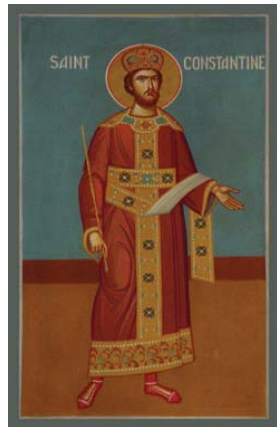


GRADES K-1



I Care for My Church

Name



TO TITHE IS TO SHARE
TO TITHE IS TO CARE

Dear Student,

As Orthodox Christians, we care about our faith and our church. One way we care is by bringing in money for the collection. We aim to bring in a dime for every dollar we receive. This is called a "tithe."

Every month you can read a page of this booklet. You will learn about four saints. They are Helen, Jacob, Artemius and Constantine. We are learning about them because they serve as good examples, or exemplars, for us. They are good stewards, thankful, dedicated to God, and trusting of God. They helped care for the church.

We need to care. We need to share.
To tithe is to share. To tithe is to care...
... about your church!



Acknowledgements

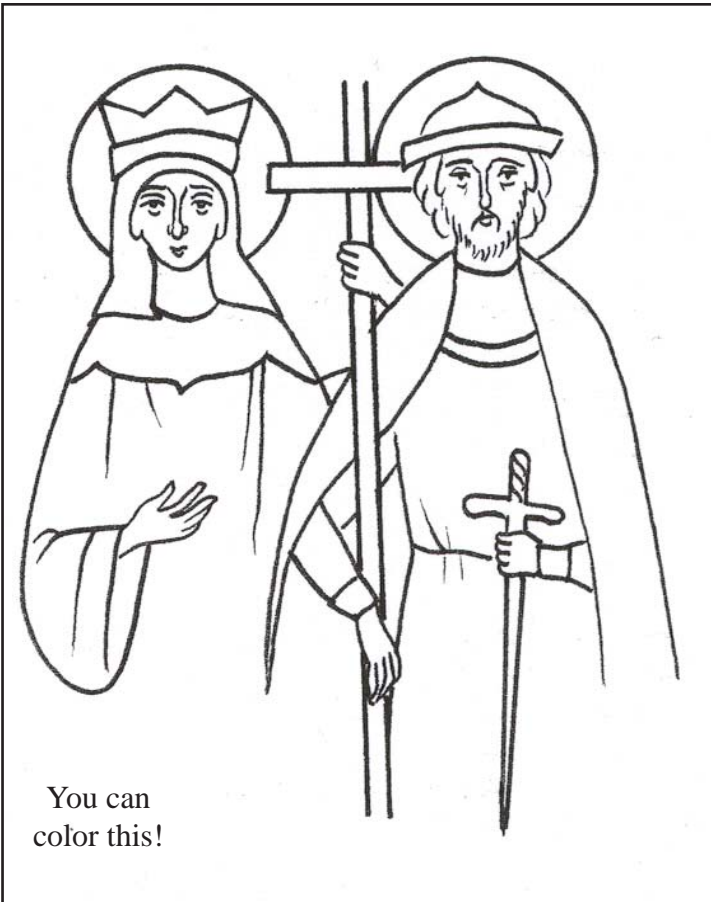
Icon photographs are courtesy of comeandseeicons.com; proceeds from sales support an Orthodox homeless ministry in Philadelphia.

Saint stories by Catherine Sullivan. Layout consultant, Kyra Buleza.



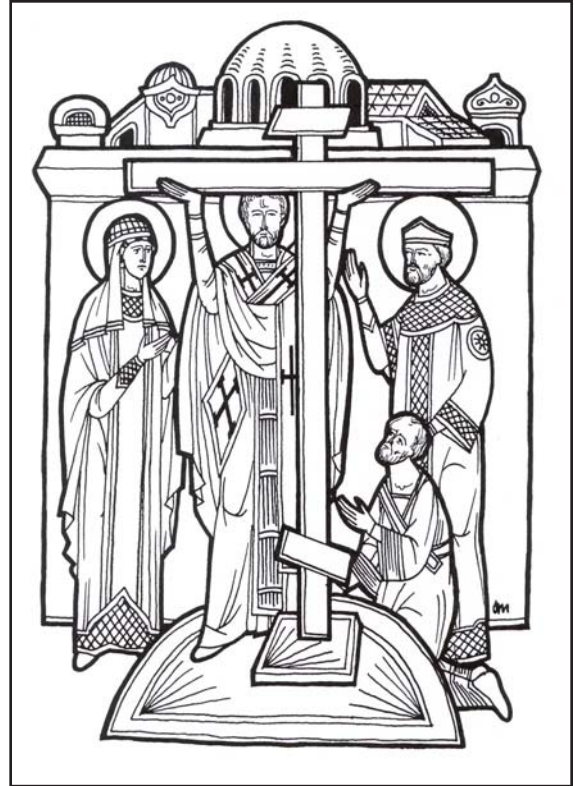
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Learning to Tithe



You can color this!

St. Helen, and her son, St. Constantine were very generous and did amazing things to help the church grow. We will learn about them both this year.



The icon above is The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Helen was a good steward, and because of that she was able to find the real true cross of Christ. Can you find St. Helen?

Jesus Christ gave us the Church.
We help care for it when we put money in the collection basket. You can put money in too. We call this a tithe.



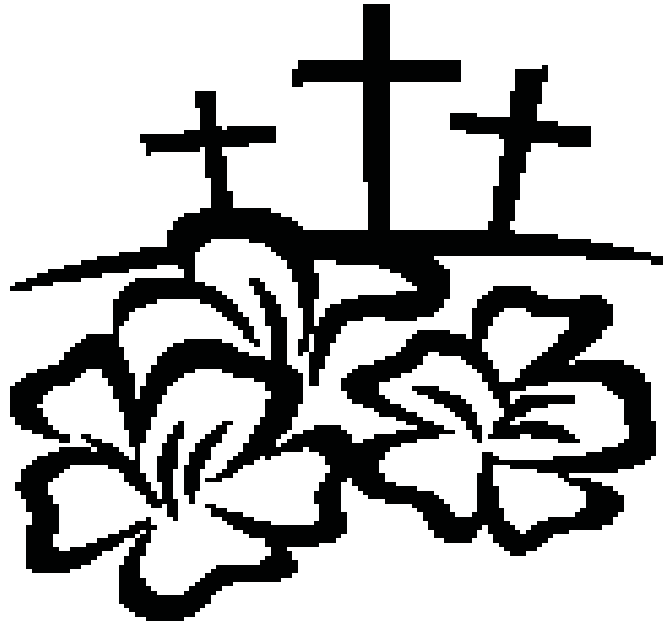
St. Helen

Exemplar of Stewardship
Part 1

October 

St. Helen lived a long, long time ago. She loved God.

St. Helen went to the Holy Land to find the cross on which Jesus died. She found it! She used her money to build a beautiful church there.



You can color this!

Helen shared her money with the Church. Because of this, we say she is a good "steward." We can be like St. Helen, and help care for our church. One way we can do this is by bringing in money for the collection.

Who was a good steward?

St. Helen was a good steward.



St. Helen

Exemplar of Stewardship
Part 2

St. Helen had a lot of money. She wanted to visit the Holy Land to see where Jesus lived.

When she went there she found the place where he was born. She built a church there. St. Helen found the true cross. She built a church there. She cared for the church.



Be like St. Helen. Be a good steward. Share your money with the church. To share is to care.

Circle the words

HELEN

STEWARD

CARE

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



Patriarch Jacob

Exemplar of Thankfulness
Part 1

December



While Jacob was traveling, he stopped to sleep for the night. He dreamed of a ladder that was set up between heaven and earth. The Lord stood above the ladder. He promised Jacob that the land on which he had fallen asleep would one day be his and his children's.

Jacob became the father of a very large family. That is why we call him a "patriarch." God kept his promise. Jacob was very thankful to God, just like we should be.

What are you thankful for?



Who was thankful to God?

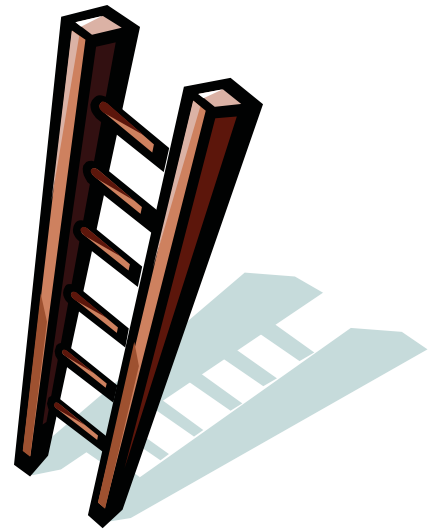
Patriarch Jacob was thankful to God.

Patriarch Jacob

Exemplar of Thankfulness
Part 2

January

In Jacob's dream, the Lord stood above the ladder. He promised Jacob that the land on which he had fallen asleep would one day be his and his children's. When Jacob awoke, he said, "Surely, the Lord is in this place—it is the gate of heaven. If the Lord keeps me safe and provides for me until I return home. I will give a tenth of all the Lord gives to me" (Genesis 28).



God kept His promise. In returning a tenth, or tithe, to God, Jacob was thankful to the One who provides for us. We, too, give thanks by giving a tithe to God. It is our tradition.

Circle the words

LADDER

TITHE

JACOB

J	A	C	O	B	B	E	T
X	B	E	Q	P	S	E	I
L	A	D	D	E	R	V	T
J	M	A	M	A	O	O	H
O	S	T	C	W	A	R	E



St. Artemius

Exemplar of Dedication to God
Part 1

February 

There are many holy people, called saints. Some saints are children. St. Artemius was a child saint. He lived in Russia a long time ago.



You can color this!

St. Artemius was poor, and lived on a farm. His parents taught him to be a good Christian. He obeyed his parents. He worked hard with his father. He did everything to please God. We need to do everything in our lives to please God. St. Artemius is our example. It is good to please God.

Who was dedicated to God?

St. Artemius was dedicated to God.

St. Artemius

Exemplar of Dedication to God

Part 2

March

You
can
color
this!



St. Artemius was a holy child. He lived in Russia a long time ago. His parents were poor, but they loved God. St. Artemius loved God and the Church. He loved to help people.

He died when he was caught in a storm at age 12. Many years later, a monk was collecting berries in a field.

He found the body of St. Artemius. It was not decayed from the weather over the years. He told others. He told others. Many miracles happened when people prayed to St. Artemius. Even after his death, St. Artemius was able to help people!





St. Constantine

Exemplar of Trust
Part 1



Constantine was a famous general. One day, Constantine's army faced a powerful enemy. Constantine did not think he could win.

Then he saw a vision in front of him. He saw a cross with the words upon it: "By This Cross You Will Have Victory."



The next day, Constantine decided to put all his trust in God. In the morning he had each soldier paint a cross upon his shield. Even those soldiers who weren't Christians did this! With the cross on their shields, Constantine led his men into battle.

Who trusted God?

St. Constantine trusted God.



I Care for My
Church