

WEEK 6: LITURGY OF ST. BASIL

PRE-K - KINDERGARTEN

GOALS

Who is St. Basil the Great?
When do we use the Liturgy of St. Basil?

LESSON

Vocabulary; Read - Story about Saint Basil included with this lesson;
Discussion and Review

Vocabulary Introduction / Review

- SAINT: a person who tries their hardest to live every moment of their life for God
- ANAPHORA: an important prayer of Holy Communion
- DIVINE LITURGY: the service we participate in on Sunday mornings & some weekdays
- TURKEY: St. Basil lived in Asia Minor, the country we call Turkey today. (Show your students where this is located on a map of the world.) He was the bishop of Caesarea, which is modern day Kayseri. (Located almost directly in the center of the country)

Read the story about Saint Basil the Great included with this lesson to your students. You can also reference page 23 in *Christ Amongst Us* about the liturgy of St. Basil.

When we go to church on Sundays, we participate in the service called the Divine Liturgy. Most Sundays, it is the liturgy of St. John Chrysostom - but did you know there's a slightly different version as well? It was written by St. Basil. We celebrate it 10 times a year! Optional additional resource about St. Basil: <https://orthodoxpebbles.com/saints/saint-basil-the-great/>

Review Questions:

- What is the name of the service we go to on Sunday mornings? (Divine Liturgy)
- Did St. Basil write a Divine Liturgy? (Yes)
- How many times a year do we celebrate it? (10)

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

Long ago, there lived a man named Basil who lived in the land we call Turkey today. He was well educated and loved God dearly.

After he finished school, Basil eventually became a monk and put a great deal of effort into dedicating his life to God.

In time, Basil was ordained a deacon, then a priest, and finally a bishop. As a bishop, he wrote special prayers that he would say during the Divine Liturgy - the prayers that we hear during the Anaphora today. This is the part of the Divine Liturgy that happens shortly before we receive Holy Communion. We call this the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil.

St. Basil is known for many wonderful things that he did during his lifetime. He defended Orthodoxy against those who were spreading false beliefs. He wrote many books in order to explain God to people. He also helped people in need by creating hospitals and places that would help the homeless and poor. These are some of the many reasons he is a saint.

We remember Saint Basil on Jan. 1st.

Written by Jennifer Hock ~ Illustrated by Anna Winter

WEEK 6: LITURGY OF ST. BASIL

1ST - 2ND GRADE

GOALS

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LESSON

Vocabulary; Read - Story about Saint Basil included with this lesson;
Discussion and Review

Vocabulary Introduction / Review

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In time, Basil was ordained a deacon, then a priest, and finally a bishop. As a bishop, he wrote special prayers that he would say during the Divine Liturgy - the prayers that we hear during the Anaphora today. This is the part of the Divine Liturgy that happens shortly before we receive Holy Communion. We call this the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil.



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WEEK 6: LITURGY OF ST. BASIL

3RD - 5TH GRADE

GOALS

Who is St. Basil the Great?
When do we use the Liturgy of St. Basil?

LESSON

Vocabulary; Read - Story about Saint Basil included with this lesson;
Discussion and Review

Vocabulary Introduction / Review

- **SAINT**: a person who tries their hardest to live every moment of their life for God
- **ANAPHORA**: an important prayer of Holy Communion
- **DIVINE LITURGY**: the service we participate in on Sunday mornings & some weekdays
- **TURKEY**: St. Basil lived in Asia Minor, the country we call Turkey today. (Show your students where this is located on a map of the world.) He was the bishop of Caesarea, which is modern day Kayseri. (Located almost directly in the center of the country)

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Review Questions:

- What is the name of the service we go to on Sunday mornings? (Divine Liturgy)
- Did St. Basil write a Divine Liturgy? (Yes)
- How many times a year do we celebrate it? (10)

Share an icon of Saint Basil with your students: <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/frbill/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2020/03/st-basil-750x1000.jpg>

What can we learn from this icon of Saint Basil the Great?

- Does he look like he's wearing vestments or everyday clothes? (#1: Vestments)
- Yes, Saint Basil was a bishop!
- What is he holding in one of his hands? (A book)
- Didn't we read that St. Basil wrote many important books?
- What is he doing with his other hand? (Blessing us)

YouTube: Video about St. Basil the Great (3 min 39 sec) - https://youtu.be/k_26pjuOoow

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

Long ago, there was a man named Basil who was born in a land called Caesarea, which is in modern day Turkey. He was well educated and grew up in a family of saints.

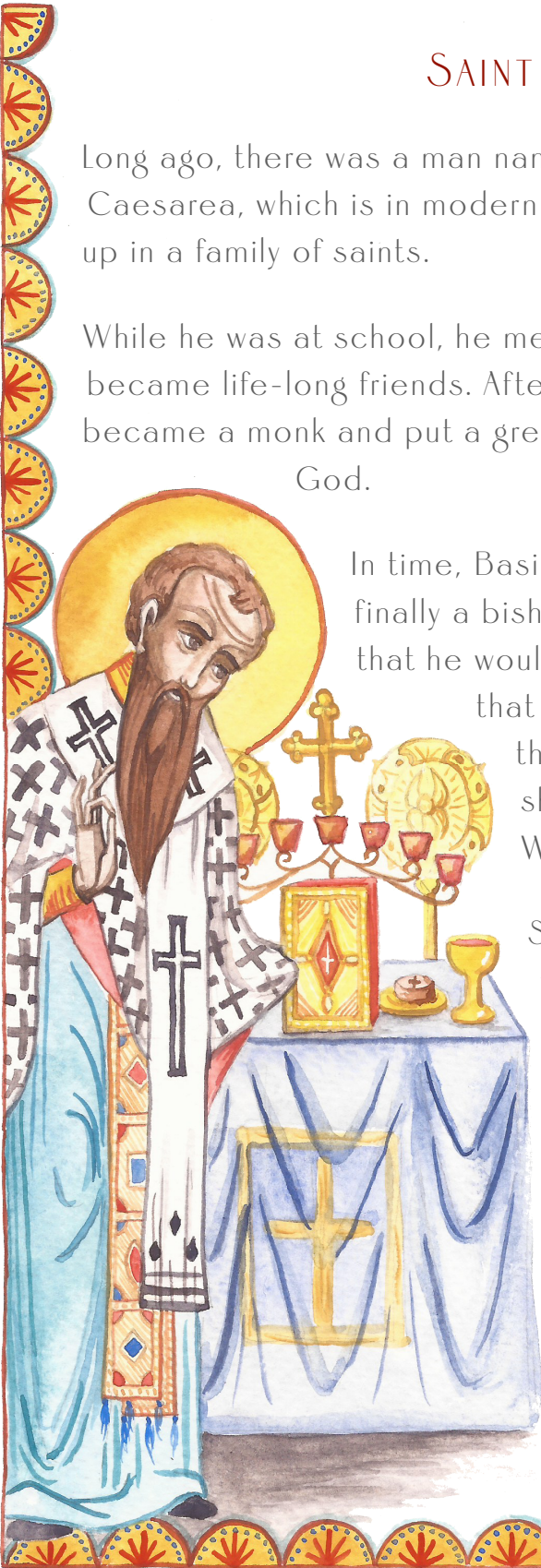
While he was at school, he met Saint Gregory the Theologian and they became life-long friends. After he finished school, Basil eventually became a monk and put a great deal of effort into dedicating his life to God.

In time, Basil was ordained a deacon, then a priest, and finally a bishop. As a bishop, he wrote special prayers that he would say during the Divine Liturgy - the prayers that we hear during the Anaphora today. This is the part of the Divine Liturgy that happens shortly before we receive Holy Communion. We call this the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil.

Saint Basil is known for many wonderful things that he did during his lifetime. He defended Orthodoxy against those who were spreading false beliefs. He wrote books in order to explain God to people. He also helped people in need by creating hospitals, as well as places that would help the homeless and poor.

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WEEK 6: LITURGY OF ST. BASIL

MIDDLE SCHOOL

GOALS

Who is St. Basil the Great?
When do we use the Liturgy of St. Basil?

LESSON

Icon Discussion, Video, Life of St. Basil with Q&A

Share an icon of Saint Basil with your students: <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/frbill/wp-content/uploads/sites/35/2020/03/st-basil-750x1000.jpg>

What can we learn about Saint Basil the Great from his icon?

- Does he look like he's wearing vestments or everyday clothes? (#1: Vestments)
- What is he holding in one of his hands? (A book)
- What is he doing with his other hand? (Blessing us)

Icons can provide a hint or a glimpse into the life of the saints by looking closely at them. Let's learn more about St. Basil and see why he is wearing vestments, holding a book, and blessing us in his icon.

YouTube: Video about St. Basil the Great (3 min 39 sec) - https://youtu.be/k_26pjuOoow

YouTube: Video about St. Basil the Great (28 min 6 sec) - https://youtu.be/qqN5_vvsfuc

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Reference page 23 in “Christ Amongst Us” about the Liturgy of St. Basil

Read story of Saint Basil provided with this lesson.

Review Questions:

- What is the name of the service we go to on Sunday mornings? (Divine Liturgy)
- True or false: St. Basil was a bishop. (True)
- Was St. Basil the first Church Father to revise and update the Divine Liturgy? (Yes)
- How many times a year do we celebrate the Liturgy of St. Basil? (10)
- Name one time of year we celebrate the Liturgy of St. Basil?

SAINT BASIL THE GREAT

Saint Basil was born in Caesarea of Cappadocia, which is in modern day Turkey. He was well educated and grew up in a family of saints. His grandmother, mother, sisters, and brothers are all saints as well.

While he was at school, he met Saint Gregory the Theologian and they became life-long friends. After he finished school, Saint Basil traveled and learned from many monks living in the desert. Eventually, he became a monk and put a great deal of effort into dedicating his life to God.

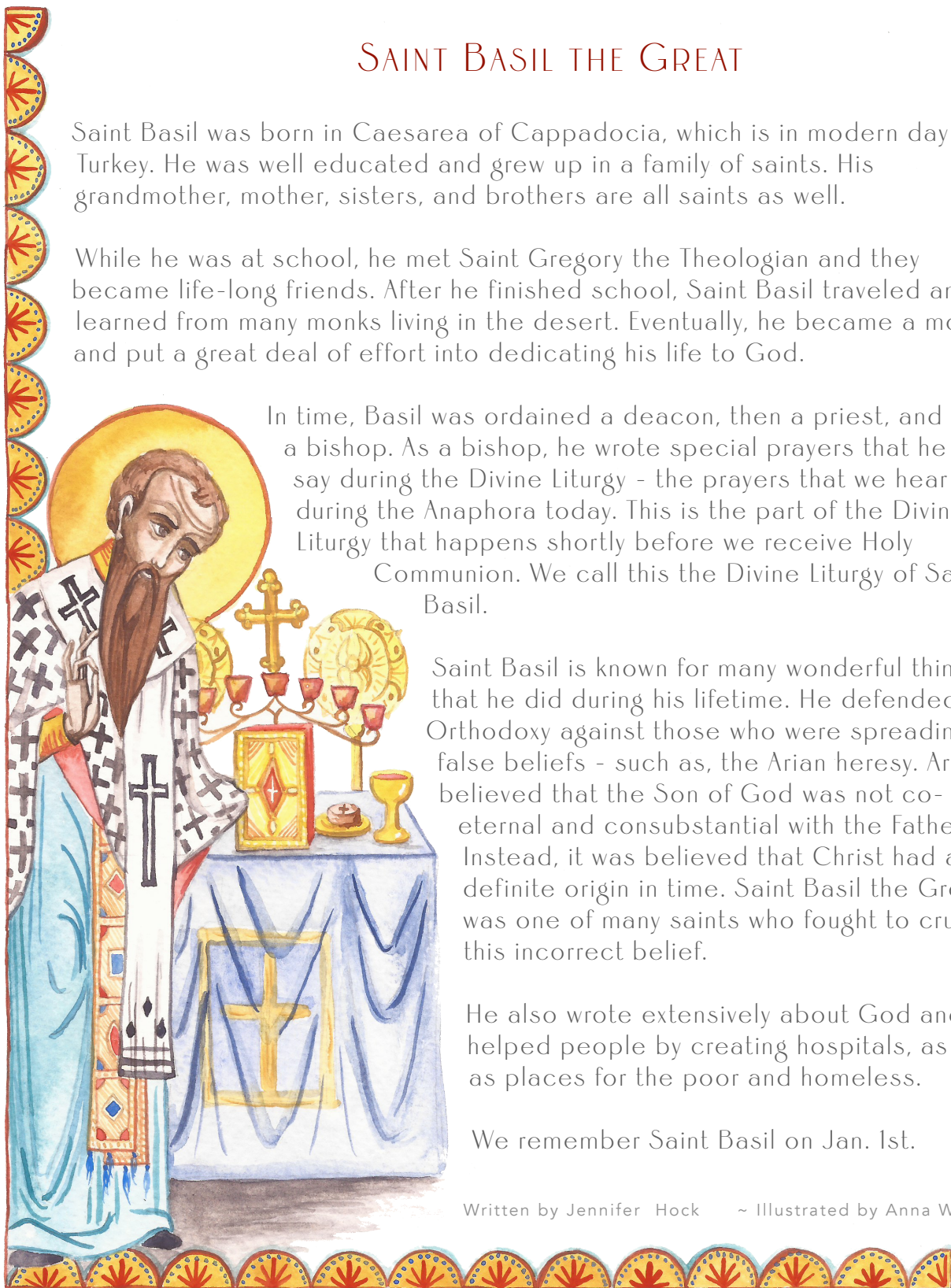
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Saint Basil is known for many wonderful things that he did during his lifetime. He defended Orthodoxy against those who were spreading false beliefs - such as, the Arian heresy. Arianism believed that the Son of God was not co-eternal and consubstantial with the Father. Instead, it was believed that Christ had a definite origin in time. Saint Basil the Great was one of many saints who fought to crush this incorrect belief.

He also wrote extensively about God and helped people by creating hospitals, as well as places for the poor and homeless.

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WEEK 6: LITURGY OF ST. BASIL

HIGH SCHOOL

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