Don’t you love it when friends and relatives come over for a visit? Maybe you will have some relatives over for Thanksgiving or Christmas, or maybe a birthday! When somebody comes to our house, we might get excited as we get everything ready!

Do you know that the most important visitor has come to see us too? This visitor was Jesus, and He came to earth to be with us!

In the epistle lesson today, we read, “But we see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.”

In other words, God came down from heaven to earth. He came to visit us in His human form as Jesus. Jesus is God, so He is more powerful than anything or anybody, but He became “lower than the angels.” He became a person so He could be like us. God came to show us that He loves us. God came to visit us to teach us how to grow closer to Him. We know that God loves us because He did this for us!

Let’s remember how much God loves us. Let’s thank Him for His love that He showed with His visit.
What's in an icon?

Sometimes you might see an icon of a martyr saint that shows how he or she died.

This is Saint Corona (Saint Stephanie) who was killed for being a Christian. They tied her arms to two palm trees and then let go. She was one brave Christian!

Saint Corona, a Martyr's Crown

Have you ever seen a picture of a king or a queen or a princess or prince? What do they wear on their heads? A crown, of course! A crown shows they rule over somebody; a crown shows how special they are.

This week, we celebrate a saint who wears a different kind of crown. In our church, we talk about a crown for a martyr, somebody who died for his or her faith.

Saint Corona’s name even means “crown” in Latin. (She is also known as Saint Stephanie, which means “crown” in Greek.)

Saint Corona was not a queen or a princess. Instead, she was married to a military man, who died when she was still pretty young. She grew up as a Christian, but her Christian faith grew even stronger when she saw another saint, Saint Victor, die as a martyr. Saint Victor was hurt so much and even killed by the pagan rulers. Saint Victor showed others his bravery, and he showed how much Christ meant to him. He showed that he would rather die than give up his Christian faith!

Saint Corona saw all this, and she tried to help Saint Victor stay strong and never give up. The governor arrested her and had her killed. Saint Corona was not a queen, but she got an even better crown—the crown of a martyr, and that gives her life with the Lord forever!

You might have heard about Saint Corona/Stephanie because of the Coronavirus pandemic. You can pray to her, and ask her to help you always be a brave and faithful Christian!

We celebrate Sts. Victor and Corona on Wed., Nov. 11th (OC: Nov 24).