WEEK SEVENTEEN Pre-K through 3rd Grades with Miss Anna

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Please never hesitate to reach out or ask any questions!

Icons

Directions: Read about icons, then color the icon.

When we go into an Orthodox Church, we see icons or holy pictures everywhere.

An Icon is like <u>a window that helps us look into heaven</u>. It shows us the holy people, or saints, who lived before us and are now in heaven praying for us. Icons also show us the miracles of Jesus and all that He did for us.

An icon is not fully an icon until it is blessed by the priest in church. Then it becomes a place of prayer where we meet Christ and pray to Him.

If someone asks you what you believe in, show them your icons or bring them to our church to share the icons. Icons show and tell stories of what we believe in; kind of like "show-and-tell" at school.

We do not worship icons. We worship God. Icons help us to worship and honor God.

When we stand in church and see all the icons of Christ and the saints, we feel that we are not alone. We feel that <u>we are part of God's family</u>. All the saints are our brothers and sisters. We, too, are called to be saints- God's holy people.

Because <u>each one of us is made in the image of God</u>, we, too, are icons. The word image means icon (picture). We are living icons of Christ. Other people are also living icons of God. That is why we treat them with even more <u>love and respect</u> than we do the wooden icons.

If icons are windows to heaven, let us use them often to peek into heaven.

God made man in his own image, in the image of God, he created him (Genesis 1:27).

