

METROPOLITANATE OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND



SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Year 8 Curriculum:

Unit/Topic	Aim of the lesson	Outcomes
1. The Church building	The students will discover that the Orthodox Church architecture reveals that God is with men, dwelling in them and living in them through Christ and the Spirit. They also learn the spiritual meaning of dome, arches, nave, altar and vestibule.	Remember that the interior of the Orthodox Church building is particularly styled to give the experience of the unity of all things in God.
2. Altar	The students will learn that the altar area stands for the Kingdom of God. Also they will be introduced to the spiritual meaning of the altar table, the oblation table and the sanctuary and become familiar with the liturgical vessels.	Value that the Gospel always stands in the center of the altar table.
3. Frescoes	The students will discover the meaning behind frescoes in the church.	Remember that frescoes represent people and events in the age to come.
4. Vestments	The students will be familiarised with the vestments of bishops, priests, deacons and readers.	Remember that the bishop and priest's stole represent the lost sheep.
5. The Church Furniture	The students will learn all about the furniture items in the church.	Remember that the chandelier is lit for the reading of the Gospel.

6. Baptism	The students will learn about the spiritual meaning of baptism, preparations for it and life as a christened person.	Remember that the white baptismal robe symbolises the “new humanity” of Jesus who thus becomes the role model in our lives.
7. Chrismation	The students will learn about the spiritual meaning of chrismation, anointing with myrrh, and the tonsure.	Learn that in the sacrament of Chrismation we receive “the seal of the gift of the Holy Spirit”.

8. Eucharist	The students will learn about the spiritual meaning of the Eucharist, preparation for it and the way it is received.	Remember that the Eucharist is also called Holy Communion since it is the mystical communion of people with God, with each other, and with all people and all things in them through Christ and the Spirit.
9. Confession	The students will learn about importance of confession, preparations for it and the right way of doing it.	Value that the sacrament of penance exists in the Church to allow for the repentance and reconversion of Christians who have fallen away from the life of faith.
10. Unction	The students will learn about the spiritual, mental and physical importance of the holy unction.	Remember that the holy unction is the sacrament of the spiritual, physical, and mental healing of a sick person whatever the nature or the gravity of the illness may be.
11. Priesthood	The students will learn about apostolic succession, conditions for someone to become a priest, ordination and priestly duties.	Learn that every christened person belongs to the "royal priesthood" as someone who has to celebrate God.
12. Marriage	The students will learn about the spiritual meaning of marriage, preparations for it and life as a married Christian.	Learn that every problem in marriage could be easily resolvable just by thinking how would Christ react in that situation.
13. The Liturgy	The students will learn about the spiritual meaning of the Liturgy, preparation for it, participation in it.	Learn that the bread and wine we offer as gifts to God represent the whole creation.
14. Proskomedia	The students will learn about the act of preparing the bread and wine for the Eucharist.	Learn that the Proskomedia is done quietly before the public part of the Divine Liturgy begins and symbolises the "hidden years" of Christ's earthly life.

15.The Small Entrance	The students will learn about the Small Entrance as the movement of the entire Church through its Head Jesus Christ, in the person of the celebrant, to the altar that symbolises the Kingdom of God.	Remember that Jesus Christ is the living Word of God in human flesh.
16. Reading of the Epistle and the Gospel	The students will learn about the Epistle and Gospel reading and the order that is done.	Remember that the proclamation of the Gospel in the Church is a sacramental act and a form of man's communion with God.
17. The Great Entrance	The students will learn that the Gifts of bread and wine which stand for Christ, and in him, for all people and the entire world of God's creation—for Life itself—are now offered to God.	See the Great Entrance as the movement of the Church offering itself to God the Father through its Head, Jesus Christ Who is the sole sufficient sacrifice which is perfect, total and fully acceptable to the Father.
18. Becoming one with Christ	The students will learn about the prayers before and after the Holy Communion, and the liturgical order when the holy communion is given to the faithful.	Recite the prayer before the Holy Communion.
19. Sermon	The students will learn that the sermon is an essential part of the Eucharistic Liturgy that normally proclaims and explains the significance of the Divine Word received during each Liturgy.	Understand that the sermon is important for the life of the people who attend the Liturgies.
20. Benediction and dismissal	The students will learn that thorough these final prayers they are commanded to take everything that they have seen, heard and experienced within the Church and to make it alive within their own	Learn that through dismissal the People of God are commanded to go forth in peace into the world to bear witness to the Kingdom of God of which they were partakers in the Liturgy of the Church.

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