

GRADE AND MAIN THEME OF YEAR	<p style="text-align: center;">1 GOD THE FATHER</p> <p>Who He is; His Nature, Attributes and commandments. What He does. Doctrine Response to God</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">2 GOD THE SON JESUS CHRIST</p> <p>Who He is; His nature, Attributes and gifts. What He does. Doctrine Response to Christ</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3 GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT</p> <p>Who He is: His nature, Attributes and gifts. What He does. Doctrine Response to the Spirit.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4 CHURCH</p> <p>Community Doctrine History Administration Architecture</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5 WORSHIP AND PRAYER</p> <p>Meaning Purpose Benefits Methods</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6 LITURGY</p> <p>Meaning Purpose Structure Participation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7 SACRAMENTS AND OTHER SERVICES</p> <p>Meaning Purpose Structure Participation</p>	
<p>GRADE 7: UNITING WITH GOD</p> <p>In Grade 7 the emphasis is on the sacred mysteries, also call sacraments. The seventh grader, as an early adolescent, is moving beyond the security of the late childhood. They begin to search for a personal identity, show new reasoning abilities, seek to be oneself, while conforming to peer values. Through the study of the Sacraments, the seventh grader is challenged to form a conscious Christian identity, to pray for the sanctification of life by by grace, and to have personal communion with God.</p>	<p>God is the supreme mystery of communion (common life and mutual indwelling) of the Holy Trinity. The living God mystically revealed Himself to Moses by the Burning Bush and on Mt. Sinai. The call and experiences of the Prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel).</p>	<p>The meaning of the Incarnation as the union (communion) of the divine and the human. Jesus' baptism is a revelation of his divinity, the Trinity, and the coming of the kingdom as a present reality. Christ's words about His body and Blood (Jn6). The indwelling of the risen Christ in the hearts of believers. Christ's mystical appearance to Paul on the Damascus road. Jesus commands Baptism and Eucharist.</p>	<p>The Holy Spirit descends on the Church in worship as an ongoing Pentecost, energizing and guiding the Church. The Spirit is given to Christians as a personal gift through Chrismation. The Spirit in the Liturgy and all the Sacraments. The indwelling of the Spirit crying "Abba/Father" in the believer's heart.</p>	<p>The Church as the mystical Body of Christ visibly formed by Baptism, Chrismation, and the Eucharist. The Church is the communion of "saints," the holy people of God, seeking to live the life of the kingdom on earth. The Church militant and triumphant. The Church is the ark of salvation. The royal priesthood of all believers.</p>	<p>Worship and prayer as mystical encounters with the living God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The revelation of God's kingdom – forgiving, cleansing, healing, and renewing – through worship and the sacraments. The meaning of worship in spirit and in truth. The dynamic relationship of visible acts and invisible grace in the sacraments.</p>	<p>Six to eight sessions on the Liturgy: 1) Preparation of the Gifts (Proskomide) 2) Liturgy of the Word or Synaxis a) Invocation, Great Litany and Antiphons b) Small Entrance c) Trisagion d) The Word of God 3) Eucharist a) Cherubic Hymn and Great Entrance b) The Creed and Consecration c) Offering of the Gifts d) Commemorations e) Lord's Payer and Holy Communion f) Thanksgiving and Dismissal</p>	<p>Various sessions on the sacraments at appropriate times of the year Two sessions on Baptism One session on Chrismation Two sessions on Holy Confession One session on Holy Oil Two sessions on marriage Two sessions on Ordination Sessions on other liturgical services such as the Funeral. Participate in the celebration of each of the sacraments.</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">8 PRAYERS AND HYMNS</p> <p>Actual Prayers Actual Hymns</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9 SAINTS, FEAST AND CYCLES</p> <p>Meaning Witness Relevance</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">10 SCRIPTURE</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;">11 TRADITION</p> <p>Importance of Tradition Liturgical acts outside of the Sacraments Iconography Customs Symbols</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">12 CHRISTIAN FAMILY</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;">13 ETHICS AND SPIRITUALITY</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;">14 SERVICE AND MISSION</p> <p>Gifts and talents Ministries Vocations, jobs and professions Witness Evangelism</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">15 OTHER FAITHS, SOCIETY AND WORLD</p> <p>Christian Ecumenism Other Living Religions Social Issues and Problems Justice and Peace Recreation and Entertainment Ecology Apologetics</p>
	<p>Study the key prayers and hymns of the sacraments. Learn to chant the main hymns of the sacraments. Learn the Creed by heart.</p>	<p>Study the lives and festal hymns of Saints in Scripture and Tradition who exemplify particular aspects of the theme of communion with God and the celebration of the sacraments, for example, Moses, Isaiah the Prophet, St. John the Baptist (repentance), St. John Chrysostom and others.</p>	<p>The meaning of "covenant" as basis for relationship and Communion with God. Aspects of OT worship exemplifying sacramental qualities and blessings. OT events prefiguring the Christian sacraments (crossing the Red Sea/Baptism). The practice and meaning of early Christian Baptism. The practice and meaning of the Last Supper/Lord's Supper. Biblical passages pertaining to biblical figures used as examples of the theme of Communion with God.</p>	<p>Learn traditions and customs related to the celebration of the sacraments, for example, the baking of the prosforon, the names of sacred utensils, etc.</p>	<p>Re-emphasize the concept of the family as a small church at home. Specific directions about praying together as a family. Participating as a family in the sacraments. The family as a "sacrament" based on Christian marriage and the life in Christ.</p>	<p>Personal faith and divine grace working through the sacraments. The ethical implication of each sacrament. Our body is a temple of the Holy Spirit. God call us to holiness. Personal life as a living sacrifice to God. The meaning of repentance and renewal. Personal prayer and sacramental participation as means of fighting temptations and sin, and means of spiritual growth.</p>	<p>Daily life as a "liturgy" and the Liturgy – serving God and humanity. Using personal time, talents and treasure of the glory of God – Stewardship. Friendships as a basis for witness. Invite people to the Liturgy, other sacraments and church activities. Take on a service project related to worship and mission.</p>	<p>God's presence in the beauty, wisdom, and ongoing life of creation – a sacramental vision of creation. Sacramental cleansing and the clean-up of the environment. Communion with God as liberation from self and empowerment for social justice. The meaning of "glorifying God through your body" (1Cor. 6:12) – spiritual and moral purity. Substance abuse. Sexuality according to the Orthodox Faith. The role and value of music.</p>