



**Comparison of Content: GOA and OCEC Texts Preschool to Grade 5**, produced by Carole A. Buleza, AODCE, 4/7/2015  
**GOA column from the document, “What Your Child Should Know,” OCEC entries taken from the Scope and Sequence Chart.**  
 See notes in box below.



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE	ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION	<i>Notes</i>
<b>PRESCHOOL AGE 3 THE WONDER OF IT ALL</b>		
<p>There is not a Preschool Age 3 book recommended by the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 20px;"> <p><b>NOTES:</b> The GOA document from which these entries were taken is written in sentences. The OCEC chart was categorized, and entries were listed with single words and phrases, for example: Doctrine: the Trinity. Thus, the resulting comparison chart presents the content in two different manners. It is, nonetheless, very useful.</p> <p>There is also a significant difference in the material itself. As I did my analysis, I concluded that this had to do with the organizing principle chosen by the GOA for each text, namely, to decide upon a prominent developmental trait of that age-level, for example, “sharing,” and to build the material of a text around that. The OCEC texts had a repeated focus on the liturgical and sacramental life of the child.</p> <p>I am grateful to the person at the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese who digitized the OCEC scope and sequence chart, so I could produce this piece.</p> </div>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: Text builds an awareness of the presence of God in the natural world and in the Life of the Church and our calling to have a prayer/faith relationship with Him.</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge</li> <li>• OT: Creation, Abraham &amp; Sarah, Isaac. NT: Annunciation, Nativity &amp; Flight into Egypt, Jesus in Temple at 12, Epiphany, Presentation, Palm Sunday, (Concept of Pascha, Ascension &amp; Pentecost)</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: St. Nicholas, Church Setting and Icons</li> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma One Church – The Body of Christ, Holy Trinity, Stewardship.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal – Introduced to the Sign of the Cross and Christmas and Paschal greetings.</li> <li>• Exposure to the following prayers/hymns, Our Father, O Heavenly King and Rejoice O Birthgiver, Come Let us Worship, Christ is Risen, As Many as Have Been Baptized, Alleluia, Blessed be the Name of the Lord, and Lord Have Mercy</li> <li>• Ethics/Morality: Child is cherished as a unique individual made in the Image of God. Concepts of sharing, respect, being thankful, helping others, trust in God, forgiveness are introduced. Child is encouraged to sense the wonders of God’s Works.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocation: Priest is introduced as one who cares for us. We are to give to the less fortunate, food bank</li> </ul>	
<b>PRESCHOOL AGE 4: WHAT WE SEE AND DO IN CHURCH</b>	<b>PRESCHOOL AGE 4: GOD MY FRIENDS AND ME</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We Go To the Orthodox Church. God made everything the stars the plants and us. We come to learn about God at our Orthodox church. The three parts of the church.</li> <li>• The Sign Of The Cross. The story of Constantine. Making the sign of the cross is a way of saying a short prayer that is our way of saying we love you Jesus.</li> <li>• Prayer. The story of Hanna who wanted a son. Samuel was born to her.</li> <li>• Candles. Jesus said you are the light of the world. That’s why we light the candles.</li> <li>• Holy Icons. Icons are like picture books. We remember the saint’s love for Jesus. God wants all of us to become saints</li> <li>• Saints of Our Church: Saint Katherine, Saint Andrew, and Saint Nicholas</li> <li>• The Iconostasis is explained.</li> <li>• The Birth of Jesus; the wise men.</li> <li>• Saint Basil, his care of orphans, and the Vasilopita</li> <li>• The Baptism of Jesus, Holy Water, Blessing of homes.</li> <li>• The 40 Day Blessing, the Presentation of Our Lord to the Temple</li> <li>• Holy Baptism. The Call of Disciples. Baptism makes us Disciples.</li> <li>• The Holy Bible tells us about God, and helps us do what God wants us to do. God’s love fills our hearts, and we want to share God’s love.</li> <li>• Adam and Eve story.</li> <li>• Psalms and Incense. The story of David the shepherd. Incense is our prayers.</li> <li>• The Holy Angels. Isaiah’s vision of cherubim. Angels are God’s helpers. Guardian Angels. The fans depict angels and remind us God is with us and his angels are serving there.</li> <li>• Parable the Good Shepherd. Jesus told stories called parables. Jesus is our good shepherd and we are his flock of sheep. Sometimes we</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: Introduction to the liturgical life of the Church in a simple manner</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge</li> <li>• OT: Creation,</li> <li>• Noah,</li> <li>• Samuel,</li> <li>• Garden of Eden,</li> <li>• Moses,</li> <li>• Psalms,</li> <li>• NT: Miracles of Loaves and Fishes,</li> <li>• Prodigal Son,</li> <li>• Annunciation,</li> <li>• Nativity,</li> <li>• Wise men,</li> <li>• Flight to Egypt,</li> <li>• Epiphany,</li> <li>• Palm Sunday,</li> <li>• Resurrection,</li> <li>• Ascension,</li> <li>• Presentation,</li> <li>• Martha and Mary,</li> <li>• Zacchaeus,</li> <li>• Centurion’s Son,</li> <li>• Blind Man,</li> <li>• Call of Disciples,</li> <li>• Jesus and Children.</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: Children are introduced to the liturgical life of the Church in a simple manner, as well as the Church setting (architecture of Church building, icons, etc) through the use of the senses.</li> </ul>	

<p>get lost, and we don't follow him. But Jesus loves us, and he will bring us back home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bishops and Priests. Jesus asked his disciples to become the shepherds of his flock. The disciples became the Bishops. Bishops throne is in the church. We kiss the hand of the bishop or priest out of love and respect because he is our shepherd.</li> <li>• Our Priest. The priest is with you from your birth to your death at all the important moments. He baptized you, teaches you, cares for you when you've sinned. He gives you Holy Communion. He cares for us like a father, and we love and respect him. That is why we call him Father.</li> <li>• Feast Days: Annunciation, Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Palm Sunday, Mystical Supper, Great and Holy Friday, Pascha, Pentecost, Jesus and the Children</li> <li>• Lesson 27: Holy Communion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feast days such as the Presentation of the Theotokos,</li> <li>• Saints, names day celebrations and house blessings are also touched upon.</li> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma: God is presented as being as a caring, loving God, who always listens and is always present. The understanding that Angels are God's helpers and messengers is also discussed.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal: The Lord's Prayer is reviewed, and students are introduced to mealtime prayers, prayers of thanksgiving, the Jesus Prayer, Trisagion, psalms as prayers, the Nativity troparion, and Christmas and Paschal Greetings.</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy as an act of worship or celebration is introduced as are the hymns: Come Let us Worship, Christ is Risen, As Many as Have Been Baptized and Hosanna in the Highest.</li> <li>• The Sacraments of Baptism as related to Theophany and Holy Communion as a special celebration are touched upon.</li> <li>• Ethics/Morality The importance of relationship among friends, family and God in the homes and the Church and the Christian awareness of loving fellowship is discussed.</li> <li>• Vocation: Ministering to/caring for others.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>KINDERGARTEN: HAPPY WITH GOD</b></p>	<p><b>KINDERGARTEN: TOGETHER WITH GOD</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A brief story of creation; God's world is good and happy.</li> <li>• God gave us families. The story of baby Moses.</li> <li>• Friends are people we like and feel close to, we are thankful for them. Opening prayer is the sign of the cross.in the name of the father.</li> <li>• We love and care for animals, especially pets. The story of Noah's ark.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: Introduction to the liturgical life of the church with the understanding that the Church is God's Family.</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge OT: N/A</li> <li>• NT: Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes,</li> <li>• Ten Lepers,</li> <li>• Annunciation,</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The church is God's house. What we do when we enter church. An orthodox church is a beautiful place. It is filled with wonderful things. We're happy to be in God's house. The story of Jesus going to the temple.</li> <li>• Prayer is talking to God, God listens to our prayers. Explains responses of litanies.</li> <li>• We listen in church: Gospel, Bible, Priest, choir. The story of Jesus' baptism, prayer, and fasting.</li> <li>• Chanter, altar boy, censer. Divine Liturgy is the service we attend on Sundays.</li> <li>• The Annunciation.</li> <li>• Mary Visits Elizabeth.</li> <li>• The Nativity.</li> <li>• Jesus came on earth to Teach. He taught us to forgive. He taught us to love God, and to love one another just as he loves us. He taught the Lord's Prayer. Jesus told stories. Jesus made miracles.</li> <li>• Jesus wants us to love one another. The greatest commandment. Jesus wants us to love our enemies and pray for them. He wants us to love all people, just as he loves us.</li> <li>• We should obey God and our parents. Rules Jesus gave us: love and worship God on Sundays, don't steal or lie, be kind, love one another, and be thankful</li> <li>• We all sin and do wrong things and we should forgive others and ask for forgiveness.</li> <li>• Explanation of sin and forgiveness</li> <li>• The Trisagion hymn asks God's mercy on us as we must have mercy on others.</li> <li>• God sent Jesus to earth to help people. Ways we can help.</li> <li>• The 40 day blessing. The icon of the Presentation. A child joins the church through baptism.</li> <li>• The cross reminds us of Jesus who died on the cross to save us.</li> <li>• An explanation of Holy Communion and the Mystical Supper.</li> <li>• We have many blessings; be thankful. God wants us to share. Rich man and Lazarus.</li> <li>• Always tell the truth.</li> <li>• Respect explained. Respect and be considerate of different people.</li> <li>• The 10 Lepers is a lesson in being thankful.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nativity,</li> <li>• Presentation,</li> <li>• Epiphany,</li> <li>• The Parable of the Banquet,</li> <li>• Zacchaeus,</li> <li>• Last Supper,</li> <li>• Jesus and the Children,</li> <li>• Prodigal Son,</li> <li>• Good Samaritan,</li> <li>• Crucifixion,</li> <li>• Palm Sunday,</li> <li>• Pascha,</li> <li>• Ascension,</li> <li>• Lazarus,</li> <li>• Pentecost.</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: Church building – God's house is our home. Venerating icons, praying before them and putting them in our homes. The Church Sanctuary and its contents including the altar table, crosses, gospel book, tabernacle, censer, bread and wine. Making the sign of the cross, venerating and wearing crosses. Iconography – pictures of God's family. Priest and Altar boys.</li> <li>• Life of St. Nicholas.</li> <li>• Church History through a discussion of the feasts of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annunciation</li> <li>• Nativity of Our Lord</li> <li>• Presentation of our Lord in the Temple</li> <li>• Theophany</li> <li>• Palm Sunday</li> <li>• Holy Week</li> <li>• Pascha</li> <li>• Ascension</li> <li>• Great Lent.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feast Days:</li> <li>• Theophany</li> <li>• Palm Sunday</li> <li>• Great and Holy Friday</li> <li>• Pascha</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma: Jesus is God/ God is our Father. The Father sent His Son to be with us (Incarnation). Jesus died on the Cross to save us. The Passion, the Resurrection. Death/ Heaven and Hell.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal: The Lord’s Prayer – Prayer is a conversation with God. We meet in Church to pray, sing, listen, bring gifts, receive communion. How to bless one’s self. Priest leads us in prayer, visits the sick, is our friend and is assisted by altar boys. Prayer as talking to God about how we feel, asking Him to watch over us and thanking Him. Prayer for whom and for what.</li> <li>• Concept of thanksgiving in regard to the Liturgy and Thanksgiving Day Holiday.</li> <li>• Remembering the dead in prayer and by visiting the cemetery. Remembering God/ praying during the summer.</li> <li>• Reading of Scripture as related to the reading of the Gospel during liturgy and explained in the sermon</li> <li>• Holy Mystery (Sacrament) of Communion as being God’s sharing His food with us.</li> <li>• The Holy Mystery of Baptism and the Churching of mothers and children.</li> <li>• Priest extends the prayers of the church to people in the form of personal blessings and the blessing of homes.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal (Continued) Children are exposed to the following prayers, hymns, liturgical greetings: Hymn to the Virgin, Christmas greeting, Praise the Lord, Lord Have Mercy, Glory to You O Lord, St Ephraim’s Prayer, Hosanna in the Highest, O Heavenly King, Before Your Cross, Christ is Risen, Holy God, As many As Have Been Baptized, Eternal Memory</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ethics/Morality: The Church as a Family, praying/reading scripture as a family. We listen to preaching in the Church to learn how to be a good child of God. God gives us family and friends, through them we learn about sharing and loving. God makes us special guests and we share His Blessings. God gives us peace--we should not fight or be angry. We are to help others and do acts of charity such as visiting the sick and lonely.</li> <li>• Vocation: We are member of God’s family. We are called to live in peace.</li> <li>• Motherhood.</li> <li>• Evangelism – telling people about God.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>GRADE 1: ME AND MY WORLD</b></p>	<p><b>GRADE 1: GOD LOVES US</b></p>	
<p><b>Unit 1—About Me</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God made every person to be a special and unique individual.</li> <li>• Jesus is the Son of God.</li> <li>• Learning is a gift from God; one thing we learn is how to make the sign of the cross.</li> <li>• The Bible helps to guide our lives.</li> <li>• God cares about our feelings, and He wants us to help and share with others.</li> <li>• We should be thankful to God for the talents He gives us.</li> <li>• Our priests teach us about God.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 2—About the Orthodox faith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orthodox Christians light candles in church, venerate icons, and make the sign of the cross in a special way.</li> <li>• We receive Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. This brings us close to Him and to each other.</li> <li>• When we are baptized, we are born into God’s family.</li> <li>• Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist.</li> <li>• At our baptism, we receive our name. Many of us are named after saints—holy people who fully lived God’s way.</li> <li>• At our baptism, we also receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a gift from Jesus and God working within us, to guide us toward doing the right thing in life.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: A study of God’s love for mankind as revealed in Scripture, Holy Tradition (the life of the Church)</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge</li> <li>• OT: Creation</li> <li>• Psalm 92 - O Give Thanks to the Lord</li> <li>• Abraham, Sarah, Isaac,</li> <li>• Elias &amp; Zarepath</li> <li>• NT: Elizabeth, Zachariah &amp; Archangel</li> <li>• Annunciation</li> <li>• Nativity of Christ, Magi, Jesus’ flight into Egypt</li> <li>• Finding of Jesus in the Temple</li> <li>• Christ’s Baptism</li> <li>• The Good Shepherd</li> <li>• Jesus and the Children</li> <li>• The loaves and Fishes</li> <li>• The New Commandment</li> <li>• The Prodigal Son.</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: St. Nicholas, Icons,</li> <li>• Nativity Greeting: Christ is Born!</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus teaches us to love all people and to forgive others.</li> <li>• Jesus Himself was once a child, and He loves children very much.</li> <li>• Jesus Himself prayed alone and with others.</li> <li>• He teaches us the Lord’s Prayer.</li> <li>• When we pray, we talk to and listen to God. We can pray in the morning, at meals, at night, or any time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3—About your family</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are all part of a special group of people called a family.</li> <li>• Families are different—some are large, some are small, some don’t have a mother or a father. Families love each other and share with each other.</li> <li>• An Orthodox Christian family does special things.</li> <li>• When a baby is forty days old, his or her parents bring him or her to church to be blessed.</li> <li>• All Orthodox Christian families make up the church family.</li> <li>• The church family celebrates special days like baptism and marriage.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 4—About your church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The church is a special place where we come together to pray.</li> <li>• When we light candles in the church, we remember that Jesus Christ is the light of the world.</li> <li>• We kiss icons in the church to remember the saints on them.</li> <li>• In our church, the priest stands at the altar during our services.</li> <li>• Long ago, Jesus was arrested and put to death in the city of Jerusalem, and then He rose from the dead.</li> <li>• The church started with Jesus’ twelve Apostles. After His resurrection, they traveled all over the world to teach people about Christ.</li> <li>• During church, we pray by singing “Lord have mercy.”</li> <li>• In the Divine Liturgy, receiving Communion joins us with Jesus.</li> <li>• The first Liturgy was the Mystical Supper. In our Liturgy, the priest repeats the words of Jesus.</li> <li>• We should offer our time, talents, and treasures to the church in any way that we can.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 5—About people</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus came to earth for all people in the world.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma: The Holy Trinity. We are all God’s children and are branches of the Tree of the One Church, the Body of Christ.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal Sign of the Cross. Litany and responses. Our Father, Great Prokimenon, Rejoice O Birthgiver, Irmois 1, Christmas Canon, Vesper Stichera for Christmas, Baptism, Theophany Antiphon/Tropar.</li> <li>• Ethics/Morality “I am special” sharing/respect, God cares for us – gives us caregivers such as the priest. We are to be thankful, to give to and help others.</li> <li>• Concept of sharing, trust in God and forgiveness are discussed.</li> <li>• The book, <i>The Giving Tree</i> is used to illustrate self-sacrificial giving.</li> <li>• Vocation: We are all God’s children and are called to build-up the Kingdom of Heaven/Stewardship.</li> </ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We should love and respect all people no matter who they are or how different they are from us.</li> <li>• Jesus taught that we should even love and pray for those who do harm to us.</li> <li>• Some Christians are not Orthodox—they are Catholic or Protestant. Our leaders sometimes meet with their leaders to discuss our differences and similarities.</li> <li>• Not all people are Christian.</li> <li>• We should respect all people and their religions.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 6—About your world</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God created everything, as a gift for us to take care of.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 7—About Church holy days</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annunciation.</li> <li>• Nativity</li> <li>• Theophany</li> <li>• Palm Sunday</li> <li>• <b>Easter/Pascha</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Hymns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By the Prayers of the Theotokos (Tes Presvies)</li> <li>• Save Us O Son of God (Soson Imas)</li> <li>• Holy God (Agiros o Theos)</li> <li>• Blessed Be the Name of the Lord (Ei to Onoma)</li> <li>• Christ is Risen (Christos Anesti)</li> </ul> <p><b>Bible Stories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)</li> <li>• Zechariah and Elizabeth (Luke 1:5-25, 57-63)</li> <li>• Jesus Heals the Paralytic (John 5:1-9)</li> <li>• Noah and the Ark (Genesis 6-9)</li> <li>• Philip and the Ethiopian (Acts of the Apostles 8:27-40)</li> <li>• Jesus Gives the Holy Spirit after His Resurrection (John 20:19-23)</li> <li>• Joseph and His Brothers (Genesis 37:23-28, 45)</li> <li>• Jesus and the Children (Mark 10:13-16)</li> <li>• The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)</li> <li>• Adam and Eve (Genesis 2:4-25)</li> <li>• The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)</li> <li>• The Nativity of Christ (Luke 2:8-20, Matthew 2:1-12)</li> </ul>		
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Baptism of Christ (Matthew 3:13-17)</li> <li>• The Resurrection of Christ (John 19:38-42; 20:1-18)</li> </ul>		
<p><b>GRADE 2 LOVING GOD</b></p>	<p><b>GRADE 2: NEW LIFE IN JESUS, MAKING THINGS RIGHT</b></p>	
<p><b>Unit 1—We all need love</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All people <b>need love</b> in order to live.</li> <li>• God loves us and gives us <b>gifts</b> in our life, such as our <b>talents</b>. He wants us to take care of all these gifts from Him.</li> <li>• God gave us His son, Jesus, to save us from sin.</li> <li>• In Jerusalem, <b>Jesus</b> taught people, healed people, and <b>was baptized in the Jordan River</b>. He died on the cross and rose from the dead.</li> <li>• Jesus taught that the most important rule is to love God with your whole self.</li> <li>• Jesus wants us to love others. People will know you are a Christian when you treat others with love.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 2—Love at home</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God wants parents to love their children, and children should obey their loving parents.</li> <li>• There are many ways to show love for your parents.</li> <li>• The Church has <b>seven sacraments</b>, which help us to be close to God.</li> <li>• Marriage is the sacrament of love.</li> <li>• <b>Icons</b> show Jesus and the saints. They may tell stories about the Church. They remind us of God and the saints.</li> <li>• When we burn incense, the smoke rises like our prayers rise to God.</li> <li>• The Jesus Prayer is, “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner.”</li> <li>• We should forgive each other and ask for <b>forgiveness</b> from others.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3—Love in Church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our church is a family and we show each other love in many ways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: Introduction to the Divine Liturgy and the Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, Eucharist and Confession.</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge</li> <li>• OT: Ruth, Psalms,</li> <li>• NT: The Good Samaritan</li> <li>• Dorcas</li> <li>• Parable of the House on the Rock</li> <li>• Pentecost</li> <li>• Let Your Light Shine</li> <li>• Last Supper</li> <li>• Christ’s miracles of healing</li> <li>• Cana</li> <li>• Loaves and Fishes</li> <li>• Zacchaeus</li> <li>• Prodigal Son.</li> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma: Children who are Baptized and Chrismated as infants and participate in Holy Communion share in faith/ and the Life of the Church.</li> <li>• The Gift of the Holy Spirit is given in the Sacrament of Chrismation.</li> <li>• The Holy Eucharist is our nourishment and the Body and Blood of Christ. God’s love is constant and forgiving.</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: Introduction to the Divine Liturgy, Church objects, Patron Saints.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal: Review the Lord’s Prayer, Introduce Communion Hymn, Creed, Trisagion, Cherubic Hymn, St. Ephraim’s Prayer. Prayers of Thanksgiving.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At <b>Divine Liturgy</b>, we receive the sacrament of Holy Communion, a sacrament of love. To prepare, we pray, forgive each other, and fast from certain foods.</li> <li>• Our church has many symbols, such as the Cross, the altar table, the chalice, the baptismal font, icons, and the incense censer.</li> <li>• When we hurt ourselves or others, we sin. We should <b>ask God for forgiveness</b> of our sins in the sacrament of <b>Confession</b>. When we decide to confess our sins to God, we sit with a priest and he helps us and blesses us.</li> <li>• Even when it is not easy to be loving, the <b>Holy Spirit helps us to love</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 4—Love means serving others</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To serve means to do something good for someone, out of our love for them and for God.</li> <li>• <b>When we care for others, we are caring for Jesus</b>. We should remember this whenever we see a person in need.</li> <li>• God made people the same in many ways, and different in many ways.</li> <li>• We should love and serve people, even if we don't know them.</li> <li>• People in the church can join together to help others who are in need.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 5—Love means being respectful</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Respecting other people is a way of telling them that they are important.</li> <li>• All people deserve <b>respect</b>.</li> <li>• We should respect leaders such as our teachers, coaches, priests, and our president.</li> <li>• Our church's leaders are bishops and priests. A bishop takes care of priests and the people in parishes.</li> <li>• Our priests celebrate sacraments, teach us, and visit people in the hospital.</li> <li>• <b>Deacons are helpers</b> to the priests and bishops.</li> <li>• We also respect the <b>saints</b>, who were people who <b>lived God's way</b>. We remember the day the saint died. This is a feast day, because on that day the saint went to heaven. The night before a saint's feast day, we have Great Vespers to honor the saint</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of the basic parts of the Divine Liturgy. Sacraments: Study of Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Chrismation and the Eucharist. Sacrament of Confession is introduced. Exposure to hymns: We have seen the true light... Let our mouths be filled... and The Cherubic Hymn.</li> <li>• Ethics/Morality: Text stresses children identifying self and others as members of God's family, the Church. The children are taught to see that the Church helps us to live as God wants us to through the Holy Mysteries (Sacraments). Children become aware of their relationship with God and the people around them. They are taught to understand that making things right is about forgiving others and God's forgiveness of our sins. Vocation: To live as members of God's family, loving and forgiving others.</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Making Things Right</i> – The Sacrament of Reconciliation OCEC</li> <li>• Curriculum Covered: Preparation for Child's First Holy Confession.</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge NT: Story of Zacchaeus</li> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma: God is a Forgiving Father</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: Confession, Forgiveness, Reconciliation</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal: Praying quietly before going to Confession, prayers before/after Confession, making the sign of the cross, priest offering the prayers of forgiveness</li> <li>• Ethics/Morality/Vocation: Being part of one big family – God's family. I am a special person. Jesus helps us. It is important for us to help/love others as Jesus did.</li> </ul>	
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<p>and ask for him or her to pray for us. The next morning, we celebrate Divine Liturgy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We celebrate a person’s name day on the feast day of a saint.</li> <li>• We must <b>treat our world with respect</b> so that all people can enjoy it.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 6—Love means obeying the rules</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rules help us to live together.</b> When we obey them, it shows that we care about ourselves and about each other.</li> <li>• We follow rules in our church because we love and respect God and others there.</li> <li>• God gave us rules in the form of the <b>Ten Commandments</b>.</li> <li>• Jesus taught us to follow these commandments, and that the <b>greatest commandment is to love others</b>.</li> <li>• <b>The Holy Cross is a symbol of love</b>, because Jesus died on the cross to save us. We celebrate this feast day on <b>September 14</b>.</li> <li>• We show our respect for the cross by making the sign of the cross, putting it up on our walls, or wearing it on a chain around our necks. Seeing a cross should remind us of Jesus’ love for us.</li> <li>• We love and respect Mary, the Theotokos, which means the Mother of God. When Mary was three years old, her parents brought her to the Temple in Jerusalem, where the Jewish people prayed. She lived there her whole life, praying and following God’s way. On <b>November 21</b>, the Church celebrates the day that <b>Mary entered the Temple</b>.</li> <li>• When the baby Jesus was forty days old, Mary and Joseph brought him to the Temple to be blessed by God. A very old man named Simeon held Jesus in his arms, and knew that it was the Savior. After he did, he told God that his life was complete.</li> <li>• This feast day is called the <b>Presentation of Jesus</b>, and we celebrate it on <b>February 2</b>.</li> <li>• Just like Jesus, your parents brought you to be blessed when you were forty days old.</li> <li>• We believe that after <b>Jesus</b> died, He rose <b>from the dead after three days</b>. This is the greatest miracle of our faith. We proclaim, “Christ is risen!”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concepts of selfishness, making right/wrong choices and working together as a team are discussed.</li> </ul>	
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<p><b>Hymns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only Begotten Son (O Monogenis Yios)</li> <li>• We Have Seen the Light (Eithomen to Fos)</li> <li>• One is Holy (Eis Agios)</li> <li>• The Virgin on This Day (I Parthenos Simeron)</li> </ul> <p><b>Bible Stories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adam and Eve (Genesis 2-3)</li> <li>• The Flight to Egypt (Matthew 2:1-23)</li> <li>• The Miracle at Cana (John 2:1-11)</li> <li>• The Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)</li> <li>• The Last Supper (1 Corinthians 11:23-25)</li> <li>• The Denial of Peter (Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75; John 21:9-15)</li> <li>• The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35)</li> <li>• David and King Saul (1 Samuel 24:1-15)</li> <li>• The Ten Commandments (Exodus 19, 24)</li> <li>• The House Built on Rock (Matthew 7:24-27)</li> <li>• The Nativity of Christ (Luke 2:8-20, Matthew 2:1-12)</li> </ul> <p><b>Saints</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Demetrios and St. Nestor</li> <li>• St. John the Evangelist</li> <li>• St. Basil the Great</li> <li>• St. Helen Finds the Cross</li> </ul>		
<p><b>GRADE 3 SHARING GOD’S WORLD</b></p>	<p><b>GRADE 3: NEW LIFE IN THE CHURCH</b></p>	
<p><b>Unit 1—God wants us to share</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hospitality</b> means <b>sharing</b> our food and gifts with others.</li> <li>• We also share our feelings, thoughts, and talents with others.</li> <li>• We can share with God by going to church, singing the hymns, and giving to the poor; we should do this out of love.</li> <li>• God made a <b>covenant</b> (promise) to <b>Abraham</b>, who became the father of the Hebrew people. Many years later Jesus was born among the Hebrew people, so all of His followers can share in Abraham’s blessings.</li> <li>• All Christians share God’s gift of the Law to Moses, the Ten Commandments. Jesus taught that the greatest commandments are to love God with all our hearts, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: A study of the Sacraments of Baptism, Chrismation, Confession and Eucharist within the context of the life of the Church, enlivened by the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OT: Psalms 103, 104, 148,</li> <li>• Passages from Isaiah and Micah</li> <li>• NT: Call of Disciples,</li> <li>• Epiphany</li> <li>• Zacchaeus</li> <li>• Ascension</li> <li>• Prodigal Son</li> <li>• Good Samaritan</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We follow rules so we can live with each other peacefully.</li> <li>• We should give thanks to God and to others for the things they do for us and give to us.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 2—Jesus teaches us to share</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When Christians “share the good news,” they tell others about how Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world.</li> <li>• Jesus wants us to be His helpers by helping others. This makes us His disciples, people who bring the good news to others.</li> <li>• The service of the <b>Blessing of the Five Loaves</b> is based on the story of Jesus multiplying the five loaves of bread and four fish with the multitudes. This service <b>reminds us that we should share</b> our food with those who are hungry and have no food.</li> <li>• Jesus made a sacrifice for us, and He teaches that sometimes doing the right thing is not easy, and we may have to make sacrifices, too.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3—The Holy Spirit helps us to share</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We received the <b>Holy Spirit</b> at our <b>baptism</b>. The Holy Spirit fills our heart with love and increases our kindness and closeness to each other.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit helps us to be brave when we’re scared, to make good choices, and to say and do the right things, even when others around us do not.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 4—Families share</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People in families should treat each other with love and share with each other.</li> <li>• Family mealtime can be a special time for families to share with each other.</li> <li>• Families can pray together before meals, at bedtime, before traveling, or any time. They can pray in their own words or use a prayer book.</li> <li>• Families make and share special memories together.</li> <li>• When families remember a special person who has died, the Church has a <b>Memorial Service</b> to pray for the person. His or her memory lives on forever.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 5—We share in Church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Divine Liturgy, we share special news about God.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unforgiving Servant</li> <li>• Last Judgment</li> <li>• Passion of Christ</li> <li>• Pentecost</li> <li>• Paul’s Conversion</li> <li>• St. Stephen</li> <li>• St. Philip</li> <li>• Miracles of Peter and John.</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: Worship in the catacombs, Early Christians and Worship, Icons</li> <li>• Orthodoxy Sunday,</li> <li>• Nativity Fast,</li> <li>• Great Lent,</li> <li>• Holy Week,</li> <li>• Nativity</li> <li>• Pascha</li> <li>• Pentecost.</li> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma Children become aware that the New Life received from Christ through the Sacraments is shared with others within the community of the Church. Sacraments. Idea of God’s Presence in all we do, Creed as a statement of belief.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal Prayers Reviewed: Lord’s Prayer, Creed (begin memorization) St. Ephraim’s Prayer, traditional prayer introduced: O Heavenly King. Hymns: Bless the Lord, Christ is Risen, Stichera from Vespers, Types of prayers are introduced. Prayer is communication with God.</li> <li>• Liturgical: Divine Liturgy, its parts and encouragement of child’s participation in the Divine services. Vespers, Matins and Presanctified Liturgies are introduced.</li> <li>• Sacraments: Baptism, Chrismation – Gift of the Holy Spirit, Holy Communion – Sacrament of Unity and Love. Confession/Reconciliation – Sacrament of Forgiveness.</li> </ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During the <b>first part of the Liturgy</b>, we learn through the <b>Epistle</b> and <b>Gospel</b> readings. These Gospels share stories about Jesus’ life The Epistles are letters from the Apostles that help teach us how to live Christian lives.</li> <li>• During the <b>second part of the Divine Liturgy</b>, we offer the <b>gifts of bread and wine</b> to God. The Holy Spirit changes the gifts to the Body and Blood of Christ, to be Holy Communion.</li> <li>• Before receiving, we say the Lord’s Prayer. After we receive, we joyfully sing, “We have seen the true light!”</li> <li>• God gave us the gifts of bread and wine; we give them back to God, and He changes them into something life-giving for us.</li> <li>• When we receive <b>Holy Communion</b>, we are <b>joined to God and to each other</b> as one Church family.</li> <li>• The sacrament of <b>Holy Unction</b> is a special service of <b>healing and forgiveness</b> through God’s power. The priest anoints our faces and hands with <b>blessed oil</b>.</li> <li>• The oil has special healing power, the same way that special lotion can help us heal after a bad sunburn.</li> <li>• Being blessed with Holy Oil brings the Holy Spirit into our lives to help us live a healthy and good life.</li> <li>• Water is another wonderful gift from God. <b>We need water</b> to live, to grow, and to clean. Our Church has a special service called the <b>Blessing of the Water</b>. When God blesses the water, it becomes a holy gift for us.</li> <li>• Being sprinkled with or drinking holy water reminds us to keep our lives clean and away from sin, and to live God’s way.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 6—Sharing in the world</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A <b>missionary</b> is a person who <b>shares the Christian message</b> with others. We can be missionaries anywhere by sharing our faith with others.</li> <li>• God shared His love with us by sending His Son; we can share our love with others, too.</li> <li>• We should share the things we have with others who don’t have as much.</li> <li>• <b>Justice</b> means being fair to others and doing what is right. We can work for justice by standing up for people who are excluded and helping them to be treated fairly.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethics/Morality &amp; Vocation</b> The children are helped to see that the church is a community of believers who are called by God: to pray, to worship, to serve and minister to others, to be forgiving, to share the Good News and teach the message of Jesus Christ, as Christians to make moral choices.</li> </ul>	
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<p><b>Feast Days</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nativity</li> <li>• Sunday of Orthodoxy</li> <li>• Easter</li> <li>• Ascension</li> <li>• Pentecost</li> </ul> <p><b>Hymns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Wealthy Can Become Poor (Plousioi Eptocheusan)</li> <li>• Praise the Lord (Aineite ton Kyrion)</li> <li>• Your Birth O Christ (I Gennesis Sou)</li> <li>• Blessed Are You O Christ (Eulogetos ei Christe o Theos)</li> <li>• We Venerate Your Holy Icon (Ton Achranton Eikona Sou)</li> </ul> <p><b>Bible Stories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Hospitality of Abraham (Genesis 18:1-15)</li> <li>• Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)</li> <li>• The Call of Abraham (Genesis 12)</li> <li>• The Hebrews Build the Tabernacle (Exodus 35-36)</li> <li>• Jesus Begins His Ministry in the Temple (Luke 4:14-22)</li> <li>• The Call of the Disciples and the Great Catch of Fish (LK 5:1-11)</li> <li>• Jesus Feeds 5,000 People (John 6:1-14)</li> <li>• The Lord’s Supper (Luke 22:14-22, 34)</li> <li>• The Crucifixion of Jesus (Mark 14:32-15:24)</li> <li>• Pentecost (Acts of the Apostles 2:4)</li> <li>• Peter and John Preach (Acts of the Apostles 3:1-42)</li> <li>• The Conversion of Saul (Acts of the Apostles 9:1-19)</li> <li>• Isaac, Jacob, and Esau (Genesis 25:19-34)</li> <li>• Cornelius and Peter (Acts of the Apostles 10)</li> <li>• The Travels of St. Paul</li> <li>• The Sermon on the Mount</li> </ul> <p><b>Saints</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Stephen the First Martyr</li> <li>• St. Polycarp</li> <li>• Sts. Cosmas and Damian</li> <li>• St. Nicholas</li> </ul>		
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GRADE 4 GROWING WITH GOD	GRADE 4: JESUS THE PROMISE OF GOD	
<p><b>Unit 1—We grow as we worship God</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When we see the beauty of the world God has made, we praise, thank, and worship Him.</li> <li>• We worship the <b>one God</b> who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, <b>three persons</b>:</li> <li>• The most important way we worship God is through the <b>Divine Liturgy</b>, which means <b>“holy work of the people.”</b> Our work is to praise and worship God.</li> <li>• Part of this work is listening to the Epistle and Gospel readings, which teach us about Christ and guide to live a Christian life.</li> <li>• We offer the gifts of bread and wine to God in the Liturgy. God blesses, or consecrates them, making them the Body and Blood of Christ.</li> <li>• When we come to Liturgy, <b>we can bring many gifts</b>: prosforo, wine, lighting a candle, contributing money to the church, and incense or olive oil to be used in the worship.</li> <li>• When we receive Holy Communion, we are joined to Christ and to each other. Christ forgives us and helps us to forgive others.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 2—We grow as we learn God’s word</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over many centuries, God inspired people to write books of God’s message, and they were put together as Holy <b>Scripture</b>, or the Holy <b>Bible</b>.</li> <li>• Jesus read the Bible and taught people to follow its message. After He died and rose, His disciples wrote about Him, and these writings were added to the Bible.</li> <li>• The Old Testament tells the history of the Hebrew people and has the Ten Commandments.</li> <li>• The New Testament tells about Christ, the Apostles, and the first Christians.</li> <li>• When we read the <b>Old Testament</b>, we believe that the <b>promises of the prophets</b> refer to <b>Christ</b>, and that the Passover lamb is a symbol of Christ.</li> <li>• The New Testament is made up of several types of books: the four Gospels, which tell about the life of Christ; the Acts of the Apostles, which tell about the first Christians; the Epistles, which were letters written from Apostles to other Christians;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: Study of the Promise of God (Salvation through Incarnation of Christ)</li> <li>• Scripture – Biblical Knowledge</li> <li>• OT: Exposure to the Ten Commandments</li> <li>• NT: Scriptures related to Feasts of our Lord, Nativity to Pentecost,</li> <li>• Annunciation,</li> <li>• Two Brothers (Matthew21:28-32)</li> <li>• Miracles and Healings of Christ</li> <li>• Zacchaeus,</li> <li>• Martha and Mary</li> <li>• Ten Lepers</li> <li>• Raising of Lazarus to the Resurrection.</li> <li>• The Sermon on the Mount.</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: Church setting, position of selected icons in church. Study of selected icons. Church symbolism during Pascha, Holy Week, Map study of the Holy Land. The four evangelists,</li> <li>• Feasts of Annunciation</li> <li>• All Feasts of the Lord.</li> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma: Angels and archangels. God’s gift of Free Will to all. The fallen angel – Lies and Temptations.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal: Memorization of the Creed. Hymns – Troparion of Christmas, St. Simeon’s Prayer, Stichera from Christmas What shall we offer You O Christ Divine Liturgy – litanies, prayers and the Resurrection Service. Sacraments: Holy Unction – through stories of Christ’s healing of others. Holy Communion – through a discussion of the Mystical Supper, Confession – through discussion of growth and obedience to God’s way. Baptism- through a</li> </ul>	



<p>and the book of Revelation, which tells about the coming of God’s kingdom.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When we obey what we read in the Bible, we grow as Christians.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3—We grow through prayer and fasting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When we <b>pray</b>, we <b>communicate with God</b>, by thanking Him, praising Him, and asking for His help.</li> <li>• Jesus prayed both by Himself and with His disciples.</li> <li>• We also must <b>pray alone</b> and <b>with others</b>.</li> <li>• God always answers our prayers, even if He does not give the answer we expect or want. When we don’t get something we ask for from Him, He may have other plans for us.</li> <li>• When we fast, we do not eat certain foods at certain times. We should also fast from doing and saying wrong things. This helps us control what we eat, say, and do. Fasting should help us focus more on prayer.</li> <li>• Our Church tells us we should <b>fast on Wednesdays and Fridays and before Feast Days</b>.</li> <li>• We should fast, but we must also be healthy; our priest, parents, and teachers can help us decide how we will fast in the best way.</li> <li>• <b>Great Lent</b> is a journey that starts <b>forty days before Easter</b>. It is an important time for prayer, fasting, and doing good deeds, which prepares us to celebrate the great feast.</li> <li>• On <b>Wednesdays</b> during Great Lent, our Churches celebrate the <b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b>.</li> <li>• On <b>Fridays</b>, we celebrate the service of the <b>Salutations to the Theotokos</b>. We sing the Akathist hymn, which means “without sitting.”</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 4—We grow as an Orthodox family</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A family begins when God unites two people in <b>marriage</b>. During the wedding service, the bride and groom wear <b>rings</b> that symbolize their commitment to each other.</li> <li>• They wear <b>crowns</b> on their heads to symbolize God’s blessing upon them.</li> </ul>	<p>discussion of John the Baptist and the feast of Epiphany.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethics/Morality:</b> Making choices, facing temptations, responsibility for actions and concern for others who need help is discussed. Love neighbor as oneself, the distinction between the sin and the sinner and forgiveness as important to the spiritual life are stressed. Beatitudes are introduced as being rules to happiness.</li> <li>• <b>Vocation:</b> the text introduces the concept of vocation, by showing that just as God’s people in the Old and New Testaments were called, we are also called to listen and follow Jesus.</li> </ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God teaches that when two people get married, they are now like one person, and they must work together for their family to live God’s way, through both the easy and the hard times.</li> <li>• Some marriages end in divorce. Sometimes one spouse dies. A person may marry again, and sometimes that forms a blended family.</li> <li>• Some people never get married, but they are still part of a family.</li> <li>• Children are a gift from God. They have qualities from their parents, and from God.</li> <li>• <b>God’s image</b> is in every person.</li> <li>• Some families <b>adopt</b> children.</li> <li>• We become Christians through Holy <b>Baptism</b> and <b>Chrismation</b>.</li> <li>• Parents ask close friends or relatives to be godparents to their child, to help raise him or her as a Christian. Blessed water and oil are important symbols in the sacrament.</li> <li>• The new Christian is anointed with chrism, or special oil.</li> <li>• These two sacraments mean the child has joined the Orthodox Church.</li> <li>• We all sin. God <b>forgives</b> us through our <b>repentance</b>: we admit our wrong, ask God for forgiveness, and sincerely try not to do the same thing again.</li> <li>• When we sin against each other as family or friends, we should ask them for forgiveness.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 5—We grow as Orthodox Christians</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No matter how old we are, we should honor our parents.</li> <li>• Many people, like priests, teachers, doctors, and neighbors, help us to grow.</li> <li>• God has given each of us different <b>talents</b> that we can use in our own ways to serve Him and each other.</li> <li>• The Orthodox Church has many people who lead and serve: the bishop, the priest, the parish council, the Philoptochos Society..</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 6—The Church grows in the world</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>saints</b> of our Church have taught us, by their example, that having faith in Christ can bring great courage, generosity to the poor, and Christian unity.</li> </ul>		
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Missionaries</b> in our Church travel to other lands and spread the Christian message.</li> <li>• Different Orthodox churches may have different <b>customs</b>, but the faith is the same.</li> <li>• At our Chrismation, we receive the Holy Spirit, which gives each of us different talents to serve the Church in our own ways.</li> </ul> <p><b>Feast Days</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nativity of the Theotokos</li> <li>• Dormition of the Theotokos</li> <li>• Feast of Saints Peter and Paul</li> <li>• Transfiguration.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hymns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Doxology</li> <li>• To You the Theotokos, O Champion Leader (Te Ypermacho)</li> <li>• Those Who Have Been Baptized (Osoi Eis Christon)</li> </ul> <p><b>Bible Stories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Passover Story (Exodus 1, 5, 11-12)</li> <li>• Jesus Cleanses the Temple (John 2:13-16)</li> <li>• The Parable of the Sower (Luke 8:4-8)</li> <li>• The Temptation of Jesus in the Wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11)</li> <li>• Moses Draws Water from the Rock (Exodus 17)</li> <li>• The Life of John the Baptist (Luke 1:5-23; Mt. 3:1-15)</li> <li>• Repentance of David (2 Samuel 11; 12:1-17)</li> <li>• The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-9)</li> <li>• Ruth and Naomi (Ruth 1:1-18)</li> </ul> <p><b>Saints</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Ephraim the Syrian</li> <li>• St. Timothy</li> <li>• St. Romanos</li> <li>• St. Katherine</li> <li>• St. Andrew</li> <li>• St. Ignatios</li> <li>• St. John the Almsgiver or Merciful</li> <li>• Sts. Cyril and Methodios</li> <li>• St. Innocent</li> </ul>		
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GRADE 5 GOD CALLS US	GRADE 5: OUR LIFE IN THE CHURCH	
<p><b>Unit 1—God calls us to faith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When we put our <b>trust</b> in God even when we are afraid, we have faith.</li> <li>• The <b>Bible</b> has many stories about people with strong faith in God.</li> <li>• <b>We all struggle</b> with our faith, to know <b>what God wants</b> for our lives.</li> <li>• <b>Faith</b> helps us to improve at the things we do and to try without fear.</li> <li>• Faith gives us <b>courage</b> to use our strengths and to help other people.</li> <li>• God has always been faithful to His people. He gave us the gift of the <b>Ten Commandments</b> to show His love and care for how we live our lives.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 2—God calls us to holiness</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since we are all created in the <b>image and likeness of God</b>, we should be pure and holy.</li> <li>• We can do things to remind ourselves of <b>God’s presence</b> and holiness, such as lighting candles, venerating icons, and censing our homes.</li> <li>• To help us make choices, we should ask ourselves what God would want us to do.</li> <li>• <b>Ethics</b> are rules that help us know the difference between right and wrong.</li> <li>• People who are <b>righteous</b> do what is right, and they <b>obey</b> what God tells them.</li> <li>• God calls us to speak the <b>truth</b> and live honestly.</li> <li>• God’s <b>prophets</b> spoke the truth, even if it was hard for others to hear.</li> <li>• Even if many other things in our lives change, God will always love us.</li> <li>• When we <b>sin</b>, we break our <b>relationship</b> with God. We can restore this in the sacrament of <b>Confession</b>, by asking for forgiveness and <b>repenting</b> from our sins.</li> <li>• The books of <b>Psalms</b> and <b>Proverbs</b> teach us holiness.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 3—God calls us to His kingdom</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum Covered: The Sacraments of the Church Scripture – Biblical Knowledge OT: N/A</li> <li>• NT: The Great Banquet/Marriage Feast</li> <li>• Publican and Pharisee</li> <li>• The Lost Sheep</li> <li>• Prodigal Son</li> <li>• The Sower and the Seed.</li> <li>• Church History/Holy Tradition: The Origin of the Sacraments/Mysteries of the Church are studied as found in Scripture and in the Tradition of the Church Extensive study of the services of each sacrament which includes quotes from the Church Fathers. Lives of St. Athanasius the Great, St. Romanos</li> <li>• Doctrine/Dogma: Introduction to Salvation History; Holy Trinity, Creation and the Fall, Incarnation, Redemption &amp; Church Salvation.</li> <li>• Prayer – Liturgical/Personal Student is acquainted with the sacraments of the Church and the privileges and responsibilities of church membership. Sacraments are the means by which the Church lives and grows.</li> <li>• Divine Liturgy – Studied at a more intense level than earlier grades – 12 lessons are devoted to this.</li> <li>• The Creed is reviewed and students are introduced to selected liturgy prayers: Anaphora/Eucharist Prayers, Prayer before the Gospel and the final prayers of the priest- Prayer at the Ambon. Hymns studied include: Antiphons, Troparia and Kontakia, Prokimenon, As Many as Have Been Baptized, Cherubic Hymn, and the Trisagion.</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mary is called “<b>Theotokos</b>,” which means “the one who <b>gave birth to God</b>.”</li> <li>• She was an example of obedience and love; we ask her to pray for us, knowing that Jesus will listen to her in a special way.</li> <li>• We celebrate the <b>Feast of the Annunciation on March 25</b>.</li> <li>• <b>John the Baptist</b> was Jesus’ cousin and a prophet who announced that people must repent and prepare for Jesus’ coming.</li> <li>• The last three years of Jesus’ life are His <b>ministry</b>, or service to others. He was about thirty years old.</li> <li>• We believe that Jesus is <b>both divine and human</b>. He lived like us and He lived God’s way, bringing the Kingdom of God.</li> <li>• The Good News is that with the Kingdom of God, we are all free from our sins.</li> <li>• Jesus taught people to treat others with love, forgive, share with the poor, not to judge, and to trust in God.</li> <li>• During His ministry, Jesus healed people and showed many other miracles.</li> <li>• Jesus chose twelve <b>disciples</b> to help him preach and heal.</li> <li>• Some of the leaders became angry at Jesus and planned to kill Him. He knew that He must die and rise on the third day to save us from the powers of sin and death.</li> <li>• Both the Old and New Testaments teach us how God gives salvation. Those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God will be saved through Him.</li> <li>• God will judge each of us, by how much we loved and cared for others.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 4—God calls us to His Church</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Peter called the Christians to be “<b>living stones</b>” to build the Church. We can work together to keep our Church strong.</li> <li>• St. Paul taught that the Church is the <b>Body of Christ</b>, and each person is an important part. Jesus has given each of us special “Gifts of Service” to do Christ’s work.</li> <li>• Everyone in the Church has special <b>talents</b>.</li> <li>• Monastics are God’s spiritual athletes because they dedicate all of their time and energy to Christ through a simple life of prayer.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ethics/Morality:</b> Students are shown that the goal of the sacramental life is to unite them to the Lord and to the members of the Church</li> <li>• <b>Vocation:</b> Various vocations are open to members of the Church above and beyond their responsibilities as church members.</li> </ul>	
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The fathers of the early Church, such as St. Athanasios, St. Basil, and St. Gregory the Theologian, taught about the faith.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 5—God calls us to serve</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You can be a witness to Christ by standing up for your beliefs and living according to your Orthodox faith.</li> <li>• Working for <b>justice</b> means helping those who are in need or who are treated unfairly.</li> <li>• We are called to <b>sacrifice</b> for others, to give unselfishly.</li> <li>• We are called to <b>encourage</b> others who are struggling.</li> </ul> <p><b>Unit 6—God Calls Us to New Life</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every year, the <b>Lenten</b> journey prepares us for Christ’s Resurrection, through fasting and prayer.</li> <li>• The four Sundays before Great Lent help to prepare us: Sunday of the <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b>; Sunday of the <b>Prodigal Son</b>; <b>Meat-Fare</b> Sunday (Sunday of the Last Judgment); <b>Cheese-Fare</b> Sunday (Sunday of Forgiveness).</li> <li>• Each Sunday during the forty days of Lent, we remember the holy cross and many holy people whose lives teach us the way of prayer and repentance.</li> <li>• Jesus teaches us to bear our cross, or our hardships, with faith in God, and that <b>freedom means doing what God wants</b>.</li> <li>• Lent is also a time to think about how we can better live up to God’s way.</li> <li>• During Lent, we celebrate <b>Presanctified Liturgies</b> and the <b>Akathist Hymn</b>, which praises the Theotokos.</li> <li>• <b>The Prayer of St. Ephraim</b> is a humble prayer that helps us to be more loving in our relationships with others and with God.</li> <li>• Setting aside a daily time and place for prayer is important for spiritual <b>growth</b>.</li> <li>• During <b>Holy Week</b>, we remember the last earthly days of Christ. Our services remind us that Christ loves us, suffered for us, died, and rose from the dead for us.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hymns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lord Save Your People (Soson Kyrie)</li> <li>• Holy, Holy, Holy (Agios, Agios, Agios)</li> <li>• We Praise You (Se Imnoumen)</li> <li>• Eternal Memory (Eonia I Mnimi)</li> </ul>		
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christ is Risen (Christos Anesti)</li> </ul> <p><b>Bible Stories</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Sacrifice of Isaac (Genesis 22:1-19)</li> <li>• The Story of Jacob (Genesis 25, 27, 32, 33)</li> <li>• Joseph and His Brothers (Genesis 37, 39-46)</li> <li>• Moses and the Burning Bush (Exodus 1-5)</li> <li>• The Exodus (Exodus 7-12, 14, 19-20)</li> <li>• Joshua and the Promised Land (Numbers 13-14, Joshua 3-4)</li> <li>• The Story of Gideon (Judges 6-7)</li> <li>• The Story of Solomon’s Wisdom (1 Kings 3)</li> <li>• The Story of Elijah (1 Kings 16-18, 2 Kings 2)</li> <li>• The Story of Ezra and Nehemiah</li> <li>• The Book of Psalms</li> <li>• The Book of Proverbs</li> <li>• The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-56, 2:1-20)</li> <li>• The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)</li> <li>• Jesus Heals the Blind Man (John 9:1-38)</li> <li>• The Parable of the Last Judgment (Matthew 25:31-46)</li> <li>• The Parable of the Publican and the Pharisee (Luke 18:9-14)</li> <li>• The Passion of Christ and the Resurrection</li> </ul> <p><b>Saints</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Peter, St. Paul</li> <li>• St. Philip the Deacon</li> <li>• St. Anthony</li> <li>• St. Basil, St. Athanasios</li> <li>• St. Gregory the Theologian</li> <li>• St. Maximos the Confessor</li> <li>• St. Philothei of Athens</li> <li>• St. Herman of Alaska, St. Nektarios</li> </ul>		
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