

WEEK 26: JESUS' CRUCIFIXION, DEATH, AND BURIAL

1ST & 2ND GRADE

GOALS

Our knowledge of all four gospels enables us to read the icons relating to Jesus' life

LESSON

Materials Needed: Orthodox Children's Bible Reader

Extended Learning Opportunity for Teachers:

The Gospel of Matthew: Torah for the Church by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pgs 363-384

The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew by Blessed Theophylact, pgs 239-252

CLASS ROUTINE

Continue routine - move photo, light candle, venerate icon, prayer

JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS

Read or summarize pgs. 253 - 255 of the Orthodox Children's Bible Reader

In the icon provided in the children's Bible, Christ is the central figure. In the background, on the left side of the icon is the soldier who pierced His side. On the right side of the icon, is the man who placed a sponge soaked with sour vinegar on a stick and tried to give it to Jesus.

In the foreground, on the left side of the icon we see Mary Magdalene, the Theotokos, and Salome. On the right side of the icon, we see St. John the Theologian and the centurion who said, "Indeed, this man was the Son of God!"

At the bottom of the icon under Jesus, we see a skull to remind us of the place where Jesus died - Golgotha, which means, "Place of the Skull."

In the background, we see the city walls of Jerusalem. This reminds us that Jesus died just outside of Jerusalem, not inside of the city.

THE BURIAL OF JESUS

Read or summarize pgs 255-256 of the Orthodox Children's Bible Reader

In the icon provided in the children's Bible, we see the Theotokos tenderly holding her Son as He is about to be placed in His tomb. Joseph of Arimathea is ready to place Jesus in the tomb as everyone else is lifting Him into it. The myrrh-bearing women watched where they placed Jesus in the tomb.

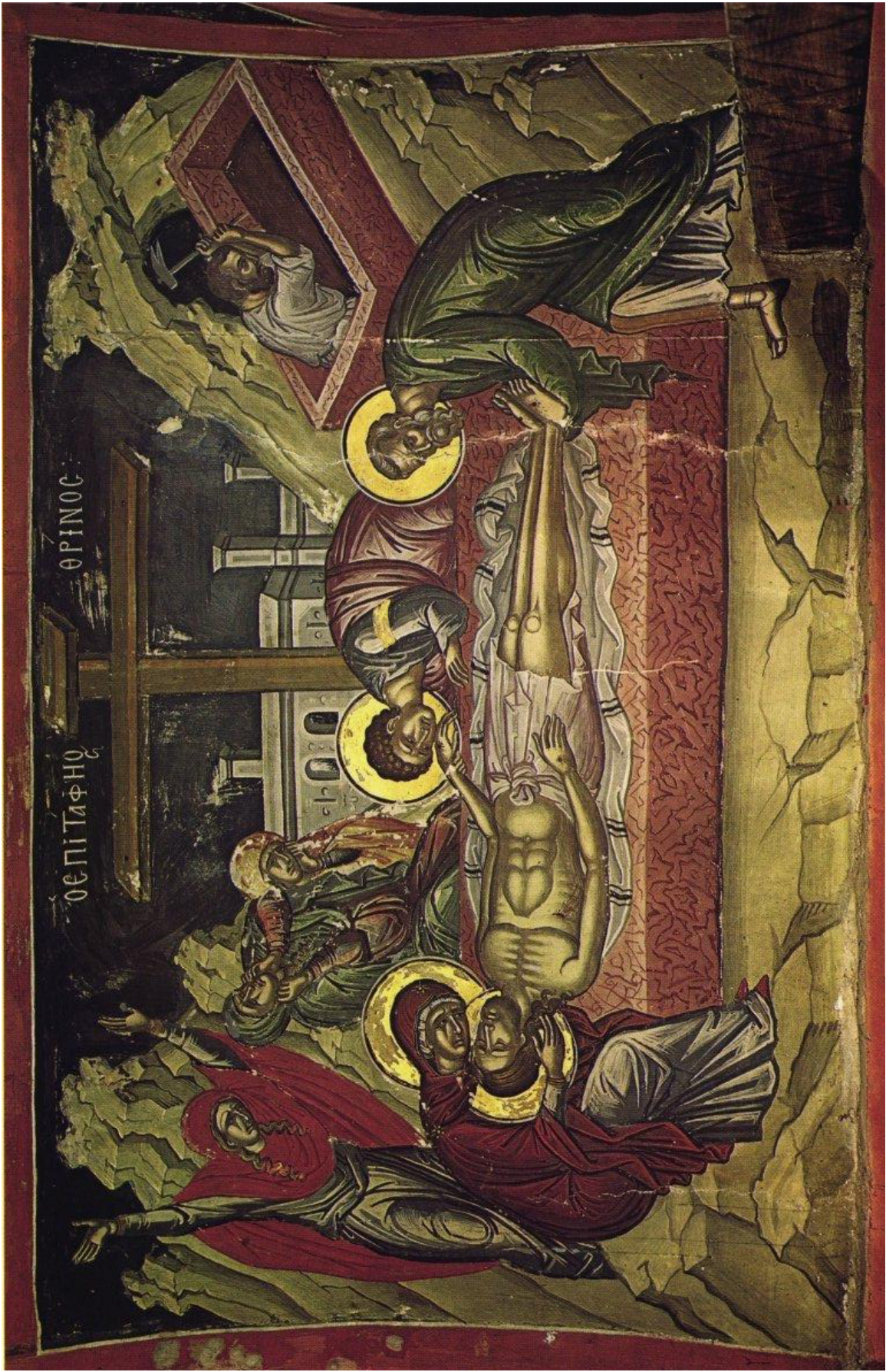
"CHRIST IS RISEN!"

Continue singing "Christ is Risen!" or learning the responses to "Christ is Risen!" in multiple languages.

ACTIVITY IDEAS:

- After reading or summarizing Jesus dying on the Cross and His burial, hold up each of the icons and ask students to summarize what is happening in the icon.
- Lay out the icons from last week and this week on a table and mix them up. Ask the students to put the icons in correct chronological order.
- Hold up the icon of the Crucifixion of Christ and ask: Where's Jesus? Where is the Theotokos? Where is St. John the Theologian? Where is the centurion? Where is the soldier who pierced Jesus' side? Where's the man who tried to give Jesus a sponge soaked with sour vinegar on a long stick?
- Hold up the icon of the Burial of Christ and ask: Where's Jesus? Where is the Theotokos? Where is Joseph of Arimathea? Where are the myrrh-bearing women?
- Continue practicing singing "Christ is Risen!"
- Continue practicing the responses to "Christ is Risen!"





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