

4. Read **God's Word** paraphrased from Mark and Matthew. After their retelling, ask the class to imagine that they were one of the men that Jesus called: "How do you think the men felt when Jesus approached them? Do you think they were scared? Confused? How would *you* have responded to Jesus?" Discuss. As a class, read the poem of the 12 Disciples. Practice saying it a few times. 5 min.

5. Read **We Learn About God**. The prayer of St. John Chrysostom comes right after the hymn "Kohanamk". Distribute pew books and have students turn to the correct page. Let class know that St. John was one of our important Church Fathers who lived hundreds of years ago and his gift to the church was his ability to teach, write and speak very well. (Explain the term "Church Father": a great thinker and leader whose life and work helped build up the Church.) Read the prayer together (the teacher may take the role of the priest and the students respond as the choir with "amen.") Ask if they can list all the people that are being prayed for (those who trust in God, everyone present, churches, priests, Christian rulers, military, and all people).

Refer back to Vartan and the various ways he and all of the students can serve the church. Have students look at the pictures and write the describing word from the word bank under each picture. (Answers: studying, praying, visiting, praising, caring) Have them come up with one of their own and draw in the box. Share with the class. 10 min.

6. Direct students' attention to the picture of the deacon and ask if they know what that person is called. Some students might have family or friends who are deacons. Introduce **Faith Word** of deacon. Continue reading **Our Armenian Way**. Have students practice saying sargavak, shabig and oorar. (Optional: invite one of the deacons to visit the class and have the kids interview him and try on a robe with oorar.) 5 min.

7. **Handmade With Love**. Distribute frame-making materials, announcing that the children will be making a frame to remember that we are all called by Jesus to be one big family – the church. Have students write the title on their frame ("We are God's family.")

8. Clean-up. Close with the prayer. "Heavenly Father, help us remember this week what a beautiful family you have created in the Church. Amen." 20 min.

Unit One: Circles of Faith

Lesson Five: A Holy Guide

Key Concepts

1. The Holy Spirit was given to us to guide the church.
2. Jesus tells his disciples that he will send the Holy Spirit.
3. The hymn *Hokee Asdoozoh* prays for the Holy Spirit to accomplish the great mystery of transforming the gifts of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of our Lord.

Objectives

During this lesson students will

1. Discuss situations that have caused them fear and illustrate how they handled one.
2. Read a story about Ani, whose mom goes back to work.
3. Review John 16: 5-15, Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit to the disciples.
4. Compare Jesus' promise with that of Ani's mom.
5. Learn and practice singing *Hokee Asdoozoh* ("Spirit of God")
6. Identify the dove as a symbol of the Holy Spirit.
7. Define the faith word "chrismation."
8. Create and decorate a dove.

Materials Needed

Crayons, markers

*Optional: dove-shaped holy muron container, borrowed from church

Handmade with Love: Dove template (from the back of this manual); white construction paper or cardstock; glitter glue—gold, silver, appropriate colors for a dove; white feathers—optional but highly recommended; scissors; hole-punch; string/yarn/ribbon

Procedure

1. Greet students warmly and open class with the prayer in **We Pray Together**. Ask them: “Think of the prayer we just prayed together. How do we know God is with us?” (the Holy Spirit was sent to be with us).
2. Read **Let’s Discover**, asking students to respond by raising their hands after each example. Have them share and discuss their fears and how they handled them. Students will illustrate a situation and write how they were able to work through their fear. Encourage their participation in sharing their responses. 15 min.
3. Read **Our Story**. Ask class “How would you feel if you were Ani? What would be some other solutions to Ani’s fear?”
4. Read **God’s Word**, a paraphrased version of John 16: 5-15. Ask the class to imagine that they were one of the disciples hearing the news that Jesus would leave them some day. How would they respond to Jesus? What were they afraid of? How would knowing that the Holy Spirit would be with them have helped?
5. Read **We Learn About God**. Emphasize how the two stories are similar, using the final sentences from the text. 5 min.
6. Teach the explanatory text about *Hokee Asdoodzoh* and review the meaning of the words. Then teach or have a volunteer teach the first line of the hymn. 10 min.
7. Point to the picture of the dove-shaped muron-holder in the text (or hold up the actual vessel if you were able to borrow one) and ask the children if they have ever seen it before. Have them repeat the work *aghavnee*. Read **Our Armenian Way**. Introduce the **Faith Word**. 5 min.
8. **Handmade With Love**. Distribute the templates, paper and supplies. Have students cut the dove out and glue onto cardstock sheet or construction paper. They can embellish with the glitter glue and feathers. Have them write something along the lines of **THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WITH ME ALWAYS!**
9. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: “Heavenly Father, we thank you for sending us the Holy Spirit to always take care of us. Amen.” 20 min.

Unit One: Circles of Faith Lesson Six: My Church Family

Key Concepts

1. We belong to a church family called our “parish.”
2. The church is consecrated or “set aside for God.”
3. We are called to worship and pray together and know that Christ is especially present with us in church.
4. All Armenian parishes have a structure and fellowship in common.

Objectives

During this lesson students will