

6. Read **Our Armenian Way**. Play a recording of “Lutzak” and have students practice singing the first line of “Lutzak.”
7 min.

7. **Faith Word and Handmade with Love: Radiance**. Introduce radiance word and refer to the picture. Pass out the supplies and have students color radiance and cut out. Have them glue the radiance to the background paper and embellish. Add the nushkhar to the center of the radiance or students may draw the image directly onto the radiance center circle.

8. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: “Dear Jesus, help us to see you in everyone that we meet and share your love. Amen.”
20 min.

Grade Two

Unit Four: Celebrating Jesus: The Church Year

Lesson One: The Church Remembers and Celebrates

Key Concepts

1. The church celebrates the life of Jesus along with all the people and events that are part of his story through time; together we remember.
2. These celebrations are marked in the special seasons and feast days of the Church.

Objectives

During this lesson students will

1. Discuss family celebrations.
2. Illustrate and explain a meaningful family celebration.
3. Read and discuss a story about a family taking their newborn baby to church for a blessing.
4. Read Luke 2:22-40, the story of the Presentation (*Dyarnuntarach*).
5. Review the meaning of celebrating feasts.
6. Participate in a fill-in exercise on feasts of the Armenian Church.
7. Make a candle commemorating the Presentation of the Lord.

Materials Needed

Crayons, markers and or coloring pencils

Toilet paper rolls

Scissors

Glue stick/tape

Aluminum foil, construction paper or wrapping paper to cover the roll

Flame and Presentation sheets, one per child, from the back of this manual

Red/orange/and or yellow construction paper for flame

Heart stickers

Paper

Procedure

1. Greet students warmly and open class with the prayer in **We Pray Together**. Have students look at **Let’s Discover** and illustrate a favorite or meaningful celebration. Share and discuss their work. 12 min.
2. Encourage students to take turns reading **Our Story**. Have they ever seen a baby blessed? Ask: “Why do you think it’s a good idea for a baby to be brought to the church before anywhere else?” Discuss. (Guidelines: to receive a first blessing from God before going out into the world; to visit their second home, the church) 10 min.

3. Read the story of Jesus' Presentation to the Temple from a children's Bible (Luke 2: 22-40). This is important, since you want to keep it simple. Stop at each mention of a person and have children write the name in their books: Joseph, Mary, Jesus, Simeon, and Anna. Point out to children at the end that Mary and Joseph were honoring God by going to the temple (as we would go to church) receiving a blessing for their new son at the proper time after his birth. 10 min.
4. Read **We Learn About God**. Ask if the students can name any feast days of the church. (Easter, Christmas, Advadzadzin, etc.) Introduce the faith word. Have them pronounce it in Armenian as well.
5. Read or teach **Our Armenian Way**. Have students complete the missing letters for each of the feast days. (**Answers: Holy Translators, Vartanantz, Saint Gregory, Dyarnuntarach, Holy Etchmiadzin, Saints Hripsime & Gayane, 40 Martyrs of Sepastia**). For further information on these feasts, see www.armenianchurch-ed.net. (St. Gregory - June, Etchmiadzin – June; Vartanantz, Dyarnuntarach – February; Holy Translators - October; 40 Martyrs of Sepastia- March; Hripsime & Gayane – May.) 12 min.
6. **Handmade with Love: Presentation of the Lord candle**. Have students cover their roll of toilet paper with construction paper, aluminum foil or even wrapping paper. Distribute copies of flame shape and the Presentation. Have them trace flame shape on construction paper, cut out, and glue to the top of the roll. After coloring the picture of the Presentation, they may glue it (if this doesn't hold, use tape) to the center of the candle, and then add heart stickers. Suggestion: have students write **"We remember Jesus, He is our light"** on a separate piece of paper and glue to the roll. They can also write directly on the roll if they have wrapped it with paper.
7. Clean-up. Close with the prayer: "Dear Jesus, thank you for being the light of the world. Help us be your light to everyone this week! Amen." 20 min.

Unit Four: Celebrating Jesus: The Church Year

Lesson Two: The Church Year

Key Concepts

1. The church organizes time in a cycle of feasts.
2. Exodus 10:9 and Psalm 145 demonstrate that feasts and praise to the Lord began in Old Testament times.
3. The Armenian Church calendar is made up of five major feast days.

Objectives

During this lesson students will

1. Participate in a school year timeline activity classifying holidays.
2. Read and discuss a story.
3. Fill in a time line of Jesus' life.
4. Examine Exodus 10:9.
5. Reflect on Psalm 145 and solve a related crossword puzzle.
6. Briefly explore the five major feast days of the Armenian Church.
7. Complete a multiple choice exercise on feasts.
8. Create a major feast (daghavar) wheel craft.

Materials Needed

Copy of adapted Psalm 145; one for each student (from back of this manual)
Crayons, markers and or coloring pencils