



28th Sunday After Pentecost

Resource Overview for Parents and Families

Scripture Readings

Epistle/Apostol:

Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40

Gospel:

Matthew 1:1-25

Apolytikion/Troparion – Tone 2

Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the Three Holy Youths rejoiced in the flames as though at the waters of rest, and the prophet Daniel appeared, a shepherd to the lions as though they were sheep.

So by their prayers, O Christ God, save our souls!

Kontakion – Tone 1

Rejoice, Bethlehem! Prepare yourself, O Ephratha!

The Lamb is on her way to give birth to the Chief Shepherd she carries in her womb.

The God-bearing forefathers will rejoice, beholding Him, and with the shepherds, they will glorify the Virgin nursing Him.

This Week We Learned About

✦ Scripture

- Hebrews 11:9-10, 32-40
- Matthew 1:1-25

✦ Liturgical Life

- Amen

✦ Feasts & Saints

- St. Anastasia (December 22)

✦ Daily Living

- Getting to know our family tree

Questions for Your Kids

- What does it mean to have faith in God?
- How can we be like Joseph in our own lives?

- What does the word “Amen” mean?
- Why is it important for us to add our voices (even softly) to the prayers?

- Why is St. Anastasia an important saint for us?
- How did she live her life according to God’s teachings?

- Where do you think our ancestors came from?
- How can we remember our ancestors in church? at home?
(Hint: In our morning and evening...)

Learn and Discover Together

- Which one name in Jesus’ ancestry should we look up and learn about?
- Why is it important to know about the Old Testament in relation to Jesus Christ?

- How can we say “Amen” to God’s plan for our lives at school? work? home?
- Why is it important for us to say “Amen” during the liturgy?
(Hint: Are we agreeing with our priest?)

- Let’s read the life of St. Anastasia: <https://bit.ly/dec22-anastasia>
- How can we be courageous like St. Anastasia?
- Why should we pray to St. Anastasia for intercessions before God?

- Let’s take a look at our family tree and see what we can learn about our ancestors, ok?
- If Christ’s ancestry went back 42 generations, how many do you think we can trace?

Learn More...

Study guides for different age groups are available to accompany the “**Righteous Ancestors**” handout for the 28th Sunday after Pentecost.

Use as many or as few of the questions and discussion topics to help children learn about the feast while discovering how the Orthodox Faith can be a part of their daily life.

Ask open-ended questions which may lead the conversation to reveal their thoughts about God.

As parents, we may not readily have all the answers, but we have the ability to inspire a desire in children to love God, which can benefit them throughout their lives.

In the Week Ahead...

Advent fasting continues through Nativity Eve, December 24.

December 20 – St. Ignatius St. John of Kronstadt

December 22 – St. Anastasia

December 25 – Nativity of our Lord (Christmas)



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