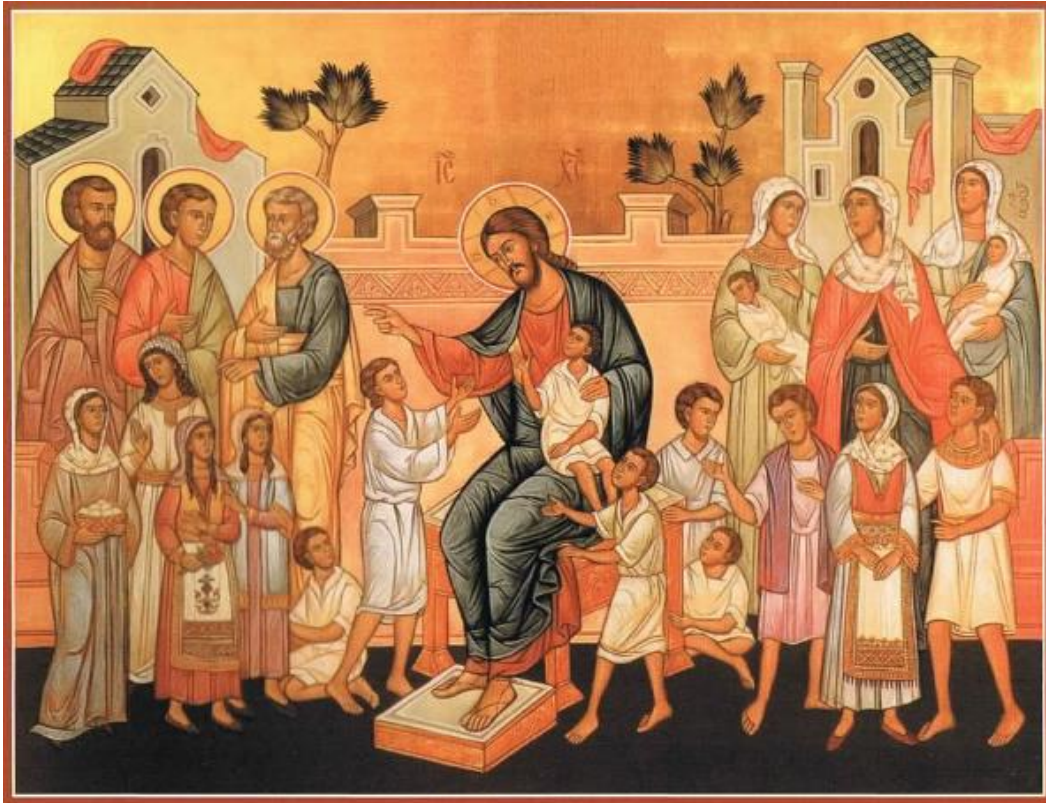




GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA



GREEK ORTHODOX SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM - 2019

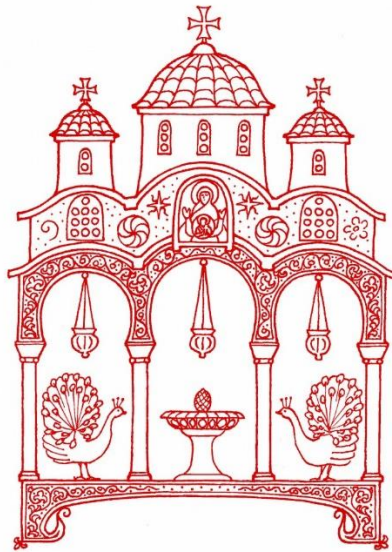
REVISED OCTOBER 2018

PRAYER OF THE CATECHIST



O Christ the true light, enlightening and sanctifying every person who comes into the world. Let the light of Your countenance shine on us, that in it we may behold the indescribable light. Guide our footsteps aright in keeping Your commandments. Through the intercessions of Your all-pure Mother and of all the saints. Amen.

GREEK ORTHODOX SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM 2019



The purpose of this document is to outline the curriculum content for Greek Orthodox special religious education to the general public. It is a requirement of the Department of Education in New South Wales.

This is an outline of the 2019 program but the entire program comprises almost 300 lessons from Kindergarten to Year 6 and over 100 lessons for high school. It endeavours to cover the key aspects of our Orthodox faith.

Aims and Goals

The program is designed to support the educational aims of public education for Orthodox Christian students, namely:

- To complement the existing curriculum with specific knowledge, skills or attitudes;
- To provide instruction in a specialised area (i.e., related to the Greek Orthodox faith); and
- To develop interest in religion as a discipline or field of study in its own right

There are five broad social goals:

- To promote the individual freedom of the child;
- To create an attitude of religious tolerance in the school;
- To accept everyone of all faiths;
- To reinforce the human right to religion; and
- To establish religiousness as an aspect of positive citizenship

There are five broad spiritual goals:

- To establish the importance of the human soul;
- To recognise that life is a great gift;
- To promote the happiness of the child;
- To foster the value of a religious outlook on life; and
- To encourage a sacramental life in children

Topics and Learning Outcomes

This document outlines the lesson content or topic for the 2018 Infants, 2018 Primary and 2018 High School stages. A more detailed curriculum including topic, aims and learning outcomes has been prepared and is available at <http://www.pantanassamonastery.org/resources.html>

The Infants and Primary lessons are accompanied by a series of workbooks produced by the Pantanassa Monastery. Use of these workbooks is optional. For further details <http://www.pantanassamonastery.org/scripture-lessons.html>



Emphasis

The emphasis in this curriculum is spiritual. It is not merely a matter of acquiring knowledge or facts like in some other school subjects. Religion is entirely different. Nor is it merely a course on ethics.

There is an emphasis on the individual freedom of the learner to absorb whatever they can at this stage in their religious development. The emphasis is on developing a Christian Orthodox identity.

Features and Content

This background cannot always be provided thoroughly in the home. Some features of the overall curriculum that are worthy of attention are:

- The program offers an educational scaffold for learners
- The program is multivariate in content
- The content of the units is timeless in its relevance
- The topic of each unit is actually applicable to people of all ages
- The program is descriptive
- The content of the units allows for increases in complexity across the ages

Finally, the general content falls under seven broad headings:

- Church (includes history of the church, vestments of the priest)
- Worship (includes the Divine Liturgy, prayers)
- Saints
- Our behaviour
- Feasts
- Christ (includes the life of Christ, parables and events in the New Testament)
- Old Testament

MY 2019 INFANTS STAGE 3 SCRIPTURE PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Week	Dates	Topic/Event
1		1.Jesus is Baptised
2		2.The Sacrament of Baptism
3		3.In God's house
4		4.Holy Confession
5		5.Sunday School
6		6.The Angel and Mary
7		7.Great Lent
8		8.Icons Help us to Pray
9		9.The Holy Cross
10		10.Jonah
11		11.Easter
12		12.Our Grandmother
13		13.Abraham
14		14.Saint Helen
15		15.Jesus is our Friend
16		16.The Blind Man
17		17.Holy Chrism
18		18.Pentecost
19		19.All Saints
20		20.Jacob
21		21.God is Everywhere
22		22.Holy communion
23		23.The Feast of the Mother of God
24		24.The Ten Commandments
25		25.St Kosmas Aitolos
26		26.God's Gifts
27		27.Our Priest
28		28.Prayer
29		29.Ruth
30		30.St Luke and the Holy Bible
31		31.Marriage
32		32.St Kosmas and Damianos
33		33.The Archangels – My Angel
34		34.The Good Samaritan
35		35.Holy Unction
36		36.The Sacraments
37		37.When our Lord Jesus was Born

Note that dates and timing of lessons will vary from school to school depending upon timetables and lesson arrangements.

MY 2019 PRIMARY SCHOOL STAGE 2 SCRIPTURE PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Week	Dates	Topic/Event
1		1.The Four Gospels
2		2.Jesus and the Woman from Canaan
3		3.The Pharisee and the Tax Collector
4		4.The Parable of the Prodigal son
5		5.Icons and the Great Council
6		6.The Angel visits Maria
7		7.Palm Sunday
8		8.The Last Supper
9		9.Holy Week
10		10.The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus
11		11.God's plan
12		12.A man healed at the Pool of Bethesda
13		13.Saint Constantine
14		14.The Ascension of our Lord Jesus
15		15.Pentecost
16		16.The first Church
17		17.Saints Peter and Paul
18		18.Paul in Rome
19		19. Parable of the Good Samaritan
20		20. The Sermon on the Mount
21		21.Jesus heals and forgives a Paralytic
22		22.The persecution of Christians
23		23.Jesus is Transfigured
24		24.The Dormition of the Theotokos
25		25.A boy is healed
26		26.The death of John the Baptist
27		27.Jesus heals Jairus's daughter
28		28.The Feast of the Holy Cross
29		29.The Monasteries
30		30.The first disciples
31		31.Jesus heals a man born blind
32		32.Our priests
33		33.Saint James the Brother of Our Lord
34		34.Saint Demetrios
35		35.The Rich Man and Lazarus
36		36.Water turned into wine
37		37.The Church in Australia
38		38.The Birth of Our Lord Jesus
39		39.The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus

Note that dates and timing of lessons will vary from school to school depending upon timetables and lesson arrangements.

MY 2019 HIGH SCHOOL STAGE 1 SCRIPTURE PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Week	Dates	Topic/Event
1		1 God creates Adam and Eve
2		2 Adam and Eve disobey God
3		3 The Parable of the Prodigal Son
4		4 The Second Coming
5		5 The Daily Services
6		6 Daniel
7		7 The Last Supper
8		8 Joseph's Brothers in Egypt
9		9 Holy Week
10		10 Easter Sunday
11		11 St John Chrysostom
12		12 The holy Liturgy
13		13 Our Lord Jesus Heals a Man who was Born Blind
14		14 The Great Flood
15		15 Jesus – The True Vine
16		16 Pentecost
17		17 The Feasts in our Church
18		18 The Holy Liturgy The Service of Prothesis or Proskomidi
19		19 Joshua
20		20 Samson
21		21 The Holy Liturgy
22		22 Prophet Elijah
23		23 The Parable of the Two House Builders
24		24 The Dormition of the Theotokos
25		25 St Kosmas Aitolos
26		26 The Parable of the Foolish Rich Man
27		27 The Birth of the Holy Mother of God. Joachim and Anna
28		28 The Holy Liturgy
29		29 St John the Theologian
30		30 Esther
31		31 The Holy Liturgy
32		32 Gideon
33		33 St Arsenios
34		34 Job
35		35 The Holy Liturgy
36		36 The Parable of the Talents
37		37 St Nicholas, St Spyridon

Note that dates and timing of lessons will vary from school to school depending upon timetables and lesson arrangements.

MOVABLE ECCLESIASTICAL DATES 2019

Triodion begins	February 17	Holy (Good) Friday	April 26
Meat Fare Sunday	March 3	Orthodox Pascha	April 28
First Monday of Lent	March 11	Ascension	May 6
Sunday of Orthodoxy	March 17	Pentecost	May 16
Saturday of Lazarus	April 20	All Saints	May 23
Palm Sunday	April 21		

MAJOR GREEK ORTHODOX HOLY DAYS

January 1	Circumcision of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
January 6	The Theophany of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
January 7	Synaxis of John the Holy Glorious Prophet, Baptist, & Forerunner
January 17	Anthony the Great
January 30	The Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, & John Chrysostom
February 2	The Presentation of Our Lord and Saviour in the Temple
February 6	Photius the Great, Patriarch of Constantinople
February 10	St Haralambos the Martyr
February 17	St Theodore
March 25	Annunciation of the Theotokos
April 23	St George
May 21	Constantine and Helen Equal to the Apostles
June 11	Bartholomew the Holy Apostle
June 29	Sts Peter and Paul the Holy Apostles
July 20	The Glorious Prophet Elias (Elijah)
July 27	Panteleimon the Great Martyr & Healer
August 6	Transfiguration of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ
August 15	The Dormition of our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever Virgin Mary
September 1	Ecclesiastical New Year
September 8	The Nativity of the Theotokos
September 9	The Holy & Righteous Ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna
September 14	The Elevation of the Venerable and Life-Giving Cross
October 18	Luke the Evangelist
October 23	Iakovos the Apostle
October 26	The Holy Great Martyr Demetrius the Myrrh-streamer
October 28	The Holy Protection of the Theotokos
November 1	Cosmas and Damianos the Holy Unmercenaries of Asia, and their mother Theodota
November 8	Synaxis of the Archangel Michael & the other Bodiless Powers: Gabriel, Raphael, Uriel, Salaphiel, Jegudiel, & Barachie
November 13	John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople
November 16	Matthew the Apostle & Evangelist
November 21	The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple
November 25	Catherine the Great Martyr of Alexandria
November 30	Andrew the First- Called Apostle
December 4	Barbara the Great Martyr
December 6	Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra
December 12	Spyridon the Wonderworker of Trymithous
December 25	The Nativity of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ
December 27	Stephen, Archdeacon & First Martyr

