

Lazarus Saturday

The miraculous raising of Lazarus from the dead by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is commemorated on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. The forty days of the Great Lent come to an end. On Palm Sunday, the Church celebrates the power of Christ over death and exalts Him as King in His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. These events take place just before the beginning of Holy Week and prepare us for the Resurrection of our Lord.

1.

Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha were good friends of our Lord Jesus Christ. One time when Jesus was far away, Lazarus became very sick and died. When he knew that Lazarus had died, He told his disciples, "Our friend Laz'arus has fallen asleep, but I go to awake him out of sleep." The disciples thought that he was going simply to wake him up, until he explained that Lazarus had really died and he was going to bring him back to life.

2.

Four days later Jesus arrived in Bethany where he was met by crying Martha who said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."

3.

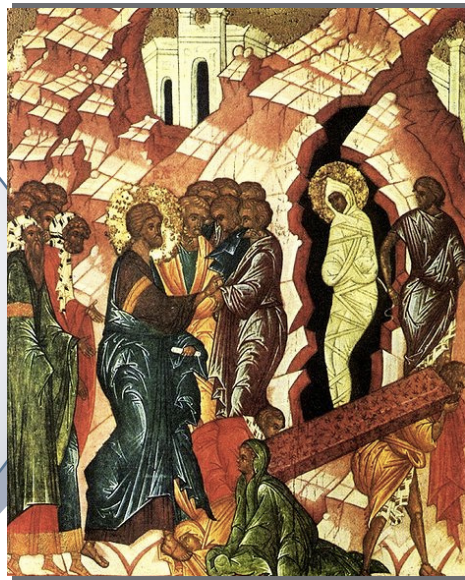
Soon her sister Mary came to them crying. When Jesus saw her and other people crying sadly for Lazarus and was moved to tears himself. Controlling himself, he asked to be shown the place where Lazarus was placed. It was a cave with a huge stone covering the entrance. He ordered that the stone be taken away.

5.

After he was unbound and free, he went home walking. Many people who saw the miracle were amazed and believed that Jesus was truly sent by God.
John 11: 1-44

4.

When the stone was removed, he raised his eyes and hands and prayed to the Father, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. I knew that thou hearest me always, but I have said this on account of the people standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me." Then in a loud voice so everyone could hear, He called: "Laz'arus, come out." Everyone saw the dead man come out wrapped in burial cloth.



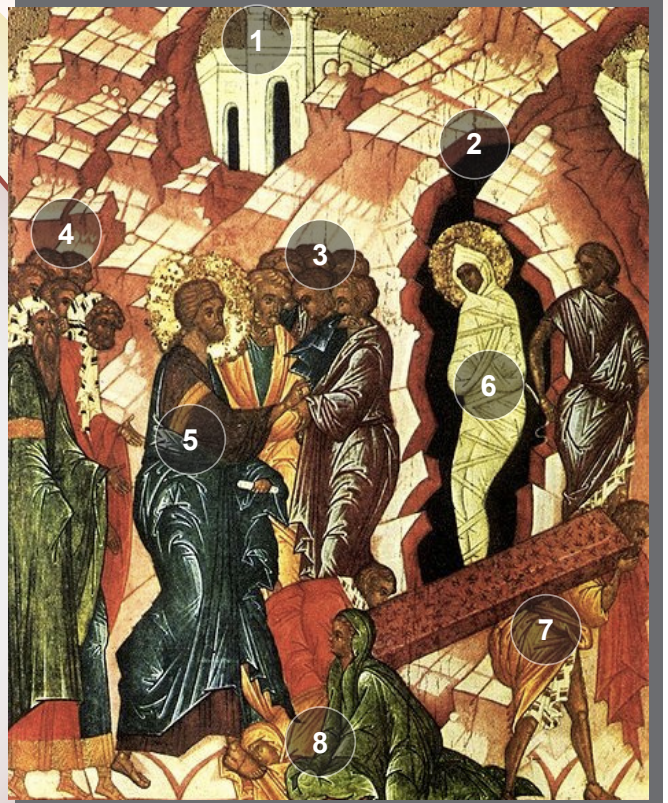
"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."

John 11: 25-26

Name: _____ Date: _____

Match the labels on the icon with the list below.

- A Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ _____
- B Disciples of Christ, near Him _____
- C People witnessing the miracle _____
- D Lazarus, raised from the dead by our Lord _____
- E Martha and Mary, Lazarus' sisters, bowing to Christ at this miracle _____
- F Cave where Lazarus was buried _____
- G Walled city of Jerusalem that Christ will enter in triumph the next day, Palm Sunday _____
- H Person who follows our Lord's request and removes the stone covering the entrance to the tomb _____



PRAYER

*By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your passion,
 You did confirm the universal Resurrection, O Christ God!
 Like the children with the palms of victory,
 We cry out to You, O Vanquisher of death;
 Hosanna in the Highest!
 Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord!
 - Troparion. Tone 1 -*

Lazarus Saturday

{Teacher's Edition}

Lesson Objective: To have children understand the miraculous raising of Lazarus from the dead by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and how it prepares us for the Resurrection of our Lord.

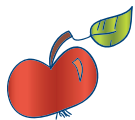
Introduction:

The miraculous raising of Lazarus from the dead by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is commemorated on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. The forty days of the Great Lent come to an end. On Palm Sunday, the Church celebrates the power of Christ over death and exalts Him as King in His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. These events take place just before the beginning of Holy Week and prepare us for the Resurrection of our Lord.

Bible Reading:

"I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die." John 11: 25-26

Censer Symbolism:



1. Lazarus and his sisters Mary and Martha were good friends of our Lord Jesus Christ. One time when Jesus was far away, Lazarus became very sick and died. When he knew that Lazarus had died, He told his disciples, "Our friend Laz'arus has fallen asleep, but I go to awake him out of sleep." The disciples thought that he was going simply to wake him up, until he explained that Lazarus had really died and he was going to bring him back to life.
2. Four days later Jesus arrived in Bethany where he was met by crying Martha who said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. And even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die."
3. Soon her sister Mary came to them crying. When Jesus saw her and other people crying sadly for Lazarus and was moved to tears himself. Controlling himself, he asked to be shown the place where Lazarus was placed. It was a cave with a huge stone covering the entrance. He ordered that the stone be taken away.
4. When the stone was removed, he raised his eyes and hands and prayed to the Father, "Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. I knew that thou hearest me always, but I have said this on account of the people standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me." Then in a loud voice so everyone could hear, He called: "Laz'arus, come out." Everyone saw the dead man come out wrapped in burial cloth.
5. After he was unbound and free, he went home walking. Many people who saw the miracle were amazed and believed that Jesus was truly sent by God. John 11: 1-44

Activity:

Have children match the labels on the icon with the list of descriptions.
Solution: a)-5., b)-3., c)-4., d)-6., e)-8., f)-2., g)-1., h)-7.

Prayer:

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You did confirm the universal Resurrection, O Christ God!
Like the children with the palms of victory,
We cry out to You, O Vanquisher of death;
Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!
- Troparion. Tone 1 -