

METROPOLITANATE OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND



SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Year 7 curriculum:

Unit/Topic	Aim of the lesson	Outcomes
1. Sources of the Doctrine	The students will learn different sources of Christian doctrine.	The first foundation of the Christian doctrine is found in this biblical line: God has revealed Himself to us.
2. Revelation	The students will learn that the fullness and perfection of God's self-revelation is found in His Son Jesus Christ. He teaches the will of God and makes God known to men.	Remember that God has revealed Himself through Jesus Christ. He reveals fully—as fully as humans can grasp—the mysteries of the Kingdom of God.
3. Tradition	The students will learn that the Christian Tradition is the total life and experience of the entire Church transferred from place to place and from generation to generation from the time of Christ's apostles right down to the present day.	Memorise that Tradition means the following: that which is "passed on" and "given over" from one to another.
4. The Bible	The students will learn about the written record of God's revelation: the Bible and the two covenants contained within the Bible: The Old and The New Testament.	Learn that the heart of the New Testament texts are the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, who are called the four Evangelists.

5. The Liturgy	The students will learn that the living experience of the Liturgy combined with the texts of the services and sacraments also provide a written source of the Christian doctrine.	Know that the sacramental and liturgical texts—the hymns, blessings, prayers, symbols, and rituals—contain no formal errors or deformations of the Christian faith and can be trusted absolutely to reveal the genuine doctrine of the Orthodox Church.
6. The Ecumenical Councils	The children students will learn about the seven ecumenical councils as one of the essential sources of the Christian doctrine.	Learn the meaning of the words: “dogma” and “canon”.
7. The Symbol of Faith	The students will learn how the Symbol of Faith was developed and familiarise themselves with the contents of it.	Remember that to be an Orthodox Christian is to affirm the Orthodox Christian faith—not merely by the words, but through the essential meaning of the Creed as well.
8. Faith	The students will learn about the two aspects of the faith. The first is faith “in” someone or something, i.e., faith as the recognition of these persons or things as real. The second is faith in the sense of trust or reliance.	Remember that faith is always personal and for this reason the Symbol of Faith in the Orthodox Church—not only at baptisms but also in common prayers and in the Liturgy—always remains in the first person.
9. God	The students will learn that God Almighty is known as “Father” through His son Jesus Christ.	Learn that the meaning of God’s name “Yahweh” is “I AM WHO I AM”; or simply “I AM”.
10. Creation	The students will learn that God the Father has brought everything and everyone that exists from non-existence into being.	Memorise the first article of the Creed: “I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and

		invisible.”
11. Jesus Christ	The students will learn how the Symbol of Faith defines the Son of God – Jesus Christ.	Recite the articles of the Creed devoted to Jesus Christ.
12. Holy Spirit	The students will discover that the Holy Spirit bears the title of Lord with God the Father and Christ the Son. Also that He is eternal, uncreated, and divine; always existing with the Father and the Son.	Remember that Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father.
13. The Old Testament	The students will learn how the books of the Old Testament prepared the world for the coming of Christ with special attention to the prophecies predicting Jesus and His mission.	Memorise one prophetic place in the Old Testament.
14. The New Testament	The students will learn how the writings of the New Testament testify to the fact that Christ has come and saved the world.	Memorise the names of the four Evangelists: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
15. Authorship of the Bible	The students will discover that the entire Bible is inspired by God Who is its one original author.	Remember that the Bible is truly the Word of God in human form because its origin is not in man but in God, Who inspired its creation.
16. Interpretation of the Bible	The students will learn that the Bible is the book of sacred writings for God’s People, the Church. It was produced in the Church, by and for the Church, and only has proper meaning within the Church.	Remember that outside of the total life and experience of the community of faith, which is the Church, no one can truly understand and correctly interpret the Bible.
17. Church art	The students will learn that church art truly expresses the deepest truths of the Christian vision of God, man, and	Remember that since we are created in the image and likeness of God, we have an ability to create as well.

	nature.	
18. Icons	The students will learn that an icon is not “a holy picture”, but a gospel proclamation, a doctrinal teaching, and a spiritual inspiration in colors and lines.	Recognise icons as the expression of the eternal and divine reality, significance, and purpose of the given person or event depicted.
19. Church music	The students will learn that musical expression is also a source of doctrine, inspiration and love towards God, people and creation.	Remember that God has given us our voice as a gift and we are invited to use it.
20. Church architecture	The students will learn that the use of domed ceilings, the shape and layout of the buildings, the placing of the icons, the use of vestments, etc., all express the teachings of the Church. The traditional Orthodox church architecture and artwork are expressions of the Orthodox Christian doctrines of creation, salvation, and eternal life.	Remember that every Orthodox Church has a shape of Noah’s ark.