

The Archon Ecumenical Patriarchate Educational Initiative



Archons
OF THE **Ecumenical**
Patriarchate

Protecting the Future of Faith™

Presenters

Helen Nixon, Ed.D.

- Middle School and High School Certified Teacher, Supervision, and Administration Certification (Maryland)
- Curriculum Development
- Doctoral work in educational leadership and policy studies
- Sunday School Coordinator at **Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church of Washington, DC**

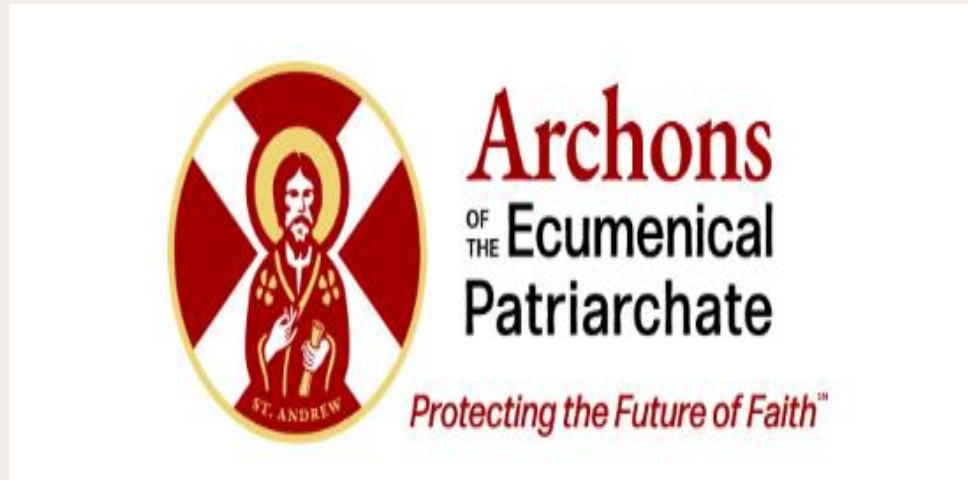
Katina Tsatalis, M.Ed.

- Early Childhood and Elementary Certified Teacher (Pennsylvania and Ohio)
- Staff Development
- Curriculum Development
- Student assessment and learning design
- Sunday School Coordinator at **Church of the Annunciation, Dayton, Ohio**

Our Why

Protecting	Protecting the Future of the Faith
Elevating	Elevating students' Orthodox Identity
Attending	Attending to the Issues that Impact the Orthodox Faith such as Religious Freedom
Responding	Responding to a <i>Call to Action</i> and building students' fluency in Patriarchal issues

Our Aspirations



- We strive to elevate Orthodox students' understanding of the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Patriarchate.
- We plan to universally celebrate this learning on the Feast of St. Andrew in the Fall of 2024.
- We are committed to the implementation of the Archon Sprout Program that is accessible on a digital platform such as the Archon website.
- Continued professional learning opportunities for teachers to master this content.
- We are committed to growing the scope and sequence of this curriculum to continue expanding the learning for our Orthodox students and to curate a digital library for students to access information about the Patriarch and the Patriarchate.
- If there are church communities for whom digital access is a challenge, we will work to secure access to materials (Xeroxed materials and hard copies will be provided as needed).



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Objectives for this Presentation

By the end of this session, we will have

- Shared the goals of the Sprout Program.
- Reviewed the lesson plan pathways and teacher resource materials.
- Answered any questions regarding these lesson plans.

Grounding our Work in the Five Issues of Concern for the Ecumenical Patriarchate





No Legal Identity

The Ecumenical Patriarchate has no legal identity or bona fide legal personality in Turkey

Non-recognition of ownership rights and non-issuance of residence and work permits for “foreign” (non-Turkish) priests who are essential to the continuity and functioning of the Ecumenical Patriarchate.

Governmental Interference with the Patriarchal Elections

Turkish government imposes restrictions on the election of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Hierarchs who vote for him by requiring that they must be Turkish citizens.

Turkish government can veto any candidate for the position of Ecumenical Patriarchate.

1971 Forcible Closure of Halki Seminary

The Ecumenical Patriarchate cannot train new clergy in Turkey.

Halki (theological seminary) was forcibly shut down by the Turkish government in 1971.



Confiscation of Properties

Turkish authorities have confiscated thousands of properties from the Ecumenical Patriarchate and the Greek Orthodox community.

Confiscated properties include:

- Monasteries
- Orphanages
- Church Buildings
- Private Homes

Non-Recognition of “Ecumenical Status”

The Turkish government does not recognize the “Ecumenical” status of the Ecumenical Patriarch and Patriarchate.

Turkish government “sees” the Ecumenical Patriarch as a figurehead in Turkey but not as the spiritual leader of 300 million Orthodox Christians worldwide.

Archon Sprout Program Framework

Orthodox students can play a significant role in realizing the vision for a better future for our church through their faith, their works, and their commitment to learning about and taking an active role in the mission and vision of the Patriarchate.

Enduring Understanding

In what ways can we shape the future of Orthodoxy by focusing on faith and good works?

What does an Orthodox community look like? In what ways can an Orthodox community foster inclusivity and peace?

Essential Questions

What is the Ecumenical Patriarchate?

When was the Ecumenical Patriarchate established?

Who is the Ecumenical Patriarch?

Where does the Ecumenical Patriarch govern?

How can we foster greater unity under the Ecumenical Patriarch?

Guiding Questions

1 developmentally appropriate lesson per grouping (30-40 minutes)

- Early Childhood
- Elementary
- Middle School
- High School

Targeted Lessons

Lesson Plan Objectives

Early Childhood

Identify and name HAH Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew after viewing his picture.

Recognize the Patriarchal yellow and black double eagle flag.

Elementary School

Identify HAH by his photograph and explain that he is the ‘First Among Equals’ of Orthodox Patriarchs.

Identify HAH by his vestments and their meaning.

Middle School

Conduct a Web Quest and spend time reviewing the Archon Website to learn about the connections of support to HAH.

Identify key components and historical and political events that impact the Patriarchate and discuss in a facilitated class discussion.

High School

Watch the **60 Minutes** Interview with Patriarch Bartholemew.

Participate in active discussion on what they have learned and how a “**Call to Action**” can encourage their participation and activism in Orthodox issues.

Components of Each Lesson Plan

Mastery Objectives

Word Wall/Essential Vocabulary

Guiding Questions

Materials/Resources/Links

Summary Scripts

Exit Tickets



Objectives:

- Students will be able to identify HAH by his photograph and explain that he is the ‘First Among Equals’ of Orthodox Patriarchs.
- Students will be able to identify HAH by his vestments and their meaning.

Word Bank

Orthodox Family Vestment Patriarch Archbishop Saint Andrew



Resources and Materials Needed



Page 4 from text, *First, Among Equals*
Ecumenical Patriarch

Laminated Photograph of



Access to the Be the Bee Video: Bee# 117 “What do Vestments reveal about our relationship with God?”



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PIO02rQDQ6o&list=PLbyQMR-r8bJTrcWpWxSUPdJHdZJsq_zG&index=117



Vestment Activity Kit

Time	Content	Notes and Guiding Questions
5 minutes	Students enter classroom	Welcome and Opening Prayers
2-3 minutes	Objectives for the Lesson	<p>Teacher will review the objectives for the lesson:</p> <p>Students will be able to identify HAH by his photograph and explain that he is the ‘First Among Equals’ of Orthodox Patriarchs.</p> <p>Students will be able to identify HAH by his vestments and their meaning.</p>
10 minutes	<p>Objective 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be able to identify HAH by his photograph and explain that he is the ‘First Among Equals’ of Orthodox Patriarchs. 	<p>Teacher will begin with a review by showing students the photograph of HAH. Asking who he is and what does he do?</p> <p>The teacher will use p. 4 of “First Among Equals” to explain that the Ecumenical Patriarch is the first father of the Orthodox world.</p> <p>The teacher will explain that the Ecumenical Patriarch is a world leader of one large Orthodox family made up of smaller Orthodox Churches throughout the world.</p> <p>Teacher will give each child a laminated photograph of HAH (from Archons)</p> <p>Students will practice saying the name of HAH several times.</p> <p>Students will color a coloring sheet.</p>

10 minutes

Objective 2

- Students will be able to identify HAH by his vestments and their meaning.

Teacher will use p. 5 of the Zine "First Among Equals" to show/tell about the vestments worn by Bishops, Metropolitans, Archbishops and Patriarchs

Teacher will show Be the Bee #117 "What do Vestments reveal about our relationship with God?"

Students will begin to work in pairs to create a mobile of the deacon, priest and bishop's vestments

*Teacher will use Vestments Activity Kit

5 minutes

Wrap-Up and Review

Teacher will provide reminders to students about what they learned today in class.

2 minutes

Exit Ticket

In order to leave class, the students must share one thing they recall from the lesson today.

MAPPING OUR TIMELINE TO THE FEAST OF ST. ANDREW



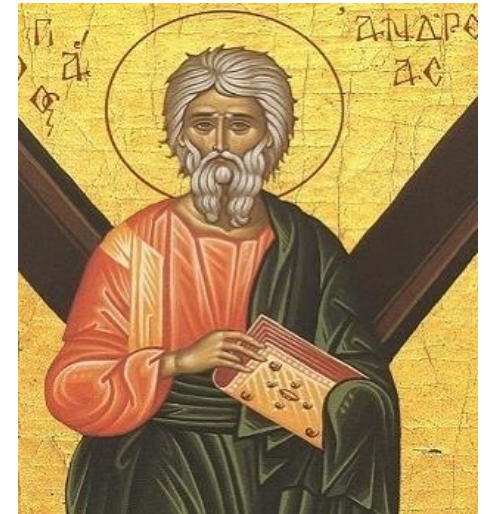
August 2024



September 2024
Teacher Preparation



October 2024
Parent Communication



Feast of St. Andrew
(November 30)

In Summary

Elevate	Elevate Orthodox teachers' and students' engagement in learning about the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Patriarchate.
Access	Create pathways for teachers and students to access information about the Five Issues of Concern that are critical to the Ecumenical Patriarch.
Celebrate	Universally celebrate the Feast of St. Andrew in November 2024, during their Sunday School class they will focus on the Ecumenical Patriarch and the Patriarchal issues.

Support for Success

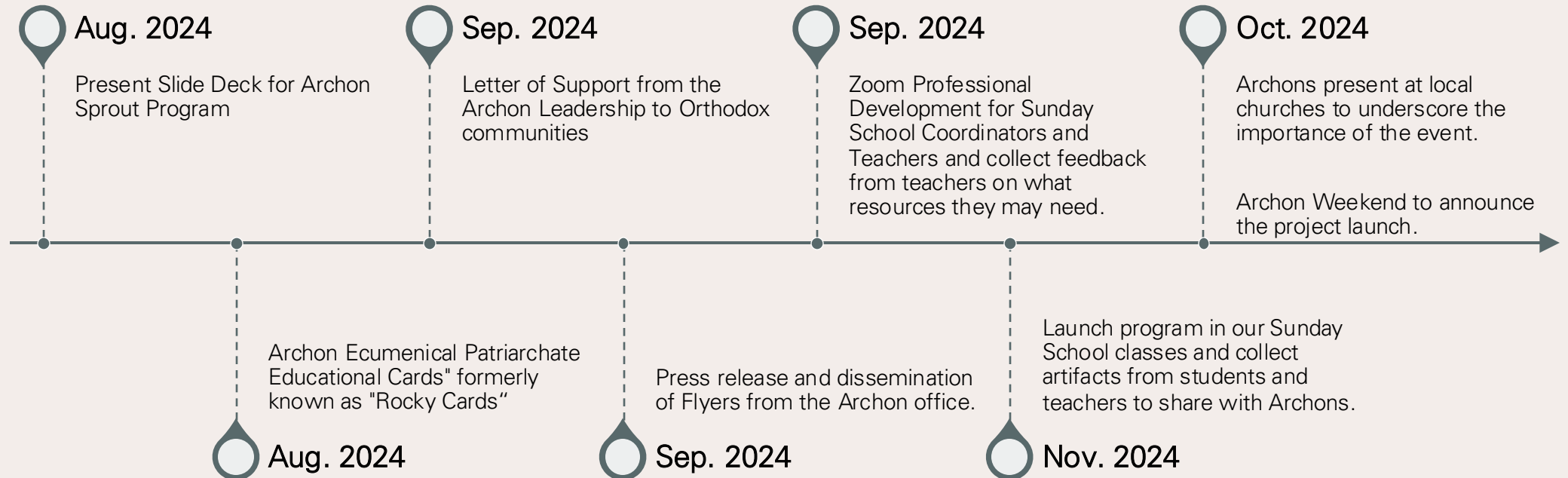
Strong Marketing and Outreach Plan

- Letters of support from the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, Archbishop Elpidophoros of America, and the Metropolitans of the Eparchial Synod to be shared with Orthodox priests.
- Opportunity for Archons to publicly address (when/where possible) church communities about the critical importance of this event for our children.
- Outreach to churches promoting the event (flyers and/or press releases).
- Laminated Photographs of the Patriarch and St. Andrew for distribution to all Sunday School students

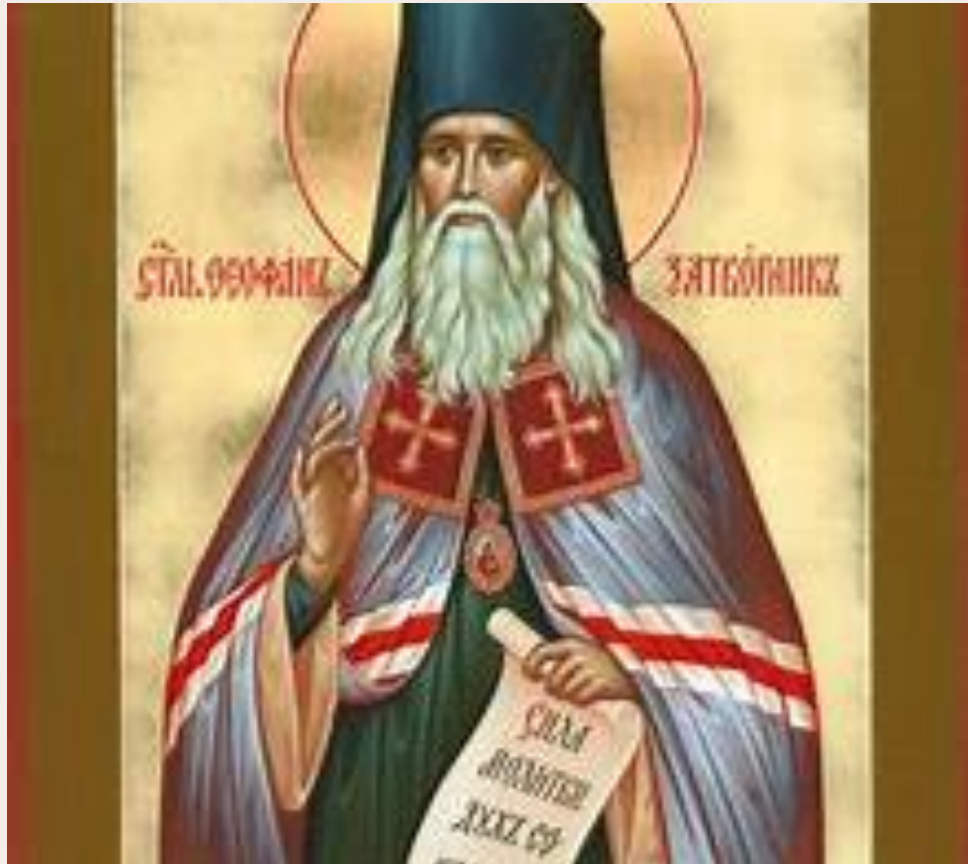
Technology and Graphic Design

- Creation of a digital library to house materials that provide easy access to information on our Orthodox faith and Patriarchal issues for our students and teachers.
- A digital platform to house the future lesson plans that support the learning of Patriarchal issues for K12 Orthodox students around the world and in multiple languages.

Proposed Timeline



SAINT THEOPHAN THE RECLUSE



“Of all holy works, the education of children is the most holy.”

Questions and Feedback

