

Festival of Faith

(formerly the Church School portion of the Oratorical Festival)

The Festival of Faith involves church school students in N3 through 6th grade sharing an expression of their faith through creative arts.

- On a Sunday (usually in Feb. or March) after Divine Liturgy, each class presents a brief (2-5 minute) group presentation based on some aspect of their curriculum.
- The program ends with a special coffee hour honoring participants and celebrating the church school students' expression of faith.
 - N3-6th grade classes hang a special project on the walls of the atrium for parents to view.
 - The project that is hung in the hall can be something made especially for the Festival of Faith or something done earlier in the year that can be displayed.
 - Class will be slightly shortened as a result of the presentations.

Grade	Presentation
N3 & N4	Sing "Oh Be Careful"
Kindergarten	Recite Psalm 148 and hold up illustrations of the Psalm
1 st	"We are special being Orthodox Christians because..."
2 nd	10 Commandments Play
3 rd	A Beatitudes Prayer
4 th	"How we live in the light of Christ"
5 th	What the Cross Means to Me.
6 th , 7 th , 8 th	Presentation based on current year's junior oratorical topics.

The Oratorical Festival

The Oratorical festival is a program of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese involving competition among junior and senior high students in the areas of speech, essay, poetry, and iconography.

- 7th, 8th and High school teachers are the liaisons for the Oratorical Festival and as such, can encourage participation by students in their classes.
- Teachers are asked to spend at least one week in church school (usually in January or February) reviewing the speech and essay topics with their students, while also encouraging submission of poetry or an icon.
- Teachers can offer assistance to interested students by sharing resources and research materials.
- Directors will provide the topics and guidelines to the teachers for distribution in class. These materials can also be found on-line at www.goarch.org or the Ss. Peter and Paul website.
- The Oratorical Festival will be held on a designated Friday following the Akathist Service during Lent.
- Students who plan to submit to the Oratorical festival must do so by the Tuesday prior to the Oratorical Festival.