

The Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese Department of Christian Education

CHURCH SCHOOL RESOURCES FALL 2020

These resources are provided to assist in your creating a church school program during this unusual year. It is important that we stay in-touch with our children so that they keep growing in the faith. The lessons should be no more than 25 minutes, with time for discussion. NOTE: If you are using an online platform DO NOT take any screenshots of the children, for security reasons. The entries are categorized as follows: Year-long Programs (consider "Let Us Attend," "Sing-Along with Gigi," "Tending the Garden," and "Be-the-Bee" as these are free); Partial-Year Programs, General Resources, Platforms, and *very helpful* Articles. In addition, we have Craft, Activity and Lesson Resources and Facebook Pages. The resource table was created by a committee of Church School Directors and the Diocesan Christian Education Coordinators. We will continue to add entries. Contact aodce@aol.com for questions. **Let's get started!**

[Age Abbreviations: Preschool, Elementary, Intermediate, Middle School, High School]

Posted	Grades	Resource Name, Link	Linked	Description
YEAR-LONG PROGRAMS				
9.3	K-HS	Orthodox Journeys: by David Lucs Individual lessons , \$10-\$12.50. https://www.orthodoxjourneys.com/shop?page=2 , Church Schools can purchase units of six lessons for \$60. https://www.orthodoxjourneys.com/product-page/unit-1-6-week-church-school-curriculum/ , 45-week package, with Holy Week and Great Feasts , \$375. Discounts available for dioceses that order 10, 20, 30, 40+ (10%, 20%, 30%, 40%), for distribution to parish families. https://www.orthodoxjourneys.com/product-page/2020-2021-school-year-curriculum .	Journeys Home.	David Lucs and his team provide full-color engaging materials that follow the lectionary. A lesson is comprised of: a 2-4 page handout featuring a summary of the week's commemoration, the hymns and scripture readings, and an assortment of educational activities grouped in four levels: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12. Questions and discussion topics explore the scriptures, feasts, saints, liturgical life and contemporary social issues. Included is an Overview for parent, providing summaries, suggested questions, and topics to explore during the week and a unit plan, providing a syllabus of sorts, explaining the topics covered over the six-week unit.
9.3	E I MS HS	"Let Us Attend" by Timm and Kristina Wenger, Antiochian Orthodox Department of Christian Education http://ww1.antiochian.org/christianeducation/letusattend	AO Gospel	Illustrated handouts of the Sunday's Gospel are offered at five levels with discussion questions. The Gospel is paraphrased for the younger grades, with a coloring page; and presented as it will be heard for the older students. A Reader's Theater page is included.
9.3	Family Alternative	Tending the Garden Podcast + Lesson Plan and Printables: https://tending-the-garden.com/	Tending	From Kristina and Elissa: "This Fall, we'll be back at work on our weekly audio podcast, but we'll expand the episodes to include coordinated materials, such as printables, to equip you for religious education in your home." Some parishes are using the program as their Church School Curriculum. This year the subject is the Parables.

9.3	MS HS	Crossroads by Bridges to Orthodoxy https://bridgestoorthodoxy.com/collections/other-resources/products/0-free-crossroads-presentation	Crossroads	A highly recommended program that covers Orthodox faith, bible study, social topics. A brief video presentation can be downloaded for an overview of the materials. Each monthly topic file contains four lessons. The cost is \$99/month.
	P E I MS	Sing-Along with Gigi https://www.youtube.com/user/gigishadid	Gigi	Kh. Gigi Shadid has a little lesson with a song for every Sunday!
PARTIAL YEAR PROGRAMS				
9.3	MS HS	The Relationship Project by FaithTree Resources https://www.faithtree.org/the-relationship-project	Relationships	Consists of 3 Units of 4 sessions each. Cost: \$399. Composed of videos, discussion and other resources, “The Relationship Project brings the teens in your youth program into an exciting exploration of how they were designed by God, and what that design means within their relationships.”
9.3	MS	My Orthodox Church by Carole Buleza and Elaine Atherholt, http://ww1.antiochian.org/category/christian-education/programs	My Church	Consists of 10-12 sessions The program provides frequently asked questions that Orthodox Christians encounter. It brings knowledge and understanding of the faith to the task of identity-building. For a virtual class, use the links that are provided for online research. The Orthodox Study Bible is required.
9.3	Grades 5-8	Activity Books By the OCA Department of Christian Education http://dce.oca.org/page/activity-books/	Activity Books	The books provide a biography of the saint, discussion questions, troparia, and activity sheets. The activity pages can be downloaded and sent to the children in an Activity Box; some can be used with share-screen. Saints Who Were Physicians, 15 lessons Saints in Times of Trouble, 12 lessons Saints and the Animals that Served Them, 12 lessons Saints of North America, 12 lessons
9.3	Ages 4-17	Focus Units By the OCA Department of Christian Education http://dce.oca.org/page/focus/	Focus Units	Well-crafted lessons offered on four levels, plus adult. The resource pages can be downloaded used with share-screen for Zoom lessons. The Theotokos, 5 lessons The Nativity Season, 5 lessons Journey to Pascha, 6 lessons
9.3	Grades 1-5	Rooted in Prayer by Ancient Faith Publishing https://store.ancientfaith.com/rooted-in-prayer-virtual-vacation-church-camp/	Rooted in Prayer	<i>Consists of five 1-hour sessions. Cost \$29.99</i> A 5-day virtual church camp program that can also five Sunday School or Church School sessions, inspired by A Child’s Guide to Prayer from Ancient Faith Publishing. The program contains a video and many activities aimed at elementary school children, but suitable for their older and younger siblings. Created by Elissa Bjeletich and Kristina Wenger.

9.3	Grades: 4-6	Sasha and the Dragon by the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast Ministry Council		<p><i>Consists of five sessions</i></p> <p>These videos were created for the Virtual Life Council 2020 Kids Club, grades 4-6 but could be used for Middle School, as well. The program consists of videos with supplemental projects suitable for Sunday School class or independent learning. Links to outlines for Days 1-5.</p> <p>Day 1: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uzAr2SoAbOL-R5D7TVeG9ErZeCWtueFc/view?usp=sharing/</p> <p>Day 2: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1UGXzpY25UrsitpvpCQ09vxxkjVOMtmEvr/view?usp=sharing/</p> <p>Day 3: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BiHmll60Uqk8eD7Sk-RsiN8VEziJ-4gU/view?usp=sharing/</p> <p>Day 4: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1YgQU_CoNylvSuCoFvll0vwGXj2_45h13/view?usp=sharing/</p> <p>Day 5: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HFDkpf1KG4QdT5oOacMmUQskZh6Ctiue/view?usp=sharing/</p>
9.3	Grades K-5	Philo and the Superholies VBS , by Bridges to Orthodoxy. https://bridgestoorthodoxy.com/pages/superholies-vbs-program-faqs	Philo	<p><i>Consists of five 2-hour sessions. Cost \$149.</i></p> <p>Based on the SuperHolies books by Mirielle Mishriky, each day focuses on one or two SuperHolies (Fruits of the Spirit) using a daily Bible Passage and Orthodox Saint story. The kids will start off in one virtual classroom to watch a pre-recorded Large Group session, which includes Philo's SuperChallenge of the day. After, they break out into 3 different simultaneous sessions. A minimum of 3 adult volunteers is recommended. The kids rotate between these sessions every 30 minutes. They will use what they learn to help Philo solve his SuperChallenge and learn how to activate the SuperHolies in their own lives. Games, crafts, and activities included.</p>
9.3	I, MS, HS	International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC) Prayer Journal 2020 https://iocc.org/blog/order-your-own-copy-today	IOCC Prayer Journal	<p><i>Consists of five lessons. Free.</i> Request journals, and download lesson guide. IOCC's most recent prayer journal offers you a glimpse into the lives of children and families around the world and shows how your prayers and support are helping them build a brighter future. The 2020 journal can be used as a text. Activities have a home option as well as a class option.</p>
GENERAL RESOURCES				
9.3	Teens	Be-the-Bee https://www.youtube.com/playlist?reload=9&list=PLbyQMR-_r8bJTrcWpWxSUPdJHdZJsq_zG	Be-the-Bee	A video series on a variety of topics that meet the needs of teenagers according to Orthodox spirituality. Consider writing discussion questions and pausing the videos to check for comprehension and to discuss the points.
9.3	P, E, I	Children's Bible Reader Online by GOArch Cbr. goarch.org	Children's Bible	This excellent resource provides bible stories from the Orthodox Children's Bible Reader. The stories are read aloud as illustration from the Children's Bible Reader is shown as if in motion. Type appears at the bottom but can be turned off. Audio can be turned off if the story is to be read by another. Related options include online games: activity, word, jigsaw, puzzle, coloring, strategy.

PLATFORMS				
9.3		Platform and Online Resource Options	PDF Resource Folder	An annotated listing of six, plus zoom. Hyperlinked.
9.3		Zoom Quick Start Guide https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360034967471-Quick-start-guide-for-new-users#h_4e0619a0-db7b-4d24-830d-de9128e71773	Zoom Quick	Zoom Free Account. Here is the list of features: Host up to 100 participants, 40 minutes on group meetings, simultaneous screen share, virtual background, Chrome & Outlook plug-ins, MP4 or M4A local recording, host controls, raise hand sign, breakout rooms, group messaging and presence, screen share any iPad/iPhone app, co-annotation on shared screen, whiteboarding, multi-share. The polling feature is not available on the free version.
9.3		Zoom Lessons by Steve Dotto "Zoom Basics - Using Zoom for Classes and Meetings" Dottotech on YouTube https://www.google.com/search?q=dottotech+youtube&rlz=1C1CHBF_enUS891US891&oq=dottotech&aqs=chrome.3.69i57j46j0l6.4538j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8	Dottotech	Steve goes at a slower pace than the Zoom tutorials. In this video, he gives the basics of Zoom as he teaches his wife how to use it in the classroom. He has additional tutorials on specific tools of Zoom, such as breakout rooms. If you google "Dottotech" you'll find all of his presentations on YouTube.
ARTICLES				
9.3		Fr. Tony's Suggestions	PDF Resource Folder	Valuable suggestions on a range of questions regarding Virtual Church School from the Director of the GOA Department of Religious Education
9.3		Icebreakers for Online Sessions	PDF Resource Folder	A list of icebreakers
9.3		Effective Online Lessons	PDF Resource Folder	Advice
9.3		Important Zoom Settings	PDF Resource Folder	Settings for organized and secure zoom sessions
9.3		Getting Parents on Board	PDF Resource Folder	Ideas for engaging parents
9.3		Ideas for Teen Classes	PDF Resource Folder	Extra ideas
9.3		Activity Kits		(Not yet available) Ideas for kits to supplement lessons
CRAFT, ACTIVITY AND LESSON RESOURCES				
9.3	PEIMS	AODCE Pinterest - https://www.pinterest.com/aodce/	AO Pinterest	The Department of Christian Education page. Amazing. Hundreds of pins organized by category. Use the search bar to find what you need.
9.3	PEIMS	Illumination Learning: http://illumination-learning.com		A treasury of lessons and ideas

9.3	E, I	Orthodox ABC https://orthodoxabc.com/	<u>O abc</u>	Orthodox abc offers a variety of lessons with worksheets and activities, in four categories, on the basics of Orthodox worship and life. Some audio included.
9.3	P, E	Orthodox Pebbles https://orthodoxpebbles.com/ Videos: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7SaKFFdY-O88dXr6a5Zl6n-ukD2uOy__	<u>O Pebbles</u>	Crafts, Activities, Teaching Resources. Orthodox Pebbles is the product of two women trained in art and in crafting. Feature: Lessons with crafts and printables, videos. They now produce animated videos, consider Great Lent, Icons, Pascha
9.3	P E I MS	Orthodox Arts and Crafts https://orthodoxchurchschoolteachers.wordpress.com/2017/07/28/back-pocket-ideas-for-creative-expression-in-lessons/	<u>O Arts and Crafts</u>	A good variety of crafts for creative expression.
9.3	E I MS HS	Art Tutorials featuring the Cross https://orthodoxchurchschoolteachers.wordpress.com/2014/12/13/art-projects-for-sunday-church-school-paper/	<u>Art tutorial: Cross</u>	Here is a whole series of art tutorials, each featuring a cross (but could be used for anything). The first focuses on using paper as the main medium. At the end of the blog post there's a link to the second; follow that link and then the next to find all of the tutorials.
FACEBOOK PAGES				
9.3		Orthodox Christian Church School Directors https://www.facebook.com/orthodoxchristianchurchschooldirectors/	<u>AO FB for CSDs</u>	Educational resources, advice, and information specific to running the Church School programs are shared on this page.
9.3		Orthodox Christian Church School Teachers https://www.facebook.com/orthodoxchristiansundaychurchschoolteachers/	<u>Orthodox Teachers</u>	Resources and notifications are shared. The page is no longer maintained on a daily basis, however, we still post to it occasionally.
9.3		Orthodox Christian Religious Educators https://www.facebook.com/groups/108487055285/	<u>Orthodox Educators</u>	The page is maintained by the Greek Orthodox Department of Religious Education
9.3		GOA Department of Religious Education https://www.facebook.com/GOADRE/	<u>https://www.facebook.com/GOADRE/</u>	The page of the Greek Orthodox Department of Religious Education