

WEEK 8: PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY

PRE-K - KINDERGARTEN

GOALS

What is the difference between a Divine Liturgy and a Presanctified Liturgy?
When do we celebrate Presanctified Liturgy?

LESSON

Reference page 24 in “Christ Amongst Us”, Video, and Vocabulary

Share a photo of a priest during Presanctified Liturgy: https://www.doepa.org/public/image.php/20470.jpg?width=325&height=487&color=000000&cropratio=325:487&image=/images/events/2016/Edwardsville/presanctified/Edw_Pre-17a.jpg

What happens on Pascha (Easter)? Yes, Jesus rises from the dead! It's the most important feast day of the entire year! Raise your hand if you remember going to church a whole lot more for 40 days before Pascha. Great job! Those 40 days before Pascha are called Great Lent. We spend a lot of time getting ready for Pascha because it's such a big day.

There are several different services during Great Lent, but one of them is called Presanctified Liturgy. We usually have this service on a Wednesday or Friday during Lent and on several days during Holy Week. Now, there's something different about this liturgy from the ones we go to on Sundays. Our priest prepares extra bread on Sundays to be consecrated. That's a big word - consecrated. It means that the bread and wine turn from normal everyday bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ. Our priest will place the consecrated bread into a special box and save it for during the week.

When we come to church for the Presanctified Liturgy, we will kneel when Father comes out of the altar with the chalice. He will also have his head covered with a special cloth. We kneel because God is very special to us and we want to show respect.

Video: Presanctified Liturgy (Great Entrance - see the priest's head covered) - <https://youtu.be/GqOEATLPqLY?t=248> (less than 2 minutes)

Reference "Preparing the Gifts" at - https://orthodoxpebbles.files.wordpress.com/2017/12/orthodox_pebbles_preparing_the_gifts_printables.pdf

Use felt "Preparing the Gifts" set to teach the vocabulary for:

- Prosphoro = singular; prosphoron = (formal) singular; prosphora = plural
- Lamb
- Chalice
- Paten

Go over as much as you'd like this week for vocabulary. We are going to continue this lesson next week and you can review the vocabulary then as well.

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1ST - 2ND GRADE

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3RD - 5TH GRADE

GOALS

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During Great Lent, which is the 40 days before Pascha (Easter), we go to church more often. There are many extra services during the week and one of them is called Presanctified Liturgy. We usually have this service on a Wednesday or Friday during Lent and on several days during Holy Week. Now, there’s something different about this liturgy from the ones we go to on Sundays. Our priest prepares an extra lamb on Sundays to be consecrated or sanctified. What are we referring to when we say lamb? (Hold up and show picture of the prosphoro and the lamb from handout - link on next page.) Does anyone know what consecrated or sanctified means? They mean that the bread and wine we offer up to God as a gift is offered back to us by God as the Body and Blood of Christ. With all of this in mind, what do you think presanctified means? (Previously sanctified)

Presanctified liturgy is a Vespers service, during which, we receive Holy Communion. Presanctified Liturgy is served in the evenings and we should fast for at least 6 hours before receiving Holy Communion.

When we come to church for Presanctified Liturgy, we will kneel when Father comes out of the altar with the chalice. He will also have his head covered with a special cloth. We kneel during this time because God is very special to us and we want to show honor and respect to Him.

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MIDDLE SCHOOL

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On Pascha (Easter) we celebrate the most important feast day of the entire year. What happened on Pascha?

For 40 days before Pascha, we are fasting, praying more, striving to help others more, and going to additional services during the week. That period of preparation before Pascha is called Great Lent. Why do you think we spend so much time preparing for this feast day?

There are several different services during Great Lent. One of them is called Presanctified Liturgy. We usually have this service on Wednesdays & Fridays during Lent and on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week. Now, there’s something different about this liturgy from the ones on Sundays. Our priest prepares extra lambs on Sundays to be consecrated or sanctified. What are we referring to when we say lamb? (Hold up and show picture of the prosphoro and the lamb from handout - link on next page.) Does anyone know what consecrated or sanctified means? They mean that the bread and wine we offer up to God as a gift is offered back to us by God as the Body and Blood of Christ. With all of this in mind, what do you think presanctified means? (Previously sanctified)

Why do we have Presanctified Liturgy on weekdays during Lent instead of Divine Liturgy? Presanctified liturgy is a Vespers service, during which, we receive Holy Communion. The Eucharist, or Holy Communion, is a celebration. During Lent, we are observing a strict fast. We are striving to correct ourselves and help others. We are in a period of penitence. For this reason, we do not celebrate Divine Liturgies during the week, but we are still provided the “food of immortality” to help us keep going during our fast. Presanctified Liturgy is served in the evenings and we should fast for at least 6 hours before receiving Holy Communion. There are two types of fasting. One way of fasting is to not eat any food at all for a certain amount of time. This is done before receiving Holy Communion. The second type of fasting is refraining from eating certain foods and showing more self control when it comes to how much and what we eat.

When we come to church for Presanctified Liturgy, we will kneel when Father comes out of the altar with the chalice. He will also have his head covered with a special cloth. We kneel during this time because God is very special to us and we want to show honor and respect to Him.

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HIGH SCHOOL

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