

## **Sunday School Curricula:**

### **Nurs/Pre-K: Reaching For Jesus**

*A pictorial introduction to Christ, with large drawings for coloring and easy text that reinforces prayer, the observance of the feast days and the love of Jesus.*

### **Kindergarten: Happy With God**

*God's love is the source of joy. The main theme of this grade is designed for Kindergarten- age children. Aspects of worship and stories from scripture highlight specific examples of and reasons for joy centered on Christ*

### **First Grade: Me and My World**

*The focus of this grade is on Creation as God's gift. In discovering the world, the child understands that the family, friends, church school—all come from God. Through depictions of the daily experiences of God's world, the child comes to realize that God is real, loving, and caring*

### **Second Grade: Loving God**

*This grade concentrates on the theme of "Loving God." Through the example of men and women of the Bible, and of our Saints, children begin to understand right, wrong and forgiveness in the light of God's love. They also learn the importance not only of loving God unconditionally, but also of respecting other people, of taking care of the environment, of doing good in His Name.*

### **Third Grade: Sharing God's World**

*Children learn about sharing through the examples of Jesus, and are inspired to observe these same examples in the Divine Liturgy, the Sacraments, and other Services of the Church. From there they become caring, sharing individuals. Students are taught hymns and songs of the Church.*

### **Fourth Grade: Growing With God**

*This grade is devoted to helping children learn how to use and appreciate the Bible. Also introduces examples of living the sacramental life—attending services, fasting, praying, observing feast days, helping others, learning about the Saints and the Church of Christ. After this grade, children love the Bible, and know how to refer to it in times of doubt and fear. Students are taught hymns and songs of the Church*

### **Fifth Grade: God Calls Us**

*Concentrates on the stories of those heroes of the Faith who have responded to God's call. Through these examples of faith, loyalty, self-sacrifice, obedience, love, justice and social responsibility, students of this age learn to respond to God in terms of personal faith and the basics of Christian morality. We cover the 4,000-year timeline of our Church and Bible History and teach the hymns and songs of the Church.*

### **Sixth Grade: The Christian Way of Life**

*Students learn the pathway to happy Christian living through Scripture, Tradition, Doctrine, Church History and Liturgical Life. It includes chapters on the Church Fathers, the Liturgy and other Services, and the first Christian writers.*

### **Seventh Grade: Worship in the Orthodox Church**

*Students learn the basic cycles and services of worship in the Orthodox Church. They are taught about the church building, vestments and symbols, the daily cycle of worship, the Church year with its fasts, and feasts, and the Divine Liturgy.*

### **Eighth Grade: Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church**

*Students learn about the various mysteries (sacraments) of the Church: Baptism, Chrismation, Communion, Confession, Unction, Marriage, Ordination, Blessing of the Waters, Churching of a Child. The mysteries are described and explained, bringing into focus their importance and impact on our lives. Students learn that the Mysteries are not simply ceremonies, but truly holy experiences which transform our beings and lead us to a spiritual and fulfilling daily life.*

### **Ninth Grade: Who is God? Who Am I? Who Are You?**

*We address relationships: to each other, to one's self, to God. The lessons focus on our spiritual and psychological lives as they relate to the teachings of the Church. It focuses on defining ourselves in terms Christ rather than in terms of the fallen world.*