Saint Nicholas, pray for us!

“Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them, for to such is the Kingdom of Heaven.” Mark 10:14

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God equips us!

Have you ever packed for a trip? Maybe you’ve packed for a camping trip, even if it was just to camp out in your own backyard. When you pack, you have to think about what you need, and what you’ll use that equipment for.

In the epistle reading today, we hear about how God equips us too. He gives us what we need for life! The epistle says, “Now may the God of peace... equip you with everything good, that you may do His will, working in you that which is pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ.” We ask God to equip us. We ask Him to give us everything good.

But...did you read the rest of the sentence? We ask God to give us these good things so that we may do God’s will. We want God to give us good things so God can work in us. We want God to give us everything good so we can do what is pleasing to God.

We ask our parents for all kinds of things. And, when we pray, we ask God for all kinds of things too. But, let’s remember that we ask for good things so that we can do what God wants. We use our equipment, “everything good” so God can work in us. We want to do what is pleasing to God!
**WORD SEARCH**

Can you find these words in the jumble?

- EQUIP
- GOD’S WILL
- GOOD THINGS
- LISTEN
- MIRACLES
- NICHOLAS
- PRAYER
- SAINT
- THANKS
- WONDERWORKER

**What’s in an icon?**

Sailors love Saint Nicholas too!

Here is an icon that shows Saint Nicholas helping a man who fell into the stormy sea.

**SAINT NICHOLAS LISTENS TO OUR PRAYERS!**

Do you remember people who do nice things for you? Yes, of course we do! Even if a stranger does something for us, we remember it. And if a friend does something for us, we remember it too. Everybody remembers Saint Nicholas, because Saint Nicholas has helped so many people. He helped people when he lived over 1,700 years ago, and he still helps people today! He even listens to our prayers too.

Not so long ago, there was a big icon of Saint Nicholas in a train station in China. People would pray to Saint Nicholas as they passed by. (A train station is a good place for a Saint Nicholas icon, because Saint Nicholas especially helps travelers).

Once, many people saw a man, soaked in rain water, run straight to the icon. He was thanking Saint Nicholas for saving him!

The man told the people that he had gotten caught on the ice. The ice was cracking, and he was stuck, about to go under! He prayed, “Old man at the train station, save me!” The next thing he knew, he was on the shore, safe. He knew Saint Nicholas had saved him, and he ran all the way to the train station. He thanked Saint Nicholas, “the old man at the train station.”

Saint Nicholas has helped so many people from so many places for so many years. Remember Saint Nicholas! He listens to us. Then, let’s thank him too!

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We celebrate St. Nicholas today, December 6th (OC: Dec. 19th).