to see what good qualities nature has supplied so that you will increase them, and what faults so that you will eradicate them.”

The entirety of St. John Chrysostom’s address is available online at the following URL

[http://www.strobertbellarmine.net/books/Chrysostom--Vainglory\\_and\\_Children.pdf](http://www.strobertbellarmine.net/books/Chrysostom--Vainglory_and_Children.pdf)

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### *A Prayer of Parents for Their Children*

O God, our heavenly Father, who lovest mankind, and art most merciful and compassionate. Have mercy upon thy servants (Name those whom you wish to remember) for whom I humbly pray thee, and commend to thy gracious care and protection. Be thou, O God, their guide and guardian in all their endeavors, lead them in the path of thy truth, and draw them nearer to thee, that they may lead a godly and righteous life in they love and fear; doing thy will in all things. Give them the grace that they may be temperate, industrious, diligent, devout, and charitable. Defend them against the assaults of the enemy, and grant them wisdom and strength to resist all temptation and corruption of this life; and direct them in the way of salvation, through the merits of thy Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and the intercessions of his Holy Mother and they blessed saints. Amen.

### *Upcoming Conferences*

<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Saint Emmelia</i>	3-31-2011 to
<i>Orthodox Home Schooling</i>	4-3-2011
<i>Conference</i>	

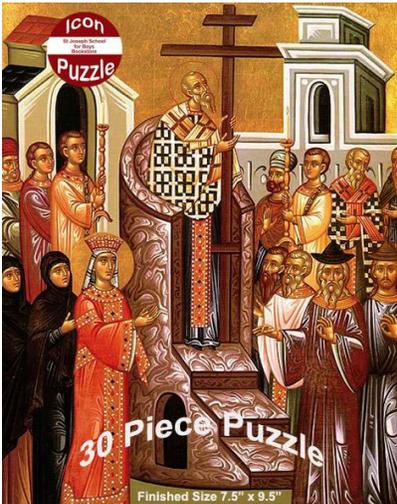
Registration packets will be available on January 31, 2011. Please go to the following on that date for more details:

[http://www.antiochianvillage.org/center/special\\_events/upcoming.html](http://www.antiochianvillage.org/center/special_events/upcoming.html)

If you missed the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Orthodox Christian Online Education Conference, you may still purchase an archived DVD of the conference proceedings for \$45.00 at the following URL

[http://www.orthodoxconference.com/Conference/Purchase\\_DVD.html](http://www.orthodoxconference.com/Conference/Purchase_DVD.html)

*Home Schooling Resources*



**Icon Puzzles**

A great Sunday afternoon pastime for the whole family, the [Saint Joseph for Boys Bookstore](http://www.saintjosephforboys.com) offers 29 different wood icon puzzles in varying sizes (12-pieces to 408-pieces). To order go to the following URL

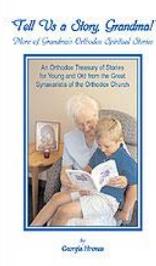
<http://marketplaceadvisor.channeladvisor.com/StoreFrontProfiles/deluxeSFshop.aspx?Puzzles&sfid=78319&c=946397>

**Icon Saint Flash Cards**

According to [acbooks.net](http://acbooks.net), the set contains “50 different saints with their Feast dates, Dismissal Hymns and the brief biography of each saint. Full color, laminated and boxed. Ideal teaching aids.” To order go to the following URL



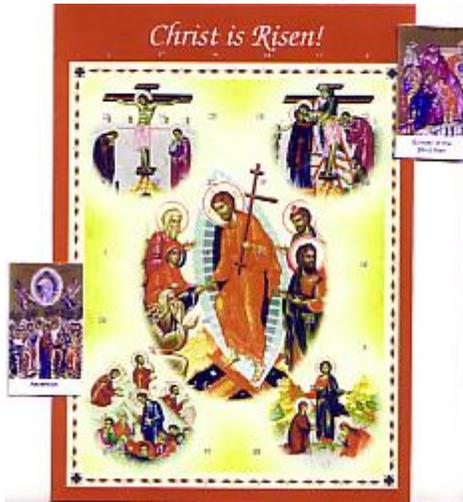
[http://acbooks.net/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=1\\_5&products\\_id=1245](http://acbooks.net/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=1_5&products_id=1245)



**Light & Life Publishing** has published a set of Orthodox stories written by Georgia Hronas that are based on the feasts and lives of the saints of the Church. The titles are *Grandma’s Spiritual Stories*; *Tell Us a Story, Grandma*; and *Tell us about the Angels, Grandma!* Available on the Saint Nicholas of Myra website is a list of which stories are most appropriate for each month. Lesson plans for stories will soon follow.

## In Preparation for Holy Pascha . . .

### Paschal Lenten Calendar



According to the description on Paideaclassics.org, the “calendar [is] based on the Synaxarion of the Lenten Triodion and the Pentecostarion. It starts on Zacchaeus Sunday and goes through Great Lent, Pascha, Ascension, Pentecost and ends on the Sunday of the New Martyrs. There are 41 small windows to be opened each day of the Paschal season. They will reveal an icon for that day. It comes with a numbering guide, a book to explain each day and a mailing envelope.” For more details or to order, please go to the following URL:

[http://www.paideaclassics.org/index.php?sid=&cart\\_id=&show=book&ref=2192](http://www.paideaclassics.org/index.php?sid=&cart_id=&show=book&ref=2192)

### Lenten Art Projects

Looking for an art project to do with your children during the Great Fast? How about making Sundays of Lent and/or Holy Week icon ornaments?



For more information or to order the Sundays of Lent set, visit the following URL:

[http://www.paideaclassics.org/index.php?sid=&cart\\_id=&show=book&ref=2298](http://www.paideaclassics.org/index.php?sid=&cart_id=&show=book&ref=2298)

To order the Holy Week set, visit the following URL

[http://www.paideaclassics.org/index.php?sid=&cart\\_id=&show=book&ref=2298](http://www.paideaclassics.org/index.php?sid=&cart_id=&show=book&ref=2298)

***Saint Nicholas of Myra, Inc. is a nonprofit organization, whose mission is to build hope for the future by building character in our youth. To this end, Saint Nicholas of Myra encourages families to live fully the life of the Domestic Church and supports parents in reclaiming their God-given and time-honored role as primary caregivers and moral teachers of their children.***

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