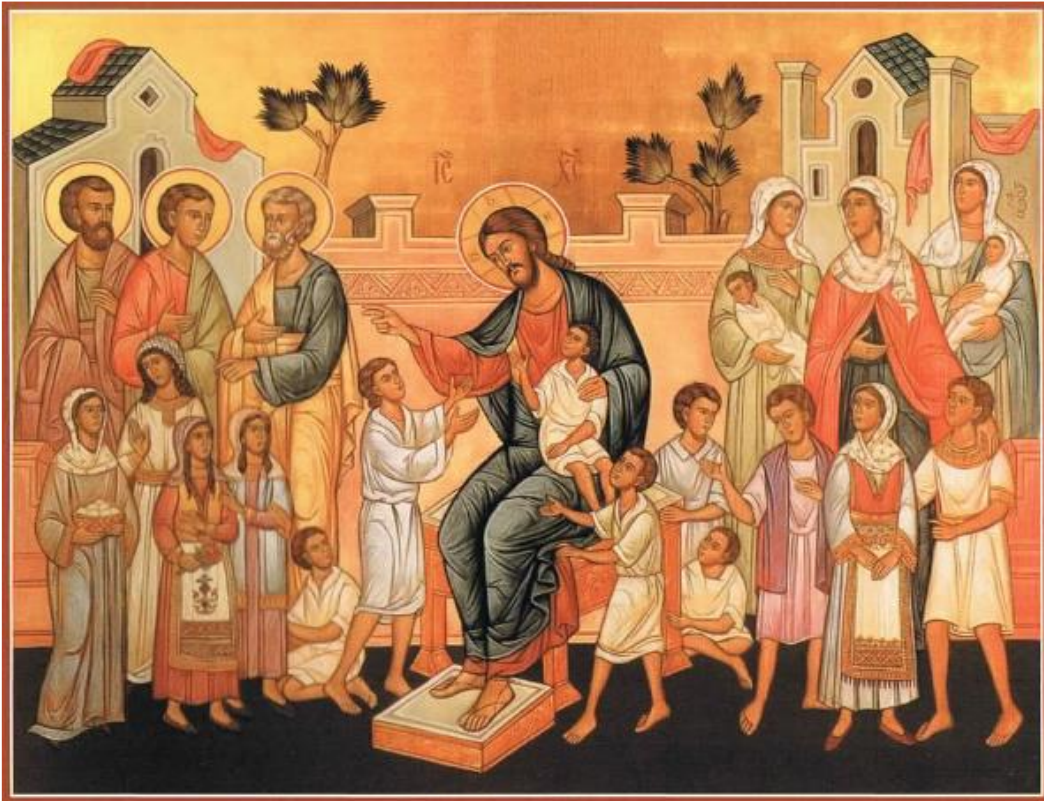




GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA



BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX SPECIAL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM - 2021

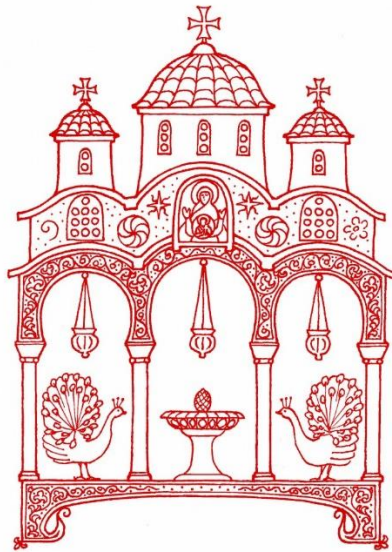
REVISED JANUARY 2021

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 2020



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 2020 program but the entire program comprises almost 300 lessons from Kindergarten to Year 6 and over 140 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 2020 Infants, 2020 Primary and 2020 High School stages. A more detailed curriculum including topic, aims and learning outcomes has been prepared and is available through segreekorthodox@gmail.com

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 as 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

Religious instruction 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 2021 INFANTS STAGE 2 SCRIPTURE PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Topic/Event
1.First Day – “Agiastos”
2.Saint Haralambos
3.The Lord’s Prayer
4.Our Lord Jesus Christ and Children
5.Icons
6.Gods Beautiful World
7.The Archangel Gabriel Visits Mary
8.Sunday School has Begun
9.Our Father in Heaven
10.Easter
11.St George
12.Mother’s Day
13.Joseph and his Brothers
14.Making the Sign of the Cross
15.“Hallowed be your Name, Your Kingdom Come”
16.Our Church
17.Thank You
18.Noah’s Ark
19.St Peter
20.Our Priest
21.“Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”
22.Joachim and Anna
23.A Sick Little Girl
24.Fasting
25.Panagia
26.“Give us today our daily bread”
27.David the Shepherd Boy
28.My Father
29.The Cross
30.Saint Sophia and her Three Daughters
31.Praying to God
32.And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who...”
33.Daniel
34.St Demetrios
35.Our Archbishop
36.Our Guardian Angel
37.“And lead us not into temptation”

Note that dates and timing of lessons will vary from school to school depending upon timetables and lesson arrangements. A suggested order follows on the next page.

SUGGESTED ORDER OF LESSONS FOR THE INFANTS SCHOOL - SCRIPTURE PROGRAM 2021

February 8 St Haralambos

February 15 Agiasmos at School

February 22 The Lord's Prayer

March 1 Our Lord and the Children

March 8 Our Priest

March 15 Sunday School

March 22 Icons

March 29 The Annunciation

Holidays

April 19 The Sign of the Cross

April 26 Easter

May 3 St George

May 10 Mother's Day

May 17 The Lord's Prayer – Our Father

May 24 The Lord's Prayer – Hallowed be You Name

May 31 God's Beautiful World

June 7 Joseph and His Brothers - Forgiveness

June 14 The Ten Lepers - Gratitude

June 21 St Peter

Holidays

July 12 Noah's Ark

July 19 Our Church

July 26 The Lord's Prayer – Your will be done

August 2 Jairus Daughter

August 9 Fasting

August 16 Panagia

August 23 Lord's Prayer (Give us this day our daily bread)

August 30 (Father's Day)

September 6 Joachim and Anna

September 13 The Cross

Holidays

October 4 St Sophia and her three daughters

October 11 Our prayers to God

October 18 Lord's Prayer (Forgive us our sins ...)

October 25 St Demetrius

November 1 Our Archbishop

November 8 Our Guardian Angel

November 15 Daniel in the Lion's Den

November 29 The Lord's Prayer (And lead us not into temptation)

December 6 Christmas

MY 2021 PRIMARY SCHOOL STAGE 4 SCRIPTURE PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Topic/Event
1. The Ten Lepers
2. Feasts before Easter
3. As we forgive those who trespass against us...
4. The Six Days of Creation
5. The Holy Liturgy - Sunday
6. Great Lent
7. Holy Week
8. Christ is Risen
9. Adam and Eve in paradise
10. Feasts after Easter
11. The Vestments of the Clergy
12. The Tower of Babel
13. The Twelve Disciples
14. Pentecost
15. For Thine is the Kingdom
16. The Patriarch Abraham
17. Saints of the Church
18. Moses is Born
19. God Calls Moses
20. The Transfiguration
21. The Dormition
22. The Holy Liturgy - The Small Entrance
23. The Ten Plagues
24. The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares
25. The Holy Liturgy - Great Entrance
26. The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant
27. The Crossing of the Red Sea
28. Saint Luke
29. The Ten Commandments
30. Saints Kosmas and Damianos
31. The Golden Calf
32. The Vestments of the Bishop
33. Saint Andrew
34. The Holy Liturgy - The Holy Gifts
35. The Death of Moses
36. Christmas

Note that dates and timing of lessons will vary from school to school depending upon timetables and lesson arrangements. A suggested order follows on the next page.

SUGGESTED ORDER OF LESSONS FOR THE PRIMARY SCHOOL - SCRIPTURE PROGRAM 2021

February 8 The Ten Lepers
February 15 The Six Days of Creation
February 22 The Holy Liturgy on Sundays
March 1 Feasts before Easter
March 8 Adam and Eve in Paradise
March 15 Forgiveness
March 22 Great Lent
March 29 The Holy Liturgy - The Small Entrance

Holidays

April 19 Holy Week
April 26 Christ is Risen
May 3 Feasts after Easter
May 10 The Vestments of the Clergy
May 17 The Tower of Babel
May 24 The Patriarch Abraham
May 31 For Thine is the Kingdom
June 7 Pentecost
June 14 Saints of the Church
June 21 The Twelve Disciples

Holidays

July 12 Moses is Born
July 19 God Calls Moses
July 26 The Ten Plagues
August 2 The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares
August 9 The Transfiguration
August 16 The Dormition
August 23 The Holy Liturgy - Great Entrance
August 30 The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant
September 6 The Crossing of the Red Sea
September 13 The Ten Commandments

Holidays

October 4 The Golden Calf
October 11 The Death of Moses
October 18 Saint Luke
October 25 The Vestments of the Bishop
November 1 Saints Kosmas and Damian
November 8 The Liturgy (The Holy Anaphora)
November 15 Jesus is the true Vine (Not in workbooks but in a previous series)
November 22 Joshua, Samson, Gideon (The Judges of Israel) Not in workbooks but in a previous series)
November 29 Saint Andrew
December 6 Christmas

MY 2021 HIGH SCHOOL STAGE 1 SCRIPTURE PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Topic/Event
1.The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Triodion)
2.The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Triodion)
3.Saturday of All Souls – How to make Koliva – St Theodore
4.Fasting – Beginning of Holy Lent
5.The Lord’s Prayer (Our Father who is in Heaven, Hallowed be Your Name)
6.The Teenage Ten Commandments – Book Review
7.Feast of the Holy Cross – Remembering Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross Alternate - St Mary of Egypt
8. Holy Week
9.The Hymn of the Resurrection/The Myrrh Bearing Women
10.St Matrona of Russia
11.Lord’s Prayer (Your Kingdom come/Your will be done/On earth as it is in heaven)
12.Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
13.Saints Constantine and Helen
14. How to read the Bible
15. Pentecost/Holy Spirit
16. Sunday of all Saints/Holiness
17.The Lord’s Prayer (Give us this day our daily bread) on Trusting in God
18. Sts Peter and Paul
19. St Euphemia
20. St Macrina
21. The Great Feast of Panagia
22. The Feast of the Transfiguration
23.Lord’s Prayer (Forgive us our sins and we forgive those who have sinned against us)
24. St John the Baptist
25. Sts Joachim and Anna
26.Sunday’s Bible reading
27.Jonah the Prophet
The Lord’s Prayer (Lead us not into temptation/ but deliver us from evil)
28.Sunday’s Bible reading
29.St Anastasia of Rome and the Holy Land
30. St Arsenios/St Paisios (On Prayer)
31.St John the Merciful/St John Chrysostom (On generosity)
32.Sunday’s Bible Reading
33 St Andrew the Fisherman and his response to Christ’s call
34.On Holy Communion and preparing for Christmas
35 On Christmas

Note that dates and timing of lessons will vary from school to school depending upon timetables and lesson arrangements. A suggested order follows on the next page.

SUGGESTED ORDER OF LESSONS FOR THE HIGH SCHOOL - SCRIPTURE PROGRAM 2021

- February 9 The Caanite Woman
February 16 The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Triodion)
February 23 The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Triodion)
March 2 The Lord's Prayer (Our Father) tie it in with Parable of the Last Judgement
March 9 Fasting – Beginning of Holy Lent
March 16 Saturday of All Souls – How to make Koliva – St Theodore
March 23 Sunday of Orthodoxy - Book Reviews on Orthodoxy – books about our Church
March 30 Feast of the Holy Cross – Remembering Christ's sacrifice on the Cross

Holidays

- April 20 St Mary of Egypt
April 27 Holy Week
May 4 The Hymn of the Resurrection/The Myrrh Bearing Women
May 11 St Matrona of Russia
May 18 St Helen
May 25 Sunday of the Samaritan Woman
June 1 Lord's Prayer (Your Kingdom come/Your will be done/On earth as it is in heaven)
June 8 Feast of the Ascension
June 15 The Lord's Prayer (Give us this day our daily bread) on Trusting in God
June 22 Pentecost/Holy Spirit

Holidays

- July 13 St Euphemia
July 20 St Macrina
July 27 St Panteleimon
August 3 The Feast of the Transfiguration
August 10 The Great Feast of Panagia
August 17 Lord's Prayer (Forgive us our sins and we forgive those who have sinned against us)
August 24 Sunday's Bible reading (Jesus Walks on Water)
August 31 St John the Baptist
September 7 Sts Joachim and Anna
September 14 The Holy Cross

Holidays

- October 5 The Lord's Prayer (Lead us not into temptation/ but deliver us from evil)
October 12 St Luke and How to Read the Bible
October 19 Jonah the Prophet
October 26 St Anastasia of Rome and the Holy Land
November 2 St Arsenios (*From Yr 7 Program*)
November 9 St John the Merciful/St John Chrysostom (On generosity)
November 16 St Matthew the Tax Collector and the Bible Reading for the day
November 30 St Andrew the Fisherman and his response to Christ's call
December 7 On Holy Communion and preparing for Christmas

A curriculum where regular weekly access is not available

For 2020 a draft abbreviation of the full high school curriculum has been developed in those instances where weekly access is not available in a high school. Special religious education may be scheduled for only once a term or even less. In those instances it is impractical to deliver the standard schedule of lessons in its normal sequence.

An attempt has been made to provide an all-purpose and inclusive curriculum that over a period of years will cover the essential details for Greek Orthodox Special Religious Education. For ease of reference this has been titled "A restricted curriculum". The draft curriculum is divided into four problem-solving units with 17 topics:

- How does one become an Orthodox Christian?
- What is the purpose of becoming an Orthodox Christian?
- How does an Orthodox Christian become a living member of the Church?
- What is the role of the saints, sainthood as the result of the life of the Church?

Problem solving Unit 1: How does one become an Orthodox Christian?

Date	Topics
	Baptism and Chrismation
	The Cross
	The Creed

Problem solving Unit 2: What is the purpose of becoming an Orthodox Christian?

Date	Topics
	An Orthodox Christian
	The Church
	Relating to Christ
	A living member of the Church

Problem solving Unit 3: How does an Orthodox Christian become a living member of the Church?

Date	Topics
	The Holy Trinity - Holy Tradition of the Church
	Prayer
	Commandments of God
	Worship- Divine Liturgy
	Holy Sacraments
	Ascesis
	Good deeds
	Reading

Problem solving Unit 4: What is the role of the saints, sainthood as the result of the life of the Church?

Date	Topics
	The Saints throughout the centuries
	The common characteristics in the lives of the Saints The lessons we learn from the lives of the Saints

MOVABLE ECCLESIASTICAL DATES 2021

Triodion begins	February 21	Holy (Good) Friday	April 30
Meat Fare Sunday	March 7	Orthodox Pascha	May 2
First Monday of Lent	March 15	Ascension	June 10
Sunday of Orthodoxy	March 21	Pentecost	June 20
Saturday of Lazarus	April 24	All Saints	June 27
Palm Sunday	April 25		

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 19	Makarios the Great of Egypt
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 23	Ezekiel the Prophet
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 Unmercenarys 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 26	St Stylianos
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

