

Resources for Time at Home Together from the OCA's Department of Christian Education at dce.oca.org.

To enrich the extra time families are sharing at home during this unique Great Lent, the OCA's Department of Christian Education offers resources for families and for children of various ages.

- [***Journey to Pascha***](#) consists of six-lesson units for grades 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 and 9-12. A fifth unit has six lessons for older teens and adult groups. The lessons give students a deeper understanding of Lenten and Paschal worship in hymn verses, icons and Bible readings, with activities that tie these elements to our daily lives.
- [***Activities for Holy Saturday, Pascha and Bright Week***](#) contains three activities each for grades 4-6 and 7-9. These activities let students dig deeper into the prophecies of Daniel and Ezekiel, and help them see what the Church is telling us by using them as part of our worship.

The [**five Activity Books produced by the Department**](#), all of which can be downloaded for free, offer a wealth of materials. For example:

- [***Saints Who Were Physicians and Healers***](#) can help students see Great Lent as a "hospital" in that our extra efforts to pray and fast can lead to greater bodily and spiritual health. The men and women described in this book were "healer saints" and tangible examples of healing and serving in the name of Jesus Christ.
- [***Saints Commemorated in the Litiya Prayers***](#) offers the stories of some "enlighteners" of various countries, such as Saint Nicholas of Japan and Saint Nina of Georgia.
- [***Saints and the Animals that Served Them***](#) reminds students how often saints who love God also have a special connection with animals as part of His creation. One of the saints in this book is Saint Mary of Egypt, whose life was connected in a special way with a lion. Another resource for Saint Mary of Egypt, commemorated on the fifth Sunday of Great Lent, is her [**"life icon" with scenes from her life**](#) and a numbered account of her life to match the icon's scenes.

All the Activity Books have a variety of activities, journaling questions, puzzles and hymn verses for each saint. There are maps of each saint's travels, and for younger students a number of line drawings of saints and symbols that are great for coloring.

- [***Bulletin Inserts***](#) produced by the Department have been categorized, and offer single-page discussions of all kinds of topics: Saints, Feasts, Parables, Old Testament and several others. There are, for example, a number of these pages created for the Sunday of Pascha, and others relating to saints commemorated during Great Lent.