

Special Lesson: Green Sunday - We the Church

Green Sunday: Church and Home

Teacher Preparation and Materials Needed:

Video Lesson: [Home Blessing](#) (duration 3:23)

Class activity: Re-enacting of the home blessing service

Activity: Home Blessing Word Search

MORAL CHARACTER FOCUS:

Make your home into a church. Worship and pray together.

Words of the week:

խոնկ – khoong – incense

սրբապատկեր – sr-pa-bad-ger – icon

Աստուածաշունչ – Asd-vadz-a-shoonch – Bible

Memory Verse:

“... But as for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord.”

- Joshua 24:15

Lesson

Open with prayer:

Իմաստութիւն Յօր՝ Յիսուս, տո՛ւր ինձ իմաստութիւն, զբարիս խորհել եւ խօսել եւ գործել առաջի Քո՝ յամենայն ժամ. ի չար խորհրդոց, ի բանից եւ ի գործոց փրկեա՛ գիս. եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն:

Eemasdootyoon Hor Heesoos, door eents eemasdootyoon uzparees khorel yev khosel yev kordz arachi ko hamenayn jham. Ee char khorhrtos, paneets yev kordzots prgya zees yev voghormya ko araradzots eents pazmameghees. Amen.

Wisdom of the Father, O Jesus, grant to me the wisdom to think, speak, and do that which is good in Your sight. Save me from all evil and distracting thoughts, words, and deeds. Have mercy upon your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.

**Wisdom Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

Lesson Body:

A new season and a new life begin with Easter. When we celebrate Easter, we remember that Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life — a life filled with hope, love, and faith. After Easter, the Church gives special meaning to the first three Sundays. Each one has an important name and teaches us something special about our faith. The first Sunday after Easter is called New Sunday, the second Sunday, which we celebrate today, is called Green Sunday, and the third Sunday is called Red Sunday, which we will learn about next week.

Each of these Sundays reminds us that Easter is not just one day. It is the beginning of something new — a chance for us to become better children of God and to live a life that pleases Him. Today, on Green Sunday, we celebrate new life, the growth of our faith, and the unity of all believers as the Universal Church. Green is the color of life, freshness, and growth. When we look outside in springtime and see the grass, trees, and flowers turning green, we are reminded that Jesus made all things new when He rose from the dead. Our hearts, too, are meant to grow stronger and more beautiful in faith, just like the earth becomes more beautiful in spring.

During Great Lent and Holy Week, we worked hard to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Resurrection. We prayed more, we helped others, we said no to bad behaviors, and we tried to become better. But the journey does not end with Easter. Green Sunday reminds us that our new life must continue. We are called to keep growing closer to God every day.

Green Sunday also teaches us about the Universal Church. The Church is not just the building we visit on Sundays. It is made up of all the people who believe in Jesus Christ and live according to His teachings. We, along with Christians from around the world — Armenian, Greek, Coptic, Indian, and many others — are united in one great family. We all belong to the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church that founded upon the good news of the Resurrection of Christ. When we come together to pray, to worship, and to love one another, we are building up the Church. When we help others, show kindness, forgive, and serve, we are making the Church stronger and more alive.

Although we gather at the church building for Divine Liturgy, we can also make our homes places where God is honored and loved. Jesus said, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them” (Matthew 18:20). This means that even in our homes, when we pray and live with love, Jesus is with us.

There are many ways we can make our homes feel like a little church. We can create a prayer corner where we keep an icon, a cross, and a candle. We can pray in the morning when we wake up and at night before we sleep. We can pray before meals to thank God for our food and pray for our family, our friends, and even for those who have passed away. Sometimes, during special prayers, we can burn incense or light a candle with the help of an adult to remind us that our prayers rise up to God like the sweet smell of incense rises into the air. We can also read the Bible daily. It does not have to take a long time. Even five minutes a day is enough to help our faith grow stronger and make our home a place where God’s love is alive.

During the season of the Resurrection, many families invite a priest to their homes for a special home bless-

ing. This is a beautiful tradition in our Church. The priest visits the home, bringing the joyful news of Christ's Resurrection, and blesses the house along with salt, water, and bread. The bread reminds us that Jesus is the Bread of Life. The salt reminds us to live lives full of goodness. The water reminds us of our baptism and the new life we have received. When the priest blesses the home and the family, it is a reminder that our houses, too, are part of the living Church. It shows that our faith is not something that stays only inside a church building but fills our homes, our hearts, and our daily lives.

Today, as we celebrate Green Sunday, we give thanks to God for the new life He gives us. We ask Him to help us grow strong in faith, just like the green plants grow strong in the spring. We thank Him for making us part of the great family of the Universal Church. And we promise to live in a way that makes our homes and our lives green and full of His love every day.



Video Lesson: [Home Blessing](#) (duration 3:23)

Class activity: Re-enacting of the home blessing service

Roles: Priest, many family members

Note: Consider starting from a phone call request from the family and the priest's directions on what to have ready.

Words of the Week:

խոնկ - khoong - incense

սրբապատկեր - sr-pa-bad-ger - icon

Աստուածաշունչ - Asd-va-dza-shoonch - Bible

Memory Verse:

“... But as for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord.”

- Joshua 24:15

Home Blessing

H	O	P	E	I	R	F	A	M	I	L	Y	H	I
R	E	G	R	E	E	N	G	I	O	E	G	N	O
Y	A	D	N	U	S	T	M	E	E	H	R	P	W
E	E	E	U	A	M	G	B	N	R	C	E	B	A
E	O	P	T	L	P	C	A	E	N	A	S	L	T
S	M	R	A	H	N	H	P	W	U	F	U	E	E
N	E	R	Y	E	S	U	R	O	D	W	R	S	R
E	A	S	T	E	R	R	A	H	A	A	R	S	L
C	N	S	F	I	A	C	Y	O	E	R	E	I	I
N	G	R	R	H	E	H	E	M	R	A	C	N	F
I	T	S	E	I	R	P	R	E	B	T	T	G	E
R	P	E	E	R	S	A	L	T	F	A	I	T	H
W	B	S	J	E	S	U	I	W	B	T	O	R	N
N	T	W	O	R	G	H	T	S	N	U	N	H	M

PRAYER
 JESU
 SALT
 BREAD
 NEW
 PRIEST
 EASTER
 RESURRECTION
 HOPE
 GREEN
 SUNDAY
 BLESSING
 GROW
 FAMILY
 HOME
 LIFE
 CHURCH
 INCENSE
 WATER
 FAITH

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/8338041/>

Review

Memory Verse Review:

But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord. (Joshua 24:15)

Words of the Week Review:

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Lesson Review:

Questions:

1. What does Easter celebrate? (Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life filled with hope, love, and faith.)
2. What are the names of the first three Sundays after Easter? (New Sunday, Green Sunday, and Red Sunday.)
3. What does Green Sunday remind us of? (New life, growth in our faith, and the unity of all believers as the Universal Church.)
4. What does the color green symbolize? (Life, freshness, and growth.)
5. What is the Universal Church made up of? (All the people who believe in Jesus Christ and live according to His teachings.)
6. How can we make our homes feel like a little church? (By creating a prayer corner, praying daily, reading the Bible, and living with love.)
7. What do the bread, salt, and water symbolize during a home blessing? (Bread reminds us Jesus is the Bread of Life, salt reminds us to live good lives, and water reminds us of baptism and new life.)

Life Application

What are we going to do with what we have learned today?

Green Sunday teaches us that our faith should keep growing just like the world around us in spring. Every day is a chance to water the seeds of prayer, kindness, and forgiveness in our lives. Even small choices — like praying before meals, reading one verse from the Bible, or helping someone at home — help us stay close to God and make our homes part of His living Church.

** Departing Prayer, written by St. Nersess the Grace-filled (Shnorhali).*

Close with prayer:

Պահապան ամենայնի Քրիստոս, աջ Քո հովանի լիցի ի վերայ իմ, ի տուէ եւ ի գիշերի, ի նստիլ ի տան, ի գնալ ի ճանապարհ, ի ննջել եւ ի յառնել, զի մի երբեք սասանեցայց եւ ողորմեա՛ Քո արարածոց եւ ինձ բազմամեղիս: Ամէն

Bahaban amenayn Kreesdos, ach Ko hovanee leetsee ee vera eem; ee dveh yev ee keesheree, ee nsdeel ee dan, ee knal ee janabarh, ee nunchel yev ee harnel, zee mee yerpek sasanetsayts yev vog-hormya Ko araradzots yev eents pazmamyghees. Amen.

O Christ, guardian of all, let Your right hand guard and shelter me, by day and by night, at home and abroad, in sleeping and in waking, that I may never stumble. Have mercy upon Your creatures and upon me, a great sinner. Amen.