

ANNUNCIATION, NATIVITY, & PRESENTATION OF CHRIST

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



ANNUNCIATION

Major feast day: March 25th

Luke 1:26-38

- Read pages 164 - 165 in the Orthodox Children’s Bible Reader: *The Angel visits Mary* and *The Angel visits Joseph*
- Ask three students to tell you one detail each about the story as they look at the icon of the Annunciation

1

GOAL

Learn about the feasts of the Annunciation, Nativity, and Presentation of Christ

2

AT CHURCH

To know the Bible is to know our services - prayers and hymns from Luke 1 & 2

3

AT HOME

We bring our babies to be blessed at 40 days old, just like the Theotokos & Christ



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

NATIVITY OF CHRIST

Major feast day: December 25th

Luke 2:1-20

Matthew 1:18-25

- Read pages 168 - 173 in the Orthodox Children's Bible Reader:
The birth of Jesus and The wise men
- Ask three students to share one detail each about the story as they look at the icon of the Nativity of Christ

PRESENTATION OF CHRIST INTO THE TEMPLE

Major feast day: February 2nd

Luke 2:22-38

- Read pages 173 - 174 in the Orthodox Children's Bible Reader:
Simeon and Anna
- Ask three students to share one detail each about the story as they look at the icon of the Nativity of Christ



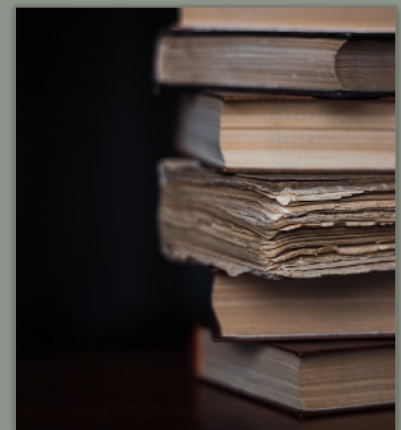
FILE FOLDER ACTIVITY

Today, we will introduce our students to our icons of the major feast days and Pascha. Options:

- Take out the icons of the Annunciation, Nativity of Christ, and Presentation of Christ in the Temple. Then guide the students to place the icons in the correct spots in relation to our yearly cycle of feasts.
- Ask the students (as a group) to find the icon of the Annunciation and pull it out of their file folder pocket. Then find the icon of the Nativity of Christ and pull it out. Finally, find the icon of the Presentation of Christ and pull it out of the pocket.

EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- *The Gospel of Luke: Good News for the Poor* by Fr. Lawrence Farley, pages 27-77
- *The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke* by Blessed Theophylact, pages 7-39
- [Search the Scriptures Live Podcast: the Annunciation](#) by Dr. Jeannie Constantinou



ANNUNCIATION, NATIVITY, & PRESENTATION OF CHRIST

AT HOME

FOR PARENTS

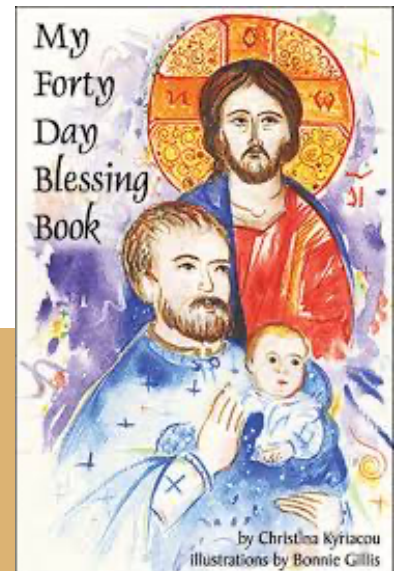
Lord, now You are letting
Your servant depart in
peace, according to Your
word; for my eyes have seen Your
salvation which You have prepared
before the face of all peoples, a light
to bring revelation to the Gentiles,
and the glory of Your people Israel.

Prayer of St. Symeon

Luke 2:29-32

Our services are richly steeped with prayers and hymns from Holy Scripture - to know the Bible is to know our services.

Luke's gospel provides us with several prayers and hymns, one of them is the Prayer of St. Symeon. These words are spoken by Symeon with such sincere joy and longing as he holds Christ in his arms in the temple. We fittingly hear this prayer at the end of some of our services. Listen carefully the next time you're at church for this prayer.



HOME ACTIVITY #4

Learn more about 40 Day Blessings:

- [My Forty Day Blessing Book](#) by Christina Kyriacou

Virtual Field Trip to:

- Nazareth - [Church of Archangel Gabriel & Basilica of the Annunciation](#) (YouTube Video)
- Bethlehem - [the Church of the Nativity](#) (YouTube Video)





