

# Religious Education and Spiritual Formation

*A CRISIS?*



**“Keep my commands and you will live; guard my teachings as the apple of your eye.”  
Proverbs 7:2**



Dear Parishioners and Beloved Stewards of the Archangel Michael Church,

## **Chris is in our midst! He Was, He Is and always Shall Be!**

Now that we are post-pandemic, there is a great challenge to Greek Orthodox families.

Why should our children be educated in religion? And how?

Thus there was more time for family and for church. Now, sports are back! Driver education is back! Preparatory classes for the SAT and ACT are back! And so many other challenges that create conflict with the ability to get our children to Church. Once again, God is on the back burner and at stake is the religious education of our children.

As priests, we teach the children of the Pre-School every week. *A few years ago, I received a telephone call from a parent of our Pre-School. The parent was in crisis because the person’s father was dying and did not know how to explain to their young child that Papou was very sick. The child responded to the parent, “Do not worry, Fr. John has taught us all about these things!”*

Therefore, religious instruction is paramount to the spiritual formation of our children.

**“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.”  
(2Timothy 3:16)**

As the Archangel Michael Church prepares for all youth program for 2022-23, Please make **every effort** for the religious education of your child. The Sunday School Committee is working very hard over the summer to prepare for a creative, fun, interesting and joyful approach to religious education. This year, **a new high school class for 9th and 10th graders will be introduced** and taught by a **dynamic instructor**, \*Georganna Panos. Along with Georganna, the students will have the opportunity to develop their own curriculum based on certain religious themes.

**We look forward to seeing you and your family** at the Divine Liturgy on Sundays and to have your children enrolled in a great opportunity that will lend to their academic and spiritual formation.

In Christ,

Rev. John K Lardas  
Protopresbyter

\*Please see enclosed flyer