



# **Four Evangelists Orthodox Church**

## **2011 – 2012 Church School Schedule and Rough Outline**

*Note: Unless otherwise noted, church school will begin promptly at 8:50 and last for 40 minutes, with the children finishing in time to partake in our entire Divine Liturgy.*

### **September 18th- FIRST DAY of CHURCH SCHOOL**

- Introduction of curriculum to all classes as a group by Ginny.
- Children share what *they* want to learn about Divine Liturgy.
- HOMEWORK- Attend Vespers before October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **October 2nd**

- What is Vespers?
- How do we prepare ourselves for Divine Liturgy?

### **October 16th**

- How do we enter the church?
- What do we do when we enter Church?
- What makes our church building special? Main parts of our church, special furniture, fixtures, no instruments, Icons, candles, etc.
- Homework- Choose an Icon within our church to share with our parish on October 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **After Church- October 30th**

- Icons in our Church- Melanie will give a short talk to everyone about the history/significance of Icons.
- Children will explain their favorite Icon in our church to our parish.
- Last year we used our patron Saints- this year, we will choose an icon from within our church, ideally, or one that is usually found in an Orthodox church (ie: The Mystical Supper).

### **November 13th**

- Divine Liturgy can be seen as representing the Life of Christ.
- The Divine Liturgy can be divided into three main parts:
  1. The hidden life (The Preparation/Proskomedia)
  2. the public life (The Liturgy of the Catechumens)
  3. the salvific life, or Christ's work of salvation. (Liturgy of the Eucharist)

### **November 27th SKIP DUE TO THANKSGIVING**

### **December 4th**

- The Service of Proskomidi (Liturgy of Preparation)
- Father Gregory will perform this part of the service on the Tetrapod today, while explaining to the children what he is doing.



### December 18th

- Doxologia- The Great Litany or Ektenia- We ask God for peace, the church, Archbishop and our priests, our country and those who govern it, seasonable weather, the travelers, the sick and deliverance for danger.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Antiphon, The Little Litany, The 2<sup>nd</sup> Antiphon, The Little Litany, The 3<sup>rd</sup> Antiphon

### January 8th

- The Little Entrance
- The Trisagion Hymn
- Craft- Make a Trisagion Hymn Prayer Card

### January 22nd

- The Prokeimion- What is the Prokeimenon? And why are there eight tones?
- The Epistle
- The Alleluia Verses
- What are they all and how are they chosen/ how do we know which ones to read?
- ACTIVITY- Practice chanting

### February 5th

- The Gospel
- The Sermon
- How is the Gospel determined?
- Father Gregory will explain how he prepares the sermon and the Holy Spirit's role in his preaching.

### February 19th

- The Litany for the Departed
- The Litany for the Catechumins (What is a Catechumin and why do we ask them to depart?)
- The Cherubic Hymn

### March 4th

- The Great Entrance
- The Litany of Supplication
- The collection- why tithing is important to our church
- The Peace

### March 18th

- The Creed "The Confession of our Faith"
  - The History of the Creed
  - The meaning of the Creed
- What is the priest doing during the creed and why?



### April 1st

- The Holy Offering
- “Holy, holy, holy Lord of Sabaoth...”
- The words Christ said at the Last Supper
- What should we do during this most holy time?
- What do we as Orthodox Christians believe truly happens during this time?
- Choir sings “We Praise Thee...”

### April 15th -PASCHA- NO CLASS

### April 8th or 22nd (depends on the teacher)

- The Hymn to the Theotokos
- The Litany before the Lord’s Prayer
- The Lord’s Prayer- FIND IT IN THE BIBLE

### April 29th

- The Communion Prayer
- Fasting for Communion
- Being Spiritually prepared for Communion

### May 13th

- Holy Communion
- How to approach the chalice
- What to say to the priest (your baptismal name)
- Father Gregory will discuss proper etiquette.

### May 27th

- Zapivka Bread and Wine
- The Thanksgiving Prayer
- The Litany of Thanksgiving

### June 10th- THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

- The Dismissal- why is it important.
- Church isn’t over yet.
- Why “Amen!”

