



Saint Emmelia Ministries

Orthodox Christian Homeschooling

*Inspire, equip, unite, and educate
Orthodox Christian Homeschool families*



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Recommended Activities for

The Liturgical Cycle

*Dates are based on the New Calendar

**This document will be periodically updated. Please let us know if we're missing any activities!

Indiction/Liturgical New Year (Sept. 1)

- [Happy New \(Church\) Year!](#) - Fr. Thomas Hopko, Ancient Faith, **Podcast**
- [Orthodox Church New Year Traditions](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Article**
- [Ways to Start the Church New Year Off Right](#) - Orthodox Motherhood, **Article**
- [Vasilopita](#) - Allrecipes, **Recipe**

Nativity of the Mother of God (Sept. 8)

- [The Gate Facing East](#) - Fr. Thomas Hopko, Ancient Faith, **Podcast**
- [Nativity of the Theotokos](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Activity**
- [The Nativity of the Theotokos](#) - Many Mercies, **Activity**
- [Theotokos Mother's Day Activities](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Activity**

Elevation of the Life-Giving Cross (Sept. 14)

- [The Universal Exaltation of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross](#) - Fr. Thomas Hopko, Ancient Faith, **Podcast**
- [Exaltation of the Holy Cross](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- [Elevation of the Cross - Peg Dolls](#) - Raising Orthodox Christians, **Activity**

Nativity Fast (Nov. 14-Dec. 24)

- [A Lesson on the Nativity of Christ](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- [Nativity Fast: Orthodox Advent Wreath Tutorial](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Activity**
- [The Nativity of the Theotokos](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
- [The Icon of the Nativity of Christ](#) - Trisagion Films, **Video**
- [The Nativity Icon](#) - A Reader's Guide to Orthodox Icons, **Article**
- [Icon of the Nativity of Christ: Explained](#) - Fr. Ayman Kfouf, **Article**
- [Christmas Coloring and Symbolism](#) - Orthodox Education, **Activity**
- [Christmas Orthodox Craft Ornaments](#) - Orthodox Education, **Activity**

Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple (Nov. 21)

- [Entrance of the Theotokos](#) - Ancient Faith Kids, **Video**
- [The Entrance of the Theotokos](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- [Interactive Online Activities](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Activity**

Feast of St. Katherine the Great (Nov. 25)

- [The Broken Wheel: The Triumph of Saint Katherine](#) - Ancient Faith Store, **Book**
- [Oatmeal Cattern Cakes](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Recipe**

Feast of St. Nicholas (Dec. 6)

- [Saint Nicholas, the Gold Coin Tradition, and Resources](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
- [St. Nicholas Day Guide](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Guide/Activity**
- [Saint Nicholas, Archbishop of Myra](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- [O Who Loves Nicholas the Saintly](#) & [O Kto, Kto Nikolaja L'ubit](#) (Russian) - **Sheet Music**

Feast of St. Herman and St. Lucia (Dec. 13)

- *St. Herman Resources*
 - [St. Herman of Alaska | Draw the Life of a Saint](#) - California Pilgrim, **Video**
 - [Saint Herman the Missionary and Wonderworker of Alaska](#) - Trisagion Films, **Film**
 - [The Way of a Christian](#) (written by St. Herman) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Text**
 - [North Star: St. Herman of Alaska](#) - Ancient Faith Store, **Book**
 - [The Service of Supplication to St. Herman of Alaska](#) - Antiochian Village Camp, **Service**
 - [St. Herman Spruce Island Cookies](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Recipe**
- *St. Lucia Resources*
 - [Lucia, Saint of Light](#) - Ancient Faith Kids, **Video**
 - [Celebrate St. Lucia Day: Learn, Bake Lussekatter, and Sing Along](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video/Activity**
 - [St. Lucia of Syracuse](#) - Orthodoxy for Kids, **Guide/Activity**
 - [Saint Lucia Traditions](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Guide/Activity**
 - [St. Lucia Saffron Buns](#) - Simply Recipes, **Recipe**
 - [Vegan Swedish Saffron Buns \(Lessebullar\)](#) (Fasting-friendly) - VeganVvocals, **Recipe**

Circumcision of Christ (Jan. 1)

- [The Tradition of the Vasilopita](#) - Antiochian.org, **Recipe**

Theophany (Jan. 6)

- [How to Prepare for a House Blessing](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Guide/Article**

Three Holy Hierarchs (Jan. 30)

- [Three Hierarchs](#) - Dr. Pat's Orthodox Super Sunday School Curriculum, **Activity**
- [The Holy Three Hierarchs](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**

The Meeting of the Lord in the Temple/Candlemas (Feb. 2)

- [Feast of the Presentation: Rolled Beeswax Activity](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video/Activity**
- [How to Make Beeswax Candles](#) - Prairie Homestead, **Activity**

St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Feb. 27)

- [Pizza Tradition for Saint Raphael of Brooklyn](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video/Activity**
- [St. Raphael Bishop of Brooklyn](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Information/Resource**
- [The Service of Supplication to St. Raphael of Brooklyn](#) - Antiochian Village Camp, **Service**

The Triodion

- *Preparing for Lent*
 - [Learning Lenten Vocabulary](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Information/Activity**
 - [Lent: Tips for Orthodox Families](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video/Activity**
- *The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee*
 - [The Publican and the Pharisee \(Kids Homily 2025\)](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
 - [The Parable of the Publican and the Pharisee](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
 - [The Sunday of the Tax Collector: Be humble like the tax collector](#), - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Activity**
- *The Sunday of the Prodigal Son*
 - [The Prodigal Son](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
 - [Sunday of the Prodigal Son: God wants us to come back to Him](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Activity**
 - [The Parable of the Prodigal Son](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *The Sunday of the Last Judgement*
 - [The Last Judgement](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
 - [The Sunday of the Last Judgement: Jesus wants us to help those in need](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Activity**
 - [Lenten Sundays Series: The Sunday of the Last Judgement/Meatfare](#), Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Article/Activity**

Lent

- *General Lent Resources*
 - [How to Prepare for Pascha](#) - Be the Bee, **Video**
 - [Great Lent: The Journey to the Empty Tomb](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Article**
 - [Sundays of Great Lent](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
 - [Great Lent LapBook](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Activity**
 - [Worldwide Pascha Exchange 2025](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Activity**
 - [Orthodox Fasting](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
 - [Prayer of St. Ephraim Bookmark](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Bookmark/Printable**
- *Sunday of Forgiveness*
 - [Sunday of Forgiveness \(Cheesefare\)](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
- *First Sunday: Triumph of Orthodoxy*
 - [Sunday of Orthodoxy Kids Homily](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
 - [Holy Icon crafts](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *Second Sunday: Saint Gregory Palamas*
 - [Prayer and St. Gregory Palamas](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *Third Sunday: Veneration of the Cross*
 - [Sunday of the Holy Cross](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
 - [Veneration of the Cross](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *Fourth Sunday: Saint John of the Ladder (Climacus)*
 - [4th Sunday of Lent - St. John of the Ladder](#) - Fr. Thomas Hopko, Ancient Faith, **Podcast**
 - [St. John Climacus and the virtues](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *Fifth Sunday: Saint Mary of Egypt*
 - [The Life of St. Mary of Egypt by St. Sophronius](#) - OrthoChristian.com, **Text**
 - [St. Mary of Egypt and the Holy Hermits](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *Lazarus Saturday*
 - [Rejoice, O Bethany](#) - **Sheet Music**
 - [The Raising of Lazarus](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *Palm Sunday*
 - [Palm Sunday with Fr. Jason \(John 12:1-18\)](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
 - [Palm Sunday](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**
- *Holy Week*
 - [Holy Week: Creative Projects](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Curriculum/Activity**

Feast of the Forty Martyrs of Sebaste (Mar. 9)

- [Larks & Lizards](#) - Monica L Olsen, **Story**
- [What Are Zhavoronki and How to Make Them?](#) - The Catalog of Good Deeds, **Recipe**

The Annunciation (Mar. 25)

- [The Annunciation of the Theotokos](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, Curriculum/Activity
- [Annunciation Workbook](#) - The Ascetic Life of Motherhood, Curriculum/Activity
- [The Annunciation Coloring Page](#) - Sparks 4 Orthodox Kids, Activity
- [Another Coloring Page](#) - Sparks 4 Orthodox Kids, Activity
- [Mary Gardens](#) - FishEaters, Article/Guide
- [Annunciation of the Theotokos – interactive online activities](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, Games

St. George the Trophy-Bearer (April 23, or Bright Monday)

- [Saint George - Storytime with Presbytera](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
- [Saint George the Great Martyr](#) - Trisagion Films, **Film**
- [Bishop Anthony's Homily on the Great-Martyr George](#) - Antiochian.org, **Homily**
- [St. George the Trophy-Bearer](#) - OrthodoxyForKids, **Article/Activity**
- [St. George to the Rescue!](#) -Video Game, Trisagion Games, **Game**
- [St George and the Dragon](#) - Ancient Faith Store, **Book**
- [Troparion of St. George](#) (Russian melody) - **Sheet Music**

Great and Holy Pascha

- [Our New Life in Christ \(Pascha\)](#) - Be the Bee, **Video/Information**
- [Christ is Risen, Gregorian Chant](#) - RayJ Banna, **Video/Music**
- [Christ is Risen, American Melody](#) - Fund4Assistance, **Video/Music**
- [Ways to Share Great Lent and Pascha with Your Child](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Information/Activity**
- [Learning About Pascha](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Activity**
- [Pascha Lesson Plan \(3-5 Years Old\)](#) - Dr. Pat's Orthodox Sunday School Curriculum, **Activity**
- [Pascha Lesson Plan \(6-9 Years Old\)](#) - Dr. Pat's Orthodox Sunday School Curriculum, **Activity**
- [Pascha Lesson Plan \(10-12 Years Old\)](#) - Dr. Pat's Orthodox Sunday School Curriculum, **Activity**
- [Pascha Lesson Plan \(Middle School\)](#) - Dr. Pat's Orthodox Sunday School Curriculum, **Activity**
- [Pascha Lesson Plan \(High School\)](#) - Dr. Pat's Orthodox Sunday School Curriculum, **Activity**
- [The Angel Cried](#) - St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, **Sheet music**
- [Christ is Risen-Troparion](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Sheet music**
- [Super Egg Battle](#) - Trisagion games, **Virtual Game/Activity**

Ascension

- ["The Ascension of Our Lord"](#) - Tending the Garden of Our Hearts, **Podcast episode**
- ["The Ascension of Our Lord" by Mother Melania](#) - Readings from Under the Grapevine, **Podcast episode**

- [The Great Commission Dye Experiment](#) - Mission Bible Class, **Activity**
- [Ascension Activity Pack](#) - Joy in Play, **Activity sheets**
- [Homemade Cloud Marshmallows](#) - La Receta de Felicidad, **Recipe/activity**
- [Up in the Clouds](#) - Gigi Baba, **Music**

Pentecost

- [On Light and the Feast of Pentecost](#) - Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Information/Reflection**
- [On the Liturgical Year for Teachers: Pentecost and the Time After Pentecost](#) - Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Information/Reflection**
- [Lesson for Children on Pentecost](#) - Saint Kosmas: Orthodox Christian Education Association, **Information/Story**
- [Pentecost Troparion](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Sheet Music**
- [Holy Pentecost. Orthodox Pebbles](#) - Orthodox Pebbles, **Activity**

Sts. Peter and Paul (June. 29)

- [Learning from the Saints: St. Peter \(June 29\)](#) - Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Information/Reflection**
- [Learning from the Saints: St. Paul \(June 29\)](#) - Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Information/Reflection**
- [The Holy, Glorious Apostles Peter & Paul Apolytikion](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Sheet music**

St. Paisios the Athonite (July 12th)

- [Saints of Recent Decades: St. Paisios \(July 12/June 29\)](#) - Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Information/Reflection**
- [A Boy's Journey to Sainthood: Saint Paisios the Athonite](#) - Ancient Faith Store, **Book**

St. Elizabeth the New Martyr (July 18th)

- [Saint Elizabeth the New Martyr](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Information/Activity**

Transfiguration (Aug. 6)

- [The Transfiguration](#) - Gigi Baba, **Music**
- [On the Feast of the Transfiguration of Christ \(August 6 or 19\)](#) - Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Activity**
- [Light of Christ Nightlight Craft](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Craft**

Dormition (Aug. 15)

- [Patristic Nectar Kids Video](#) - Patristic Nectar Kids, **Video**
- [Fr. Thomas Hopko-The Dormition of the Theotokos](#) - Ancient Faith: Speaking the Truth in Love, **Podcast**
- [On the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos \(August 15 or 28\)](#) - Orthodox Christian Sunday Church School Teachers, **Information/Reflection**
- [Dormition of the Theotokos](#) - Orthodox Church in America, **Information**
- [Dormition Fast Calendar Printable and Lesson Plan](#) - Many Mercies, **Activity**
- [Dormition Word Search & Flashcards](#) - Orthodox Education, **Activity**
- [The Dormition of the Most Holy Theotokos: Apolytikion](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Sheet Music**

Beheading of John the Baptist (Aug. 29)

- Remember–don't eat off plates or use knives!
- [Locust and Honey Rolls](#) - Ascetic Life of Motherhood, **Recipe/Activity**
- [John 1:1-14](#) - Every Last Word by Ross King and Matt Papa, **Music**
- [Guess Who? \(John the Baptist\)](#) - Gigi Baba, **Music**

General Resources for Feasts

- Patristic Nectar App - Synaxarion Readings, **Podcast**
- [Minion hymns in Western and Byzantine notation](#) - Saint Anthony's Monastery Divine Music Project
- OCA Saint Lives, **Sheet Music/Recording**
- [Antiochian Archdiocese Website](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Saint lives/Daily readings/Prayers/Spiritual Readings**

General Resources for Great Feasts

- [MS Feast Day Icons.pdf](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Icon/Apolytikion**
- [Microsoft Word - Great Feasts Resources](#) - Antiochian Archdiocese, **Resources**
- [Free Coloring Pages](#) - Sparks4Orthodox