

WE NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR THE 2011 – 2012 SCHOOL YEAR!



Newsletter

By: Linnie M. Christou - Director



Hello to all! I would like to update the community with some Sunday School news. Needless to say the winter has beaten us all and has affected attendance greatly. Nevertheless we still have tried to keep continuity with the lesson plans either with a substitute teacher or by combining classes. We try to keep the enthusiasm strong and provide a worthy lesson for those students who make the attempt to attend Sunday School. This is all made possible with the great teachers who devote their time on a volunteer basis throughout the school year. The Sunday School year breaks down to about 30 – 31 classes. There is so much to teach it hardly seems that it is sufficient time. The time really does fly by when in class whether it is with the older students or younger students. Total class time is approximately 1 hour to 1 hour and 15 minutes. That is it! I am relaying all of this information to the community in an effort to recruit Sunday School teachers. We are seeing a shift of teachers this year. Many of whom have been teaching for a while and have decided to take a break. We are all part of a very large community and it is hard to believe that we could not find several volunteers to teach St. Sophia's young children and teenagers. Father Pat and I have worked hard to compile a very competent program of religious and moral education for all grades from Pre-K – high school. The curriculum per grade level is complete and all lessons already are available per grade. All copies are printed per lesson for each teacher, leaving even less headache and responsibility. We need from you a strong sense of leadership, enthusiasm and love of teaching our children for an hour to and hour and 15 minutes for 30 -31 classes. THINK ABOUT IT!! You don't have to be a certified teacher to become a Sunday School teacher at St. Sophia. You need only to be an Orthodox Christian in good standing, man or woman, and love working with children. It will be our pleasure to work with anyone interested and to help them along the way. We will hold a workshop prior to the start of the 2011-2012 school year in September. There is even an option to share a class perhaps with 2 teachers. They can alternate by having one teacher take September – January and the other teacher take February – June (actually classes end first week of June). This is one option that has been discussed as a way of making the teaching time less for those who would like to try but do not want to commit to the entire year because of other conflicts.

I would like to thank again all of our teachers for their dedication and commitment to our program. Without good Sunday School teachers, our program would not exist. Our books and lesson plans are only as good as the teachers who teach them!

2010-2011 School Year Teacher Staff:

Pre-School: Catherine Karamanol-Eldred and Anne Hadjiouannou

Kindergarten: Eleni Soler

1st Grade: Lea Koutsakis

2nd Grade: Erika Koutelis

3rd Grade: Nancy Athanassiadis

4th Grade: Tina Marathakis

5th Grade: Theodosia Legato

6th Grade: Lea Marinopoulos

7th Grade: Karen Pappis

8th Grade: Kathryn Sokaris

9th Grade: Maria Ziamandanis

10th Grade: Theodore Pappas

And thanks also to our fabulous substitutes and helpers: Lauren Mousakes, Maria Koutsakis, Margarita Lois, Valentina Louizidis and Tina Michaelides.

Our students have been working throughout the year on some fabulous projects which have been displayed on the Sunday School Bulletin Board. Most recently the Kindergarten class did our Christmas board and the current 9th grade class did a presentation on the Three Hierarchs along with the 1st graders for January. This month you will see our 8th grade class present a look at fasting during the Lenten season. Every month a different grade displays the themes they are working on in class. It is a wonderful way for the community to enjoy our student's work and to possibly learn something new in our Greek Orthodox faith! We hope you enjoy the final displays in the months to come! I wish everyone a healthy and joyous Pascha!