

SAINT LUKE THE EVANGELIST

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



ICONOGRAPHY

An icon is a holy image and provides us with a “window to heaven.” We are respectful and careful with all of our icons. Where are the icons in our room?

We were all made in the image of God, therefore Adam was the first icon and God the first iconographer.

Saint Luke was the second iconographer and he depicted the Theotokos for us.

1

GOAL

After participating in the lesson, tell me about Saint Luke.

2

AT CHURCH

We see icons all around us. Who are the people depicted in the icons in our church?

3

AT HOME

Where is our family altar? Learn about the lives of the saints on the icons in our home.



Class routine:
Move my photo from “home” to “church”



Class routine:
Light a candle -
respectfully
prayerfully
without playing



Class routine:
Venerate our icon



Sing “Lord have mercy” in
English, Greek,
Arabic, Romanian

CLASSROOM ROUTINE

Kids feel a sense of safety and peace when they know what to expect in their time with you. A routine also provides structure and a guide for yourselves, as teachers, when planning for your time with the kids on Sundays.

On this first day, let them immediately find their seats and you can teach all of your children - new and returning - about the routine they will be starting next week as they enter the classroom.

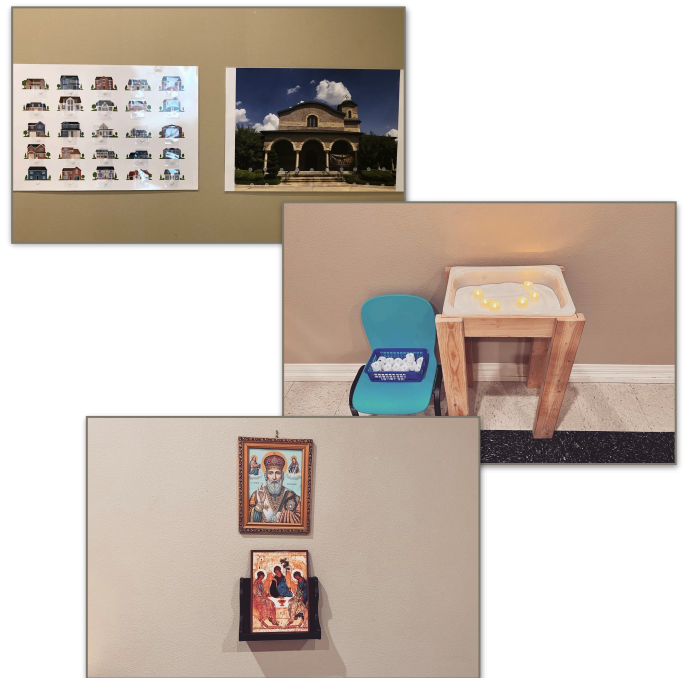
*Get the kids started with their snack and then call one child at a time to stand in front of the wall to take a picture of each of them. **Approximately 10 minutes***

Then, model what they will do when they walk into the classroom next week at each of the three stations:

1. Find their photo on the neighborhood poster. Then move their photo to the church poster (I went to church today.)
2. Reverently light a candle like we do in the narthex and say a short prayer for someone (Do we play with the sand? Do we bend the candle? Do we touch the flame?)

3. Venerate the icon (Review how to make the sign of the cross properly and how to make a small prostration.)

*If time allows, let all the children go through each station to practice. As the teacher, you'll have to monitor the time and constantly make slight adjustments depending on if something is taking shorter or longer than expected in an effort to get through all the main points of the lesson / weekly routine. **Approximately 5-10 minutes***



EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS & PARENTS:

- *The Synaxarion: September/October Volume* - October 18th
- *The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke* by Blessed Theophylact ~ There are 3 short accounts of Luke's life at the beginning of the book.
- YouTube: [Picturing Salvation - Chora's Brilliant Byzantine Mosaics and Frescoes](#) ~ A visual tour of the iconography in the Church of Chora
- **Browse our bookstore** for bedtime stories with your kids ~ *Pictures of God: A Child's Guide to Understanding Icons* By John Kosmas Skinas

LIFE OF SAINT LUKE

Commemorated on October 18th

Sometimes we give titles to our saints to help us tell them apart. There is more than one Saint Luke, so how do we know who is who? Saint Luke the Evangelist wrote the Gospel of Luke and also the Acts of the Apostles. Do you remember the four men who wrote the gospels? (Sing [“Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John”](#)) Saint Luke the Evangelist is also sometimes called Saint Luke the Apostle because he was one of the 70 apostles.

He was a doctor, knew how to read and write in many languages, and was also an excellent painter. Additionally, he traveled with Saint Paul during part of his missionary journeys.

*After reading or telling the story to the children, ask them to summarize / narrate back to you about Saint Luke’s life. In order for them to articulate a story back to you, they have to be able to organize their thoughts and remember some details about the story. This is a great review for them and aids in the the lesson to be stored in long term memory. **This will take approximately 10 - 20 minutes each week.** Today: Aim for about 10 min.*

MAJOR FEAST DAYS FOLDERS

Young children learn the concept of “next” before they learn specific dates. Ex: Who’s birthday is next in our family? With this in mind, we’ll be working towards learning how to correctly sequence our major feast days - from the Birth of the Theotokos on September 8th to the Dormition of the Theotokos on August 15th.

We will be introducing the folders to our children today and explaining that this will be an ongoing activity for the entire year.

Today: Short explanation & have them find and place the first two major feast days of the year in the correct place in their folder. (This will require assistant teachers to quickly pass out the folders as the lead teacher explains

the folders.) If you are running short on time, just show them where they will place the icons of the Nativity of the Theotokos and the Elevation of the Holy Cross next week. Approximately 5 minutes

SING, “LORD, HAVE MERCY”

English: Lord, have mercy

Greek: Kyrie eleison

Arabic: Ya Rab Urham

Romanian: Doamne, miluiește

We will spend this year learning to sing, [“Lord, have mercy.”](#) Today: Sing only in English 3x

PreK & K can focus on English and Greek. 1st & 2nd grade can focus on English, Greek, Arabic, and Romanian.

TEACHERS’ CORNER

The first class is going to be all about setting up your classroom routine and expectations with the kids. There’s quite a bit packed into today so you want to stay attuned to how much time each part of the lesson is lasting. Don’t rush the kids, but at the same time, as the teacher, you need to keep things moving.

Divide tasks amongst each of the teachers so everyone knows what is expected of them. This helps to keep things moving as each teacher preps for what is coming next in the lesson.



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AT HOME

FOR PARENTS

The process of raising children needs to begin while these are yet in their infancy, so that the spiritual faculties, from their very appearance, are already being directed toward what is beautiful, good, and true, and away from what is vile, shameful, and false.

- St. Nektarios

Motherhood and the Raising of Children

Teach our children about icons:

AT HOME: Read or tell your children about the lives of the saints depicted on each icon in your home or in your family altar.

Oftentimes, we have carefully chosen the icons we place in our family altar. Share with your children why you chose these icons. Are they your family's patron saints? Is there a story attached to choosing or receiving a particular icon? Your kids will enjoy learning why these icons are in their home and their special meaning to you.

AT CHURCH: When your kids become wiggly during a service, quietly whisper into their ear and tell them about the icons around the altar.

HOME ACTIVITY #1

Choose one:

- Let your child take a photo of your family altar to share with our parish community
- Take a photo of your child(ren) near your family altar
- Take a photo of your child beside the icon of their patron saint

Then: Text the photo to Jennifer Hock (859-630-9157) & look for everyone's photos in coffee hour slideshow and on the bulletin boards in the Sunday School hallway!

