

On Lazarus Saturday in many Orthodox Churches, palm branches are being blessed. However, in some other Orthodox Churches, willow branches are being blessed. Why? The reason for this practice is that in many countries where Orthodox Christians live, palm trees cannot grow, and willows were used instead. This is why this plant was replaced with the willow. Therefore, in the Serbian Orthodox Church Lazarus Saturday is also known as “Vrbica,” which in Serbian means willow. Children also wear small bells around their neck, triumphantly announcing with them the joy of the resurrection.





### DID YOU KNOW?

ON THE SATURDAY BEFORE HOLY WEEK, OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST RAISED LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD. THE STORY OF THE RAISING OF LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD BY JESUS CHRIST WAS WRITTEN IN THE HOLY GOSPEL.

PLEASE, CIRCLE THE NAME OF THE APOSTLE WHO WROTE ABOUT THIS?

1. DANIEL

2. JOHN

3. PAUL

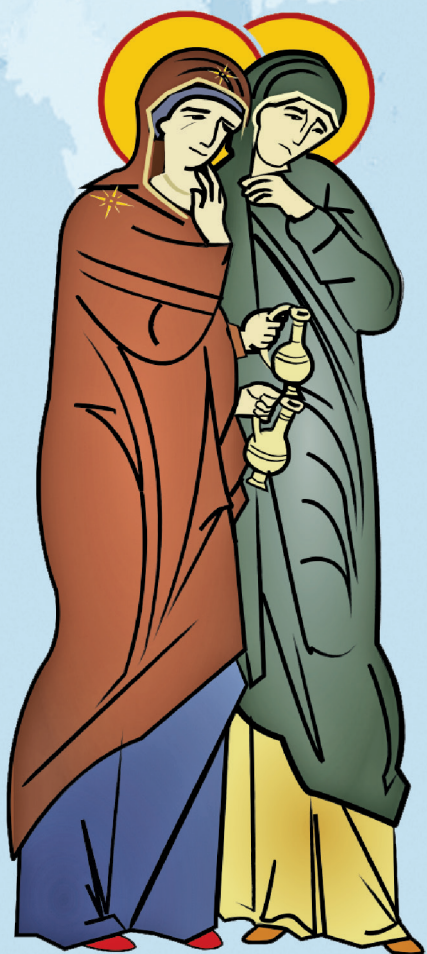
WHEN LAZARUS BECAME ILL, HIS SISTERS MARY AND MARTHA SENT, A MESSAGE TO CHRIST THAT HIS FRIEND WAS ILL. WHEN JESUS CHRIST ARRIVED AT BETHANY, LAZARUS WAS ALREADY DEAD.

CAN YOU CIRCLE HOW MANY DAYS HAD LAZARUS ALREADY BEEN IN THE TOMB?

A. 1 \_\_\_\_\_

B. 2 \_\_\_\_\_

C. 4 \_\_\_\_\_



ACCORDING TO THIS GOSPEL STORY JESUS TOLD THE DISCIPLES THAT LAZARUS HIS FRIEND HAD FALLEN ASLEEP AND THAT HE WAS GOING TO WAKE HIM. HIS SISTERS WERE SAD BUT THEY ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR FAITH IN CHRIST AS THE MESSIAH AND SON OF GOD.

WHEN JESUS ASKED MARTHA IF SHE BELIEVES HE CAN RAISE THEIR BROTHER, HOW DID SHE RESPOND?

1. YES, LORD, I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE THE SON OF GOD.

2. NO, LORD, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO RAISE ANY HUMAN.

THE ICON OF THE SATURDAY OF LAZARUS SHOWS CHRIST CALLING HIS FRIEND TO COME OUT OF THE TOMB. CHRIST IS SURROUNDED WITH HIS DISCIPLES WHO ARE WITNESSES OF THIS MIRACLE. THIS FEAST AND PALM SUNDAY ARE JOYOUS FEAST DAYS OF THE CHURCH.

WHICH COLOR DO YOU THINK IS USED FOR VESTMENTS AND THE HOLY TABLE FOR THESE FEASTS? CIRCLE THE RIGHT ANSWER.

A. PURPLE

B. BRIGHT COLOR



WE ARE APPROACHING THE DAY OF RESURRECTION. LET US FORGIVE ALL THINGS AND EMBRACE ONE ANOTHER AND ENJOY THIS BEAUTIFUL FEAST DAY.

COMPLETE THE WORDS OF THIS CHURCH HYMN, WE SING ON THE DAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST:

CHRIST IS RI\_\_\_\_\_ FROM THE D\_\_\_\_\_

TRAMPLING D\_\_\_\_\_ DEATH BY D\_\_\_\_\_

AND UPON T\_\_\_\_\_ IN THE TOMBS

BESTOWING L\_\_\_\_\_ .



### TIPS FOR BOTH CHILDREN AND PARENTS

ACHIEVE WHAT HAS VALUE.  
DO YOU HAVE GOD IN YOUR HEART.  
DO YOU HAVE THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD?  
THAT IS WHAT HAS VALUE.  
AND EVERYTHING ELSE- ONLY FOR A SHORT TIME.

