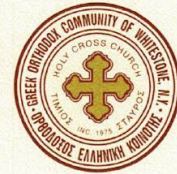




Reverend Father
George Anastasiou
Protopresbyter

HOLY CROSS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

11-05 150 Street · Whitestone, New York 11357 · Tel. (718) 767-2955 · Fax: (718) 767-5855



August 30, 2023

Dear Parents,

Our Sunday School will officially begin on Sunday, September 17, 2022. Our primary objective is to help our children learn the Orthodox Faith and understand what it means to be a good Christian. It is open to children in **grades PreK to 8th**. One of our goals is to make Sunday mornings a fun learning experience for our children. We hope to accomplish this through age-appropriate crafts, prayer, hymns, discussion and group activities and attending Liturgy. We would ask you kindly to lead your children in prayer, make the sign of the cross together, say the Lord's Prayer at home, as we reinforce this at Sunday School.

Arrival Time:

Sunday school classes begin at 10:00 am sharp! Parents must bring children to the entrance of the school building. Please arrive on time each Sunday to ensure that your child will not miss any part of the activities. Dismissal is at 11:30 am. Please pick up your child from the front entrance of the school unless notified of a change prior.

Attendance:

- 1) There are approximately 30 Sundays during the entire Sunday School year where our children have the opportunity to learn about our Orthodox Faith.
- 2) Regular attendance is strongly encouraged, as this helps promote the importance of coming to church regularly, as well as promoting the smooth functioning of classes.
- 3) We request that any student attending another church bring a note from that parish in order for an absence to be excused.

Curriculum:

Our Sunday School curriculum observes the basic guidelines of the Department of Religious Education of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese, attempting to strike an appropriate balance between liturgical participation and classroom teaching and instruction.

Homework:

Not Here!! We suggest that you encourage your child to talk about the morning's lesson and activities on your way home from church each Sunday. Proudly display and share their work and crafts with family.

Dress Code/Other Items:

All students are to dress in respectful attire, appropriate for church. Please refrain from sending in children with toys, water bottles and other items that may become a distraction in their classroom or in church.

Behavior:

All students are expected to always conduct themselves in a respectful manner.

Offerings:

We ask that students bring a small offering to class each week. This teaches them stewardship and encourages the children to take pride in their church through active participation and support.

Altar Server Program (Grades 6-8):

Children in grades 6-8 are eligible for the opportunity to assist in church as part of their Sunday School education. While this is not mandatory, we encourage children in these grades to sign up for this program, as it is learning through action. Depending on the number of children interested, a schedule will be coordinated for those students to assist in church on certain Sundays in the altar (boys) or as servers (girls). Your child will receive credit for Sunday School on the days they are assigned to serve in church. Please note that on days that a student will be serving in church, parents must bring their children directly to church and arrive no later than 9:30am in church ready to assist. Please note that children are required to conduct themselves quietly and respectfully while in church to participate in this program.

With paternal blessings,

+Protopresbyter George Anastasiou
Presiding Priest

Joanne Kyriacou
Sunday School Director