

RECOMMENDED TEXTS FOR SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOLS

Department of Religious Education, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese Grades 6-12

<http://www.goarch.org/archdiocese/departments/religious/resources/curriculum>

Sixth Grade

- Christian Life & Faith 4 lessons *Facing Up to Peer Pressure* student book (M01), teacher guide (M02)
- Feasts/Liturgy 4 lessons *For to Us a Child is Born* student zine (L184), teacher guide (L184-1)
- Feasts/Liturgy 6 lessons *Heaven on Earth: The Divine Liturgy* student zine (M09), teacher guide (M10)
- Feasts/Liturgy 5 lessons *Journey through Holy Week* student zine (L183), teacher guide (L183-1)
- Christian Life & Faith 5 lessons *Honesty* student book (M07), teacher guide (M08)
- Christian Life & Faith 5 lessons *Stewardship: Serving in God's World* student book (M03), teacher guide (M04)

Seventh Grade

- Bible 5 lessons *A Lamp to My Feet: Introduction to the Bible* student zine (M13), teacher guide (M14)
- Bible 8 lessons *Come Receive the Light Bible Studies*, vol. 1 (lessons 1–8) (BIB420)
- Feasts/Liturgy 5 lessons *Journey through Lent* student zine and teacher guide
- Christian Life & Faith 6 lessons *Knowing Christ* student book (M05), teacher guide (M06)
- Bible 8 lessons *Come Receive the Light Bible Studies*, vol. 1 (lessons 9–16) (BIB420)

☞ Ensure that students learn and understand the *Nicene Creed*—perhaps as a class opener or closer, building it up phrase-by-phrase over a season or the entire year. Coniaris' *The Nicene Creed for Young People* (CB055) includes age-appropriate discussion questions.

✍ You may also choose to adapt readings and discussions from *The Creed* student book (1101) and teacher guide (1105). The zine *Heaven on Earth* (M09) includes a feature on the sections of the Creed and its scriptural bases.

Eighth Grade

- Bible 8 lessons *Come Receive the Light Bible Studies*, vol. 2 (lessons 1–8) (BIB421)
- Faith/Church 5 lessons *First among Equals: The Ecumenical Patriarchate* student zine (M15), teacher guide (M16) (**forthcoming**)
- Bible 8 lessons *Come Receive the Light Bible Studies*, vol. 2 (lessons 9–16) (BIB421)
- Faith/Church 12 lessons ✍ *The Sacraments of the Orthodox Church* student book (801), teacher guide (805)

High School A (the year most of your students will be freshmen)

- Comprehensive 12+ lessons *Rejoicing in One Lord, Jesus Christ* teacher guide (901) with student sheet downloads [from the DRE website]
- Faith/Church 5 lessons *Seeing Is Believing: Holy Icons* student zine (**forthcoming**)
- Christian Life ☞ Couple Lewis' *What Do You Stand For (For Teens)* (YM651) with Grube's *Church Fathers for Young People* (CB350)
- Faith/Church ☞ *The Way of a Pilgrim* (Skylight annotated ed.), books I–II

High School B

- Christian Life 14 lessons ✂ *Who Is God? Who Am I? Who Are You?* Student book (1011) and teacher guide (1012)
- Feasts/Liturgy 5 lessons ✂ *Of Your Mystical Supper: The Eucharist* student zine (M11) and teacher guide (M12)
- Bible ✂ **Bible study**—perhaps the Gospel of St. Matthew, Acts of the Apostles, or the Epistle to the Ephesians—accompanied by Stylianopoulos, *Bread for Life* (BIB440)
- Faith/Church ✂ *The Way of a Pilgrim* (Skylight annotated ed.), Books III–IV

Possibilities for High School Years C and D (in addition to Bible study)

Book groups:

- ✂ Bezzerides, ed., *Christ at Work* (selected essays) (YM800) and Study Guide (YM801)
- ✂ Bloom, *Beginning to Pray* (FL500)
- ✂ Bouteneff, *Sweeter than Honey: Orthodox Thinking on Dogma and Truth* (FL056)
- ✂ Corbman, *A Tiny Step Away from Deepest Faith* (YM805) (a challenging book of exploration for mature classes with strong teachers)
- ✂ Gillet, *The Year of Grace in the Lord* (FL761) [Liturgical year]
- ✂ Hopko, *The Orthodox Faith*, vols. 1–4 (FL005–FL008)

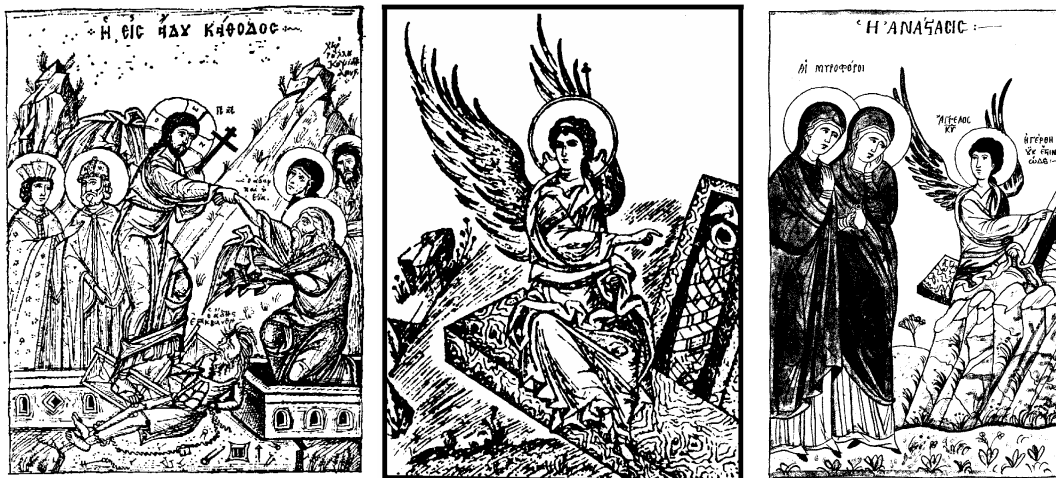
Film groups:

- ✂ *Icon: Through the Hand of God* (Y21)
- ✂ *Jesus of Nazareth*
- ✂ *Ostrov* (The Island) – In Russian with English subtitles

If your parish does not have a GOYA group, you could adapt its curriculum for the religious education setting. The DRE's annual **ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM ORATORICAL FESTIVAL** has thought-provoking topics and recommended reading lists. Even if students choose not to deliver a formal speech for the festival, the preparation and reading can really help them cement their understanding of the role of the Faith in their lives.

✂ This book is from an older series of textbooks; develop interactive lessons to successfully engage today's youth.

✂ Please note that the DRE has not developed lesson plans for these books, which are published by other organizations.



Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!