“Take up your bed and walk!”

Have you ever had to say goodbye to somebody...and you didn’t want to say goodbye? Jesus’s disciples did. After Jesus rose from the dead, He told His disciples they had a mission. He told them to go and teach the whole world what they had learned about God. That was a big job, and it would be hard after they had said goodbye to their Teacher. But Jesus also told them something else. “I am with you always, forever,” He said.

Today, is the Sunday of the Paralytic. We remember the story of a man Jesus healed. This man was paralyzed and hadn’t walked for 38 years. Jesus listened to him, and the man picked up his mat and walked.

But in the epistle reading today, we hear about another paralyzed man. This story happened after Jesus had died and risen from the dead. This happened after He had left for Heaven. Jesus’s disciple, Peter, healed this paralyzed man.

So we see that Jesus really is “with us always.” And when He said goodbye to His disciples, it wasn’t for forever. We know that Jesus did all kinds of miracles when He lived on earth. But after He left for Heaven, He is still with us. He still works miracles—just like He did for the second paralyzed man, and just like He does for so many in the world every day!
WORD SEARCH

Can you find these words in the jumble?

GLYKERIA
GOODBYE
MIRACLES
NOVGOROD
PARALYTIC
RISEN
SAINTS
STRANGER
WALK

SAINT GLYKERIA OF NOVGOROD
A STRANGER HELPS!

Has a stranger ever helped you with something? Maybe somebody helped you tie your shoes, or opened the door for you, or even gave you a little money. Maybe this person helped you, and you didn’t even know him or her!

This week we celebrate a saint we don’t know much about. We know lots of stories about Saint Nicholas and Saint Nektarios and Saint Katherine. Those saints don’t seem like strangers to us; they’re our friends! This week we celebrate somebody who might seem like a stranger to us...but she can still help us!

Saint Glykeria was from Novgorod, a famous city in Russia. It’s famous to us Christians, because there are some other special saints from there! We really don’t know anything about her except that she died in the year 1522. Several years after she died, somebody found where she was buried. The archbishop of Novgorod brought her coffin into the big church, and that day, a little four-year old boy was healed when he came to Saint Glykeria.

After that, lots of people came to pray to this “stranger saint.” Now, we can read about lots of miracles that happened because of the prayers of Saint Glykeria of Novgorod. So, she’s no longer a stranger to us! On her saint’s day, we also celebrate another Saint Glykeria. We know more about that Glykeria, but they are both close to God and can listen to us!

We remember St. Glykeria of Novgorod on Wed, May 13th (May 26, OC).