

GRADE AND MAIN THEME OF YEAR	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1</b> <b>GOD THE FATHER</b></p> <p>Who He is; His Nature, Attributes and commandments. What He does. Doctrine Response to God</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2</b> <b>GOD THE SON</b> <b>JESUS CHRIST</b></p> <p>Who He is; His nature, Attributes and gifts. What He does. Doctrine Response to Christ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3</b> <b>GOD THE</b> <b>HOLY SPIRIT</b></p> <p>Who He is; His nature, Attributes and gifts. What He does. Doctrine Response to the Spirit.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4</b> <b>CHURCH</b></p> <p>Community Doctrine History Administration Architecture</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5</b> <b>WORSHIP AND PRAYER</b></p> <p>Meaning Purpose Benefits Methods</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>6</b> <b>LITURGY</b></p> <p>Meaning Purpose Structure Participation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>7</b> <b>SACRAMENTS</b> <b>AND OTHER SERVICES</b></p> <p>Meaning Purpose Structure Participation</p>	
<p><b>GRADE 6: CHOOSING GOD</b></p> <p>The focus of the sixth Grade is on the importance and consequences of choices in the light of the Christian faith. The sixth grader, as a pre-adolescent, becomes more aware of one's personal freedom to make right and wrong choices. Friendships are very important and peer pressure increases. Through the many examples and teachings of Scripture and Tradition, the child is helped to recognize the basic Christian moral and spiritual values and to make the right choices for his or her life.</p>	<p>God offers to human beings fullness of life. God is a moral being who requires love, truth, justice and peace among all people. God by creating mankind in His image has endowed them with free will. God by His mercy forgives and saves those who turn to Him in sincere repentance. God by His justice rewards goodness and punishes wickedness. O.T. examples illustrating the importance and consequences of choices (Adam and Eve, Joseph, David, etc.)</p>	<p>Jesus' temptations as examples of choosing God. Jesus' calls for personal faith. Jesus' appeal to personal choice: "Whoever would come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow Me." Jesus' calls to discipleship: "Follow me." Jesus' eternal questions: "Who do you say that I am?" Gospel examples of choices (the Virgin Mary, the disciples, Zacchaeus, Nicodemus, Judas, etc.). Christ makes us free.</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth and Freedom working in the life of the Church and our hearts. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit –willfully rejecting its presence in the work of Jesus, the Apostles, and the Church. Ananias and Sapphira are punished for lying to the Holy Spirit (Acts 5). The gift of the Spirit confers upon us the status of free sons and daughters of God (adoption/sonship).</p>	<p>Examples of choices in Church life and growth: --From the early Church (conversions after Pentecost, Lydia at Philippi, Paul in Athens). --From the period of the Great Persecutions and the Church Fathers. --From modern times (over against secularism and communism).</p>	<p>As the supreme source of life and goodness, God both demands and deserves absolute loyalty and worship. To pray and worship God regularly are matters of free choice. Being renewed through personal prayer and worship, we experience greater inner freedom.</p>	<p>What it means to choose God through the Liturgy: --The Liturgy as a journey into the Kingdom. --Active participation: praying and singing through the Liturgy. --Receiving Holy Communion being united with Christ and with each other as His Body. --Our life after the Liturgy should be a spiritual "liturgy" to God.</p>	<p>What it means to choose God through other sacraments: --Baptism: conscious and unconscious choice (parents, sponsor, community). --Holy Oil: healing, forgiveness, and renewal as holy people of God. --Confession: personal repentance, forgiveness, renewal, and spiritual growth.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>8</b> <b>PRAYERS AND HYMNS</b></p> <p>Actual Prayers Actual Hymns</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>9</b> <b>SAINTS, FEAST AND</b> <b>CYCLES</b></p> <p>Meaning Witness Relevance</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>10</b> <b>SCRIPTURE</b></p> <p>The Gospel The role of Scripture in the Orthodox Church Persons, events and salvation history Passages Biblical skills</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>11</b> <b>TRADITION</b></p> <p>Importance of Tradition Liturgical acts outside of the Sacraments Iconography Customs Symbols</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>12</b> <b>CHRISTIAN FAMILY</b></p> <p>Meaning Purpose Way of Life and values Praying and working together Joys and responsibilities Customs and traditions</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>13</b> <b>ETHICS AND SPIRITUALITY</b></p> <p>Doctrine of personhood; Theosis: image and likeness; Mystical union; new creation; Lie in Christ; fruit of the Spirit. Faith, repentance, fasting and good works. Divine grace and free will Christian values Sin and forgiveness Evil, suffering and death</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>14</b> <b>SERVICE AND MISSION</b></p> <p>Gifts and talents Ministries Vocations, jobs and professions Witness Evangelism</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>15</b> <b>OTHER FAITHS,</b> <b>SOCIETY AND WORLD</b></p> <p>Christian Ecumenism Other Living Religions Social Issues and Problems Justice and Peace Recreation and Entertainment Ecology Apologetics</p>
	<p>Prayer to the Holy Spirit: "Heavenly King..." Learn how to use prayer book. Develop discipline of daily prayer. Review Sunday dismissal hymns. Learn more of festal dismissal hymns.</p>	<p>Concentration on the lives of martyrs: --the Three Youths in the fire --the Maccabean Martyrs --St. Polycarp --A Neo-Martyr  Learn cycles of Fasts.</p>	<p>Teach children to read the Bible related to themes under strands 1-4. Read parts of the Book of the Wisdom of Solomon. Read parts of the Book of James.</p>	<p>Icons related to lessons. Learn to paint icons. Learn the meaning and methodology of fasting. Choose a specific fasting period to observe as a class.</p>	<p>The Orthodox family chooses to follow God (see Joshua and his family) and the Church's teaching through: --Regular worship. --Mealtime and evening prayers. --Mutual love, help, and forgiveness. --Bringing gifts to Church (monetary, sacramental, wine, oil, incense, etc.). --Visiting the sick and homebound. --Philanthropic works (adopting a foster child).</p>	<p>The meaning of being created in the image and likeness of God. Freedom and decision-making. Synergy: cooperation between divine grace and free will. Faith and works. Then nature of temptation by the devil, sin, and human weakness. How to overcome temptations by reliance on God, prayer, and moral obedience. How to make good choices and correct wrong choices.</p>	<p>Because God is the source of all other possessions and talents, we should use them for His glory. Choose to serve God and humanity in the light of the example of Christ. Be alert to God's call for service. Accept a regular family duty (such as picking up the dishes or mowing the lawn) as a way of serving within the family. Choose as a class to serve in some church activity. Visit a nursing home.</p>	<p>The importance and consequences of choices in our society: --choosing friends (peer pressure) --the danger of drugs and other harmful substances. --the influence of music. --choosing a vocation.</p>