

When children and parents have faith discussions regularly, faith multiplies.



Faith at Home

Theme of the Sunday: The Gospel of Matthew

Verse of the Sunday: “Then little children were being brought to him in order that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples spoke sternly to those who brought them; but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.” And he laid his hands on them and went on his way.” Gospel of Matthew 19:13-15

Message/Moral of the day: The first 4 books of the New Testament are known as the GOSPELS. The book of Matthew is the 1st book of the New Testament and the 1st of the 4 Gospels. Our school year is centered on our Great Life Stories. And today we focus on the book of Matthew, which tells us all about Jesus’ life on Earth. The main purpose of Matthew’s book was to record Jesus’ life, His teachings, and to be a biography for Jesus Christ. Jesus lived for 33 years and did some truly amazing things in His life. Matthew was present for the events he described; therefore, his record carries a high degree of historical reliability. Matthew was a tax collector before he met Jesus, which is interesting because tax collectors were often despised within the Jewish community.

Matthew takes pains to tell Jesus’ story to a world that needed to hear it - including Jesus’ birth, His family history, His public ministry and teachings, the tragedy of His arrest and execution, and the miracle of His resurrection. Matthew also strove to be accurate and historically faithful in writing his Gospel. He set the background for Jesus’ story in the real world of His day, including the names of prominent historical figures and the many places Jesus visited throughout His ministry. Matthew was writing history, not a legend or tall tale. However, Matthew wasn’t writing just history; he also had a theological goal for his Gospel. Namely, Matthew wanted to show the Jewish people of his day that Jesus was the promised Messiah - the long-awaited King of God’s chosen people, the Jews.

Faith at Home:

- Jesus Christ’s origin was Jewish. Talk with your child/ren about our own origins as Armenians.
- St. Matthew teaches us about the life of Jesus on Earth. What examples we can take from His life and use in our own?
- Brainstorm ways you can follow the example of Jesus’ life.
- Execute an act of peacemaking or kindness in your school or work.

Prayer & Worship: Dear Lord, it was You Who caused all Holy Scripture to be written for our learning. Teach us today with the power of the Holy Spirit the truths that You would have us learn today and always. Amen.

Liturgical Calendar: Feast of St. Kevork / St. George

Saint Kevork, also known as Saint George, is an early Christian martyr who during the Middle Ages became an ideal of martial valor and selflessness. Nothing of George’s life or deeds can be established, but legends about him as a warrior-saint, dating from the 6th century, became popular and increasingly extravagant. The legend repeats the story of his rescuing a Libyan king’s daughter from a dragon and then slaying the monster in return for a promise by the king’s subjects to be baptized. It is a theme much represented in art, the saint frequently being depicted as a youth wearing a knight’s armor with a scarlet cross.