

***Psalm 38:13-14 But I, like a deaf man, do not hear; And I am like a mute who does not open his mouth. Thus I am like a man who does not hear, And in whose mouth is no response.***



**Lesson is prepared by Yonas Assefa**

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In the name of the  
Father, and the Son, and  
the Holy Spirit, one God.  
Amen.



## Begin with the Lord's prayer

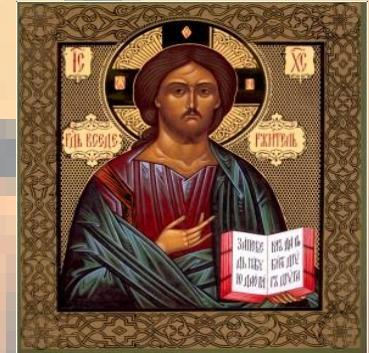
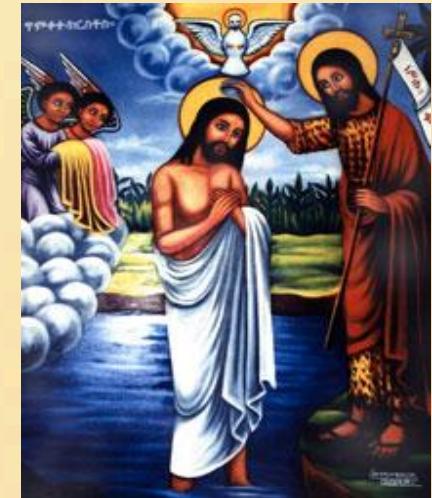
Our Lord and Savior, our King and God,  
we thank you for gathering us here to stand  
before you to call on your Holy Name.

Heavenly Father, teach us to trust You in  
everything we do.

Our God open our eyes, ears, hearts and  
minds to Your Word today.

Bless all the children and keep them safe.  
Hear us when we humbly and thankfully pray  
to you.

Our Father, who art in heaven  
Hallowed be thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done  
On earth as it is in heaven  
Give us this day our daily bread  
And forgive us our trespasses  
As we forgive those who trespass  
against us  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from the evil one  
For thine is the kingdom, the power,  
and the Glory. Forever, Amen.

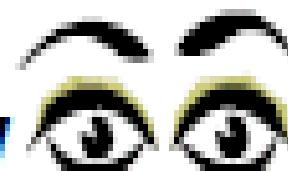


O our Lady, as St. Gabriel greeted you, "Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you." True Virgin in conscience as well as body, blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

Holy Mary, the God-bearer, pray that your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, may forgive us our sins. Amen.



# Class Covenant

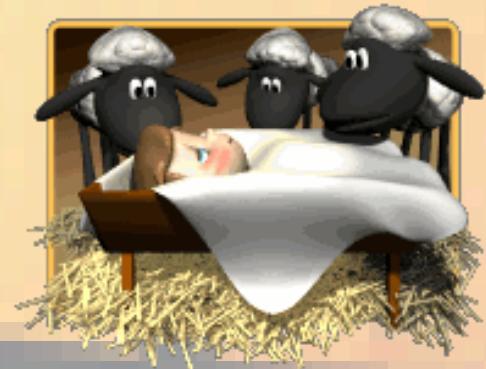
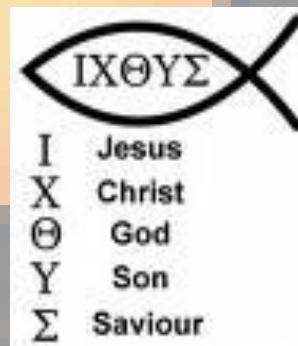
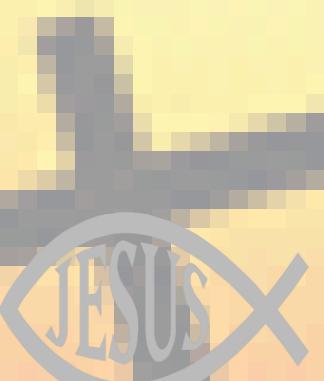
I will keep my  on my teacher,  
my  in control,  
my s on God's Word;  
knowing God is my goal.

# MEMORY VERSE

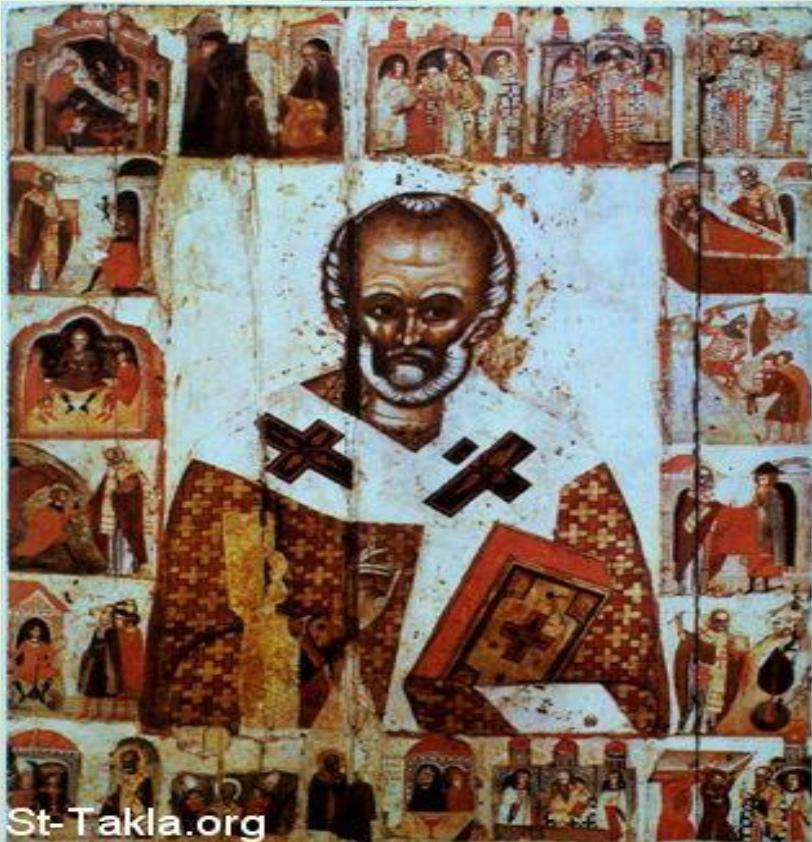
Can anyone tell me  
last week's  
memory verse???

# Recite Last week's memory verse

**“For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten son” (John 3:16)**



# *St. Nicholas: The Real Santa Claus*



November 23, 2014

# Memorize today's Verse

“God loves a cheerful giver”  
(1 Corinthian 9:7)



Practice this verse  
again during the week.

# Objective

- To learn that Santa Claus is actually a real saint in the Church.

# Introduction

- What do you know about Santa Claus?
  - What is the best thing about him?
- Did you know that Santa Claus = St. Nicholas ?

# Santa Claus = Baba Noel = St. Nicholas

- St. Nicholas was from the city of **Mora (Myra)** in modern day Demre in Turkey
  - His father= **Epiphanious**
  - His mother= **Tona.**
- They feared the Lord
- They were rich, but with no children
- They prayed to God that they would have a child to bring them joy and inherit their money.
- God heard their prayers and gave them this saint.





# Young Nicholas

- God made Nicholas Holy and Blessed him ever since he was a little boy.
- The Holy Spirit of the Lord taught and he increased in intelligence and knowledge.
- He learned all the teachings of the church since his young age and became a deacon in the church.
- He served and loved our **Lord Jesus Christ**.

# A young monk

- He became a monk in a monastery where his cousin was the abbot.
- He became a priest at age 19. Do you know a priest who is 19 years old today???
- God gave him the gift of performing signs and healing the sick.



# A famous story

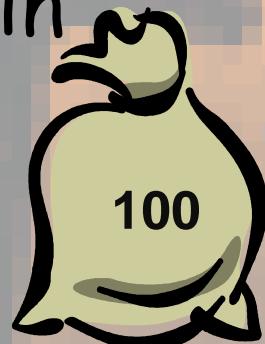
- There was a very rich man in the city of Mora who lost all his wealth.
- He had 3 daughters who passed the age of marriage.
  - However the father could not marry them off because he was poor.

# A hard time

- Satan put this evil thought in the poor man's head:
  - "By letting my daughters live in sin and do evil jobs, they will have enough money for food and good way of life."
- Our Lord revealed to St. Nicholas the thoughts that were in this man's head, and he was grieved.

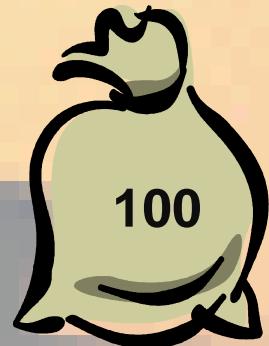
# Night # 1

- St. Nicholas took **100 dinars** of his father's money and tied it up in a sack.
- During the night he threw the money into the window of the man's house.
- When the man found the money, he was astonished and rejoiced and was able to give his oldest **1<sup>st</sup> daughter** away in marriage.



# Night #2

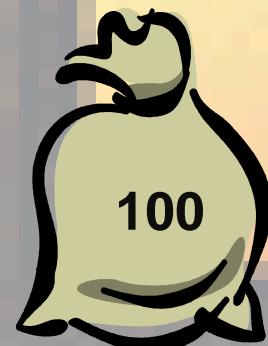
- Another night, the saint threw another **100 dinars** into the man's house.
- The man was able to give his **2<sup>nd</sup> daughter** away in marriage.
- He wondered who this charitable person was?
- He kept watch to catch him next time.



# Night #3

- The saint threw the gold sack into the house, but the man was watching
- After he felt the drop of the sack, he ran out of the house to see who it was ..

• ... ...



# Thank you

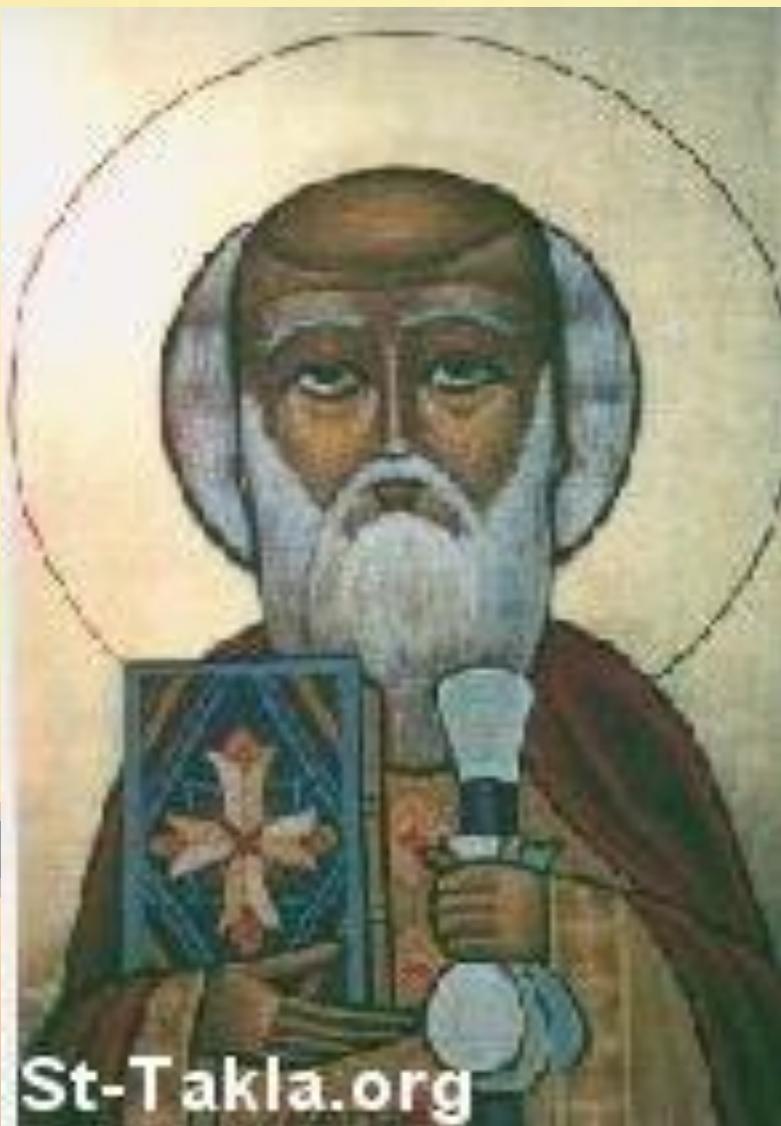
- He found it to be the kind bishop St. Nicholas
  - The man bowed down at his feet and thanked him because he saved his daughters from poverty and a life of sin.
- St. Nicholas **refused to accept any thanks and asked him to thank God** who loved him and his daughters.

# Conclusion

- St. Nicholas was known for his **generous giving**, that is why all the children ask this Saint to pray for them
  - To bring them presents and blessing during the month of **Kiahk** (Christmas time)
- **It is better to give than to receive**
  - Let us give some of what we have to the poor.
  - Share what we have with others.

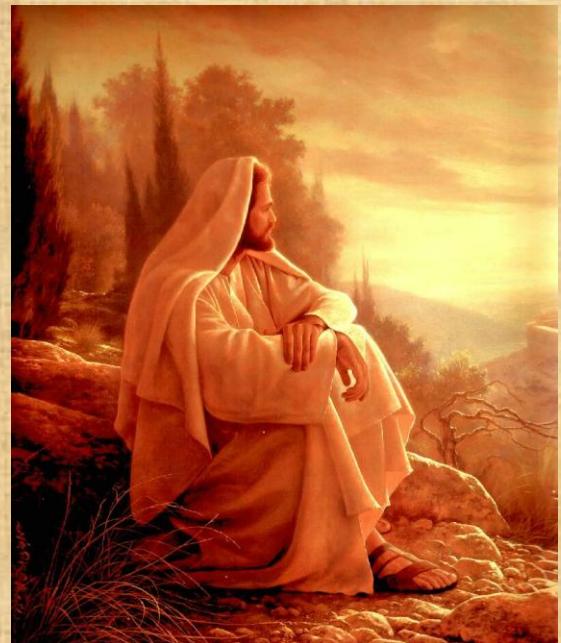


# Who is the real Santa Claus ?



# Movie Clip

Show a short movie clip about the story, if available.





May the love of God the **Father** and the  
grace of our Lord **Jesus Christ** and the  
fellowship of the **Holy Spirit** be with you.

**All:** And with your Spirit.

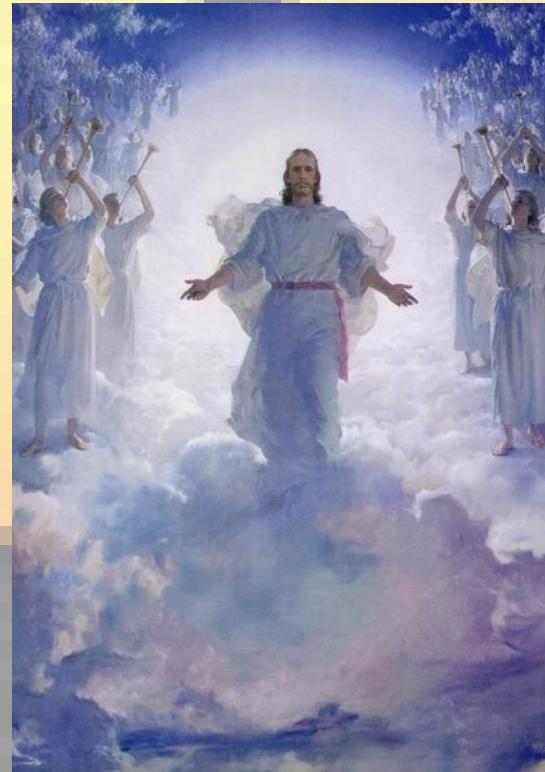
Through the prayers of our holy Fathers,  
Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy  
on us and save us. Amen.

# **3 things we all can do to strengthen our relationship with God**

1. Read the Holy Bible daily preferably when we get up in the morning. 5 minutes to start.
2. Partake Holy Communion regularly.
3. Remember God throughout the day. We can repeat short prayer such as “Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on me.”

# JESUS CHRIST

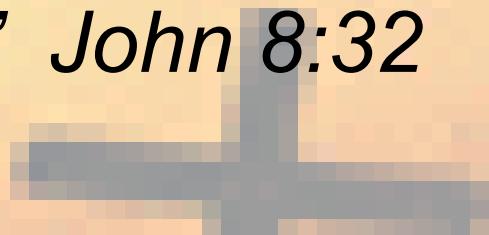
- “For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12)







*“And you shall know  
the truth, and the  
truth shall make you  
free.” John 8:32*



# Any question?

Close with prayer.





The End

