

The Intercession of the Saints

Orthodox Christians frequently ask the saints to pray to God for health and assistance in this life, and for eternal salvation in the age to come. Just as we ask one another here on earth to pray for us, so we ask the saints in heaven to intercede before God for us.

The faithful seek the certain intercession of individual saints for specific needs. For example, to find a job or a home, they ask Saint Menás to pray to God for them. Or, to find an item that has been lost, they ask Saint Fanoúrios to intercede with the Lord.

To express gratitude to the Lord, to the Virgin Mary, and to the saints it is customary to thank them in prayer and to bring flowers or light a candle before their icon.

Following is a listing of saints and the various needs for which they are called upon to intercede. Sometimes we say that they a particular saint is the “patron” of particular needs.

To Have a Child

Saint Ánna, Mother of the Theotókos
Saint Elízabeth, Mother of the Forerunner
Saint Sábbas the Sanctified of Palestine
Saint Iréne Chrysovolántou
Saint Romanós the Wonder Worker
Saint Hypátios the Abbot of Rufinos

Safe Childbirth

Saint Eleuthérios

Freedom from Difficulties in Childbirth

Great Martyr Kátherine
Hieromartyr Eleuthérios of Illyria

Health of Infants

Righteous Símeon the God-Bearer

Deliverance of a child from Birth Marks

Great Martyr Nikítas

Healing of Children with Smallpox

Martyr Kónon

Care & Protection of Infants

Saint Stylianós

Patron of Children

Saint Níchos of Myra in Lycia

Patron of Youth

Saint Dimitríos Great Martyr and Myrrh-
Streamer of Thessaloníki

Headaches

Saint John the Baptist
New Martyr Démas of Smyrna

Eyes

Saint Paraskeví of Rome
Saint Lucía of Sicily
Martyr Menás the Egyptian
Martyr Lávrence the Archdeacon
Martyr Longínos

Recovery of Sight to the Blind

Icon of Our Lady of Kazán

Ears

Saint Spyridon the Wonder Worker

Teeth

Hieromartyr Antípas of Pérgamos

Throat

Saint Vlásios of Sebastía

Hernias & Intestinal Disorders

Great Martyr Artémios
Saint Artémios of Verkóla

Protection from Poisons and Potions

Great Martyr Anastasía of Rome

Healing of Trembling or Shaking Diseases

Saint Máron
Saint Fotiní the Samaritan Woman
Saint Básil the New

Help Against Snake Bite

Prophet Jeremíah

Against the Plague

Saint Harálambos
Great Martyr Marína
Saint Bessáron, Archbishop of Lárissa