



Diocese of South-West America
Sunday School

Kindergarten Jesus Loves Me



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Lessons 1 - 8 (before Dec/Jan)

Lessons 9 - 15 (before May/June)

There are no written examinations at this level

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Note: Gestures of the Liturgy should also be taught during the Academic Year

LESSON 1 - GOD MADE THE WORLD



Who created everything in this world? **GOD!**

God spoke and **EVERYTHING** became real - the things we see, and also the things we don't see.

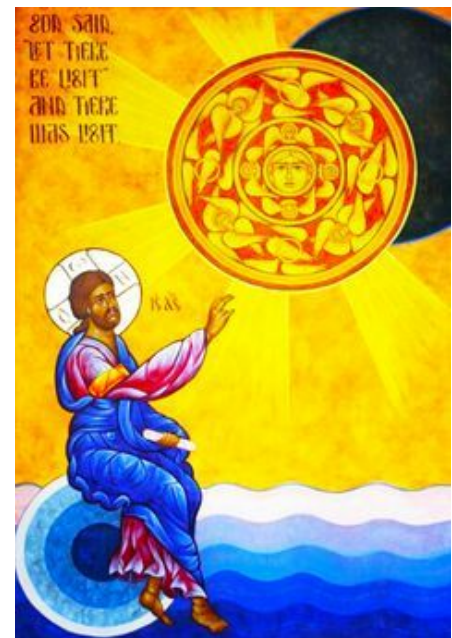
The Holy Bible begins with the story of Creation.

When God first created the world, there was only darkness. There were no plants, birds, animals, or men.

On the **FIRST** day God said, "Let there be light!" and there was light.

God saw the light and it was good.

God separated the light from darkness, and called the light 'day' and the darkness 'night'.



On the SECOND day God spoke and created the sky and heavens. He also moved the water together. God saw it was good!



On the THIRD day, God spoke and created the dry earth, the seas, and the plants. He created the rivers, oceans, and seas. And it was good!

On the FOURTH day, God spoke and created the sun, moon, and stars. And it was good!

And on the FIFTH day, God spoke and created all the animals in the water and in the air. And it was good!

And on the SIXTH day, God spoke and created all the animals on the earth. Can you name an animal? God created it!





God also created people that day.

God loved us so much He made us special. Everyone - both boys and girls - are children of God. We even look like God!

God looked at everything He created that day, and He was happy as it was all good.

So on the SEVENTH day, God rested. God blessed this day and made it holy.

We are to take care of everything in this world, because God has made it and it is good. We also need to be kind to each other, as everyone is made like God!



LESSON 2 - ADAM AND EVE

God created people in his image. All boys and girls look like God! But God also wanted us to act like Him as well.



Adam was the first man, and God made Adam a beautiful garden called Eden. He asked Adam to take care of the garden and all the animals. But Adam was a little sad as he was the only person alive.

So, God gave Adam a gift - He made a woman to be Adam's wife! Adam named his wife Eve, and Adam and Eve were happy.

God loved Adam and Eve, and told them that they could eat from anywhere in the garden except for one tree. God said that if they ate from the tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, they would get sick and die.

But, a sneaky snake came to Eve.

The snake said, "Eat the fruit, and you will know everything just like God!" Eve believed and ate the fruit. Adam ate it too.

Uh oh! Remember what God said would happen if Adam and Eve ate fruit from that tree?

Adam and Eve had not listened to God.



When God came to visit Adam and Eve, they hid from God. Adam and Eve were scared.

God called, "Adam, where are you? What have you done?"

Adam and Eve told God what happened, but they blamed each other and the snake. They did not say sorry.



Because Adam and Eve ate the fruit, they were sick and were dying.

Because God loved them, He made Adam and Eve leave the beautiful garden. He did not want to see them sick forever. God would save Adam and Eve later.

But it was hard outside of the garden. Adam and Eve had to work to eat and live.



God was very sad. Adam and Eve had not listened to Him. But, God still loved Adam and Eve, and had a plan to save all of us from death.

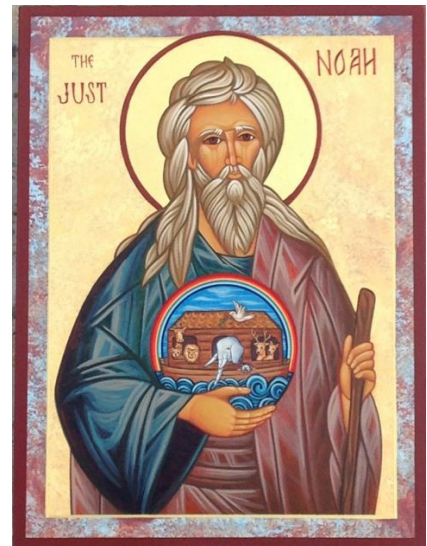
LESSON 3 - NOAH'S ARK

It was a long, long time since those days when God walked with Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, and things had changed.

Everyone forgot God. Nobody prayed. Nobody cared about making God happy. All people cared about was what they wanted. God's beautiful world became a mean and scary place to live.

But there was one good man named Noah. Noah loved God and tried to obey God. God loved Noah.

One day, God asked Noah to build a big boat.



Noah started right away. People laughed at Noah because they lived in a desert and there was no water for his boat. Noah just went on building the boat.

When the boat was finished, God told Noah and his family to go inside it. Noah and his sons Shem, Ham, Japheth went into the boat, along with their families.

"Now, bring two of every animal," God told Noah. Noah did exactly what God told him to do and God watched over him.



When the last animal climbed into the boat, God shut the door and it began to rain!

It rained so much that the water covered the whole world. But inside the boat, everyone was safe.

The boat is like our Church - inside, we are safe and in God's hands!

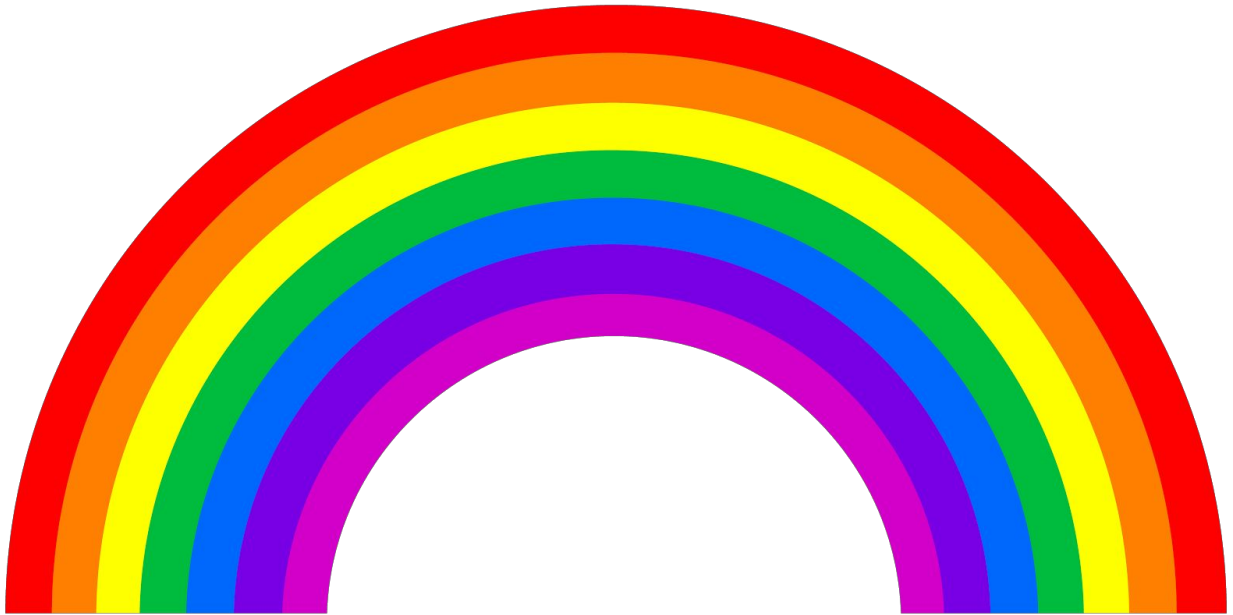
After 40 days and 40 nights, the rain stopped. Water was everywhere. One day, Noah let a little dove fly out to see what was happening on the earth.



The dove brought back a green leaf back. Hooray! The plants were growing again! It was soon time to leave the boat.

When everyone was out of the boat, Noah built an altar. He thanked God for keeping them safe.

Then, something wonderful happened!



God put a beautiful rainbow in the sky and made Noah a promise.

"It will never flood over the whole world like that again," God said.

When God makes a promise, He keeps it!

LESSON 4 - DAVID

David was a shepherd and when he was looking after the sheep, he would make songs and sing them to God. One of these songs you may have heard in Church - "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

David loved God. The Holy Spirit was with David, and made him brave and strong.

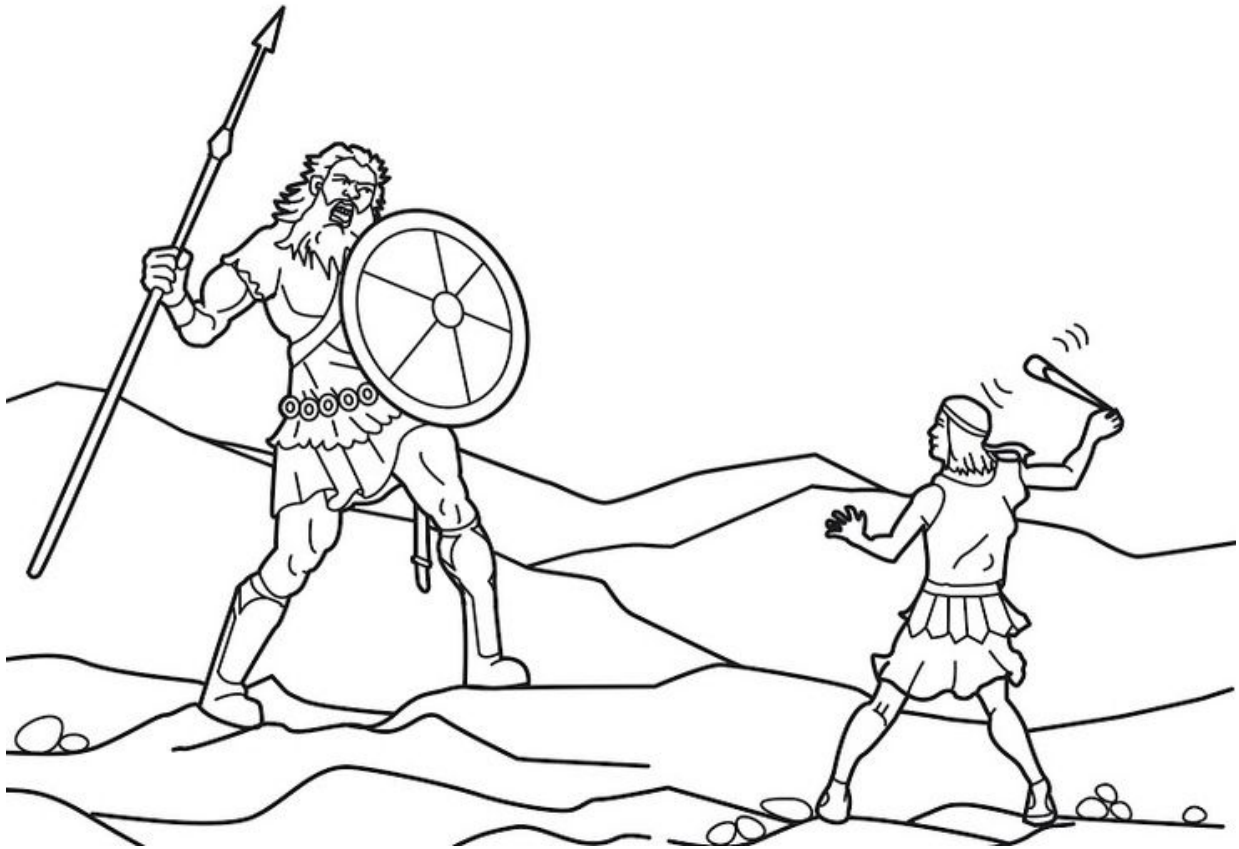
One day, David's father Jesse told him to go check on his brothers. David's brothers were soldiers. When David got to the battlefield, he found everyone was afraid of a giant named Goliath.

Goliath liked to yell at the soldiers and scare them. He wanted to hurt them.

But, David wasn't afraid of Goliath because he knew God was with him. He gathered five smooth small stones and put them in his



pouch. Then, with his slingshot in one hand, David went to meet Goliath. The giant laughed when he saw that David was just a boy because he didn't think David stood a chance.



David was brave and trusted God. David shot a stone from the slingshot and it hit Goliath in the head and killed him.

God will help us in scary times if we pray and ask for help.

LESSON 5 - MOSES

There was a time when the people of Israel had become slaves in Egypt. The King was not nice, and one day told his soldiers to kill every baby boy born to the people of Israel.

One woman had a baby boy, and to save the baby put him in a basket in the river. The baby was Moses, and his sister Miriam, stayed close by to see what would happen.



God was watching over the baby. A Princess of Egypt saw the basket when she was swimming with her friends in the river. When she looked inside, she saw the baby and felt sorry. The princess decided to keep the baby, and named him Moses.

Miriam was watching, and asked the princess if she needed help with the baby. The princess smiled and said yes. So, Miriam ran home and got her mother - Moses' own mother - to take care of him.

Moses grew up in the palace. But, later when he was grown up, Moses did something bad. He decided to run away from the palace and live in the desert.

Moses got married, and was happy living in the desert. He was a shepherd. But, one day when he was out with his sheep, he saw a bush in the desert. It was on fire, but it didn't burn up!



Moses went to look at this strange fire. And then, God spoke to Moses from the fire!



"Don't come any closer. Take off your sandals. You are on holy ground."

Moses was scared. He covered his face.

"Go, bring My people out of Egypt," God said. Moses was still scared, but God promised to help Moses lead His people.

Moses went back to Egypt to free God's people from slavery.

LESSON 6 - MOSES FREES ISRAEL

God wanted Moses to speak with Pharaoh (the King) about letting the Israelites leave Egypt. God told Moses, "Tell Pharaoh everything I tell you. He will not listen to you at first. But Pharaoh will let my people leave Egypt."

Moses listened to God. Moses and his brother Aaron went to Pharaoh to ask to let God's people go free. Aaron threw down his staff and it became a snake. But, Pharaoh still would not let God's people leave Egypt.

Because Pharaoh would not listen, God allowed ten bad things called plagues to happen in Egypt.

- 1) The Nile River was turned to blood.
- 2) Frogs filled the river and the land.
- 3) The dust turned into gnats and covered the men and animals.
- 4) Flies filled Egypt and ruined the land.
- 5) All the Egyptians' livestock died.
- 6) Boils broke out on the Egyptians and their animals.
- 7) Hail came down and hit plants, people, and animals.
- 8) Locust ate everything left in the land.
- 9) Darkness covered all of Egypt for three days.
- 10) Every firstborn son in Egypt died



Waters Turn to Blood
Exodus 7:14-25



Amphibians (Frogs)
Exodus 7:26-8:11



Gnats (Lice)
Exodus 8:12-15



Flies
Exodus 8:16-28



Disease on Livestock
Exodus 9:1-7

The Ten Plagues of Egypt



Unhealable Boils
Exodus 9:8-12

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Hail and Fire
Exodus 9:13-35



Locusts
Exodus 10:1-20



Darkness
Exodus 10:21-29

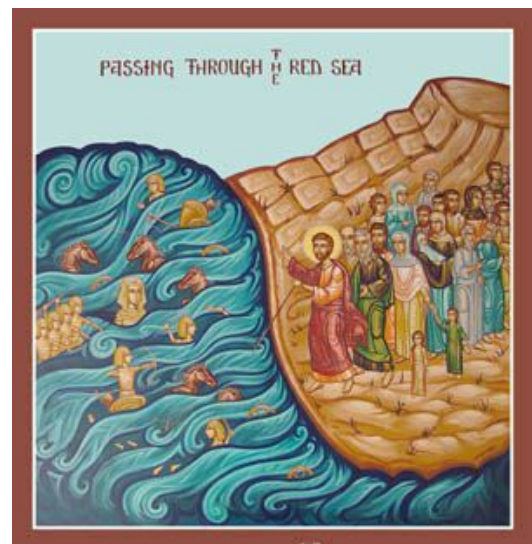


Death of First-Born
Exodus 11:1-12:36

God protected the Israelites from these plagues. Only after all ten bad things happened did the Pharaoh finally say it was OK for the Israelites to be free.

Moses led the people away from Egypt to the Red Sea.

God warned Moses that Pharaoh would change his mind and chase after the Israelites, but God promised they would be safe.



God told Moses to raise up his staff and stretch out his hand over the sea to divide the water. Moses obeyed and the water divided. God's people safely crossed through the Red Sea on dry ground.



After God's people were safe, the walls of water came crashing on the Egyptians. God had saved His people because they obeyed and trusted God.

We are also saved when we obey God and learn to live like Jesus. We become members of the Church during Baptism through the water and the Holy Spirit, and enter a new, safe place with God in His Home.

LESSON 7 - GOD BECOMES MAN

Jesus is God, and Jesus has always been alive. So what is Christmas?



One day, God sent the angel Gabriel to a young woman named Mary.

"Peace to you, Mary! Don't be afraid," the angel said. "God is pleased with you."

"You will have a baby and will name Him Jesus. He will be the Son of God." Mary loved God and said yes to God's plan.

Mary was engaged to marry Joseph. Joseph was a good man, and God loved him. He wanted Joseph to understand that the baby was from God and everything was going to be all right. So God sent an angel to talk to Joseph in a dream. When Joseph heard God's plan, he was happy.

Mary and Joseph had to go to Bethlehem, but the town was full of people, so there was no room for Mary and Joseph to sleep.



Joseph found a place for them where the animals were kept, and that's where Jesus was born. His first bed was on the hay where the animal were fed.

The whole world was happy! The night sky filled with angels who sang, "Glory to God in Heaven!" Shepherds in the field saw this and hurried to see the new King.



Visitors from far away also came by following the bright star in the sky. They bowed and worshipped Jesus, giving presents of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Why was everyone so happy? Because Christmas is the celebration of when Jesus became a man to save us. Remember when Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the tree? God still loved us, and sent Jesus to become man and give us new life.

We can now return to Paradise and be with God!

LESSON 8 - CHRISTMAS ICON

A Holy Icon teaches us about Jesus through colors and pictures. In the Christmas Icon, we see baby Jesus.



God loves us so much, He became one of us!

In the Icon, even the animals worshipped Baby Jesus. Do you see the ox and the donkey? They are peeking into the manger where Jesus is laying on a bed of straw.

St. Mary and St. Joseph loved and raised the baby Jesus so that one day, He could save us on the Cross.

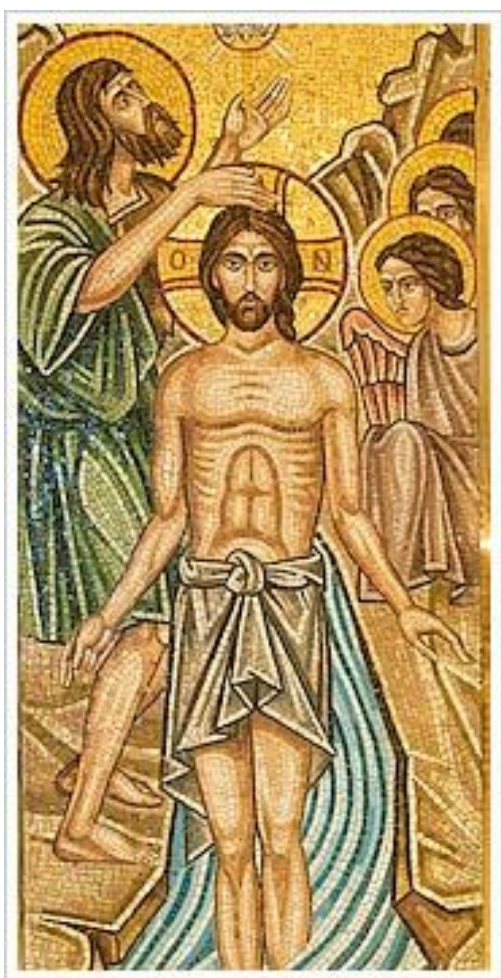
Do you see that the baby Jesus has a special halo around His head? This halo is used for Jesus to show that He is God ... even as a baby!



When we see each other at Christmas, we should say, "Christ is born! Glorify Him!"

LESSON 9 - BAPTISM OF JESUS

St. John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin. He lived in the desert, and his clothes were made of camel hair and he ate locusts and wild honey. St. John the Baptist told people to change their hearts and lives, and say sorry to God and obey.



Many people went to St. John and confessed their sins, telling them everything they had done that made God sad. St. John the Baptist baptized them in the Jordan River, saying that he was baptizing them with water but Jesus would come and baptize them with the Holy Spirit. He said that Jesus would be coming soon.

One day, Jesus came to the Jordan River! He wanted to be baptized by St. John. But St. John did not want to, saying that he should be baptized by Jesus. But Jesus said that God wanted it to be this way, and St. John obeyed and baptized Him in the river.



As Jesus came out of the water, the Holy Spirit came like a dove and a voice spoke from Heaven saying, "This is My Son, and I love Him. I am very pleased with Him".



St. John pointed to Jesus and told everyone, "This is the One Who takes away the sin of the world!" Jesus made the waters holy, and showed us God's command to be baptized.

LESSON 10 - OUR BAPTISM

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows Me will not walk in darkness but will have the light that brings life". We follow and obey Jesus by becoming Baptized.

Holy Baptism is the first Sacrament of the Church. A Sacrament is also called a Mystery, because God changes us in a way that we cannot explain. Sacraments help us to become holy.

Every person in the Church is baptized - some as babies, and some when they are older. We are baptized only one time, because when we are baptized we are born again as children of God. God washes us clean, and we begin our new life with Jesus in God's family, His Holy Church.

On the day of your Baptism, your Godparent promised they would make sure you would follow God's teaching. Everyday, your parents and Godparent prays for you and helps you grow closer to God.

The priest also uses holy oil and makes the Sign of the Cross, and this cleans us so we receive the Holy Spirit

inside of us. The Holy Spirit is God, so God is inside you! The seal of the Holy Spirit is forever, and this is why we believe in One Baptism.



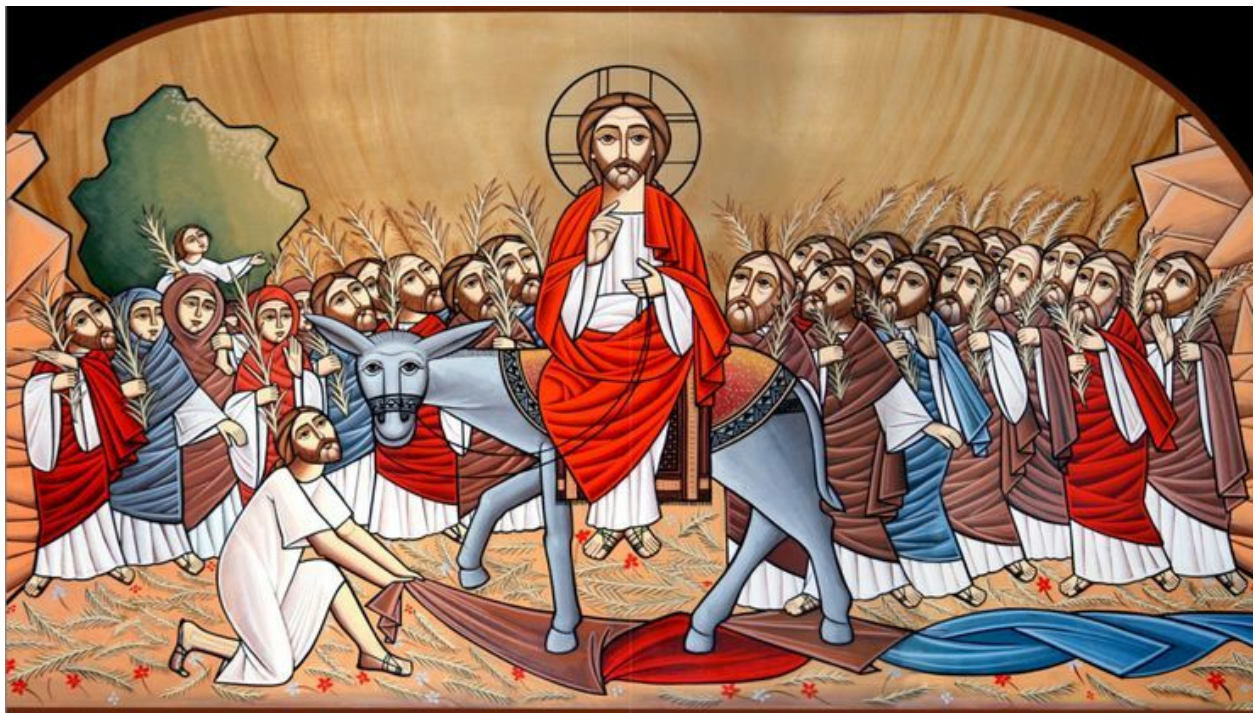
During our Holy Baptism, we become members of the Church and taste the Holy Qurbana for the first time. When we receive Holy Qurbana, we receive Jesus inside of us! Jesus helps us to be like Him, and by receiving the Holy Qurbana, we are telling Jesus we love Him and want to be with Him.

What a wonderful gift by God! See how much He loves us!

LESSON 11 - PALM SUNDAY

How do we greet a King? Who is our king?

One day, Jesus learned that his friend Lazarus had died. He went to visit the sisters of Lazarus, Mary and Martha, and asked where Lazarus was buried. When they showed Jesus the tomb, Jesus called for the dead man to come out, and he did! It was a miracle!



The next day, people heard Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches from palm trees and waved them to honor Him. They shouted, "Hosanna!

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" They kept saying this as Jesus rode by them, on the foal of a donkey, all the way to Jerusalem.



Not until much later, did Jesus' disciples realize that what was written in the Old Testament about Jesus came true. "Your king is coming .. sitting on the colt of a donkey" (**Zechariah 9:9**). This is a reminder of the humility of God.

We celebrate this in the Church as well, when the priest takes the Cross and walks around the Church as we sing, "*Hosanna! Son of David!*"

LESSON 12 - HOLY THURSDAY



Jesus and the disciples were at the table eating the Passover dinner, and Jesus took bread and blessed it. He broke it into pieces and gave to the disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is My Body."

Then he took a cup of wine, gave thanks to God, and gave to each of them to drink. "This is My Blood," He said, "that seals the new covenant, and it is poured out for everyone." A covenant is a promise, and this was what Jesus was saying to those who believe - to eat His real Body and drink His real Blood during Holy Qurbana, and we will be with Him as He will be inside us!



LESSON 13 - GOOD FRIDAY

Jesus died on the Cross on Good Friday. The day Jesus died was a sad day, because Jesus loved everyone and did not sin .. not even once! Only St. Mary and a few of the disciples who were not scared stayed with Jesus as He suffered and died.



So why do we call this day "Good" Friday?

The day Jesus died on the Cross was a sad day, but God had a wonderful plan to save us from death. Because Adam and Eve disobeyed, we all would die because of sin. But, because Jesus did not sin and He was God, He would destroy death!



Jesus died because He loved us. He died so that by His death, we would no longer stay dead - one day, we will rise again like Jesus and live forever!

This is why it is a good day for everyone - Jesus did die, but He rose again!

LESSON 14 - EASTER

The day after Jesus was buried was the Sabbath, so the women returned to the tomb where they had buried Jesus. It was the third day since Jesus died. But, when the women got there, they couldn't believe their eyes. The stone had been rolled away, and the tomb was empty. The soldiers who were guarding the tomb were so frightened, they were like dead men.



An angel of God told them, "Don't be afraid. Jesus is alive." Those women were so happy that they ran to the disciples and told them everything.

From the very beginning, our Lord Jesus Christ was with God, because He is God! Jesus died on the Cross, but He overcame death because He is God.

Jesus entered the place of the dead, and rescued people, even Adam and Eve! Jesus rose from the dead. He freed us from sin and death. He gave us power to become children of God!



Easter is the most important Feast in the Church - without Easter, there is no Christianity! Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

LESSON 15 - THE COMMANDMENTS

God loves us. We are His children and beautiful in His eyes. He loved us so much, He died on the Cross so that we may return to Paradise and be with Him forever.

In the Old Testament, God gave Moses the 10 commandments. God gave us these rules to keep us safe, and help us live our life pleasing to God.

Jesus did not replace the 10 Commandments. Jesus said we should love God with everything we have - with all our heart, all our soul, and all our mind.

The second Commandment is to love our neighbor like ourselves. We love those who hurt us, and forgive them. We should pray for everyone. We should be friends especially to those who have no friends.

Jesus said if we obey, we show that we are the children of God. All of God's commandments can be explained by the fact that God is love, and He loves us.



Jesus taught us to be like little children. We should love and listen to God like a child. This is the only way we can enjoy the rest of our life with Jesus.