FOLLOWERS - LESSON PLAN

F	\ge	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title		
	12	2	1	WORSHIP	BASIC SERVICE PATTERNS	47: Vespers		

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes (Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Num [NO. column] and Title)

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Verbal V ⊻	Logical	Spatial S	Kinaesthetic K	Musical M ⊻	Intra - personal P1 ✓	Inter - personal P2 ✓	Natural N ⊻

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [copy this: ✓] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

Prayer: Lord's Prayer

Starter: Prepare in a box small paper notes, or marbles in 2 colours (for example red and green). Each student takes one. Then the students with red notes/marbles should say something they have learnt about the Divine Liturgy; those with green should say something they have learnt about Matins.

Learning objectives: 1. To be acquainted with the most important parts of the Great Vespers Service. 2. To familiarise themselves with some of the readings, such as Ps.103 (104), "Lord, I have cried out to you", (Ps.140/141), prayers: "O joyful Light...", "O Lord, keep us this evening without sin".

Core Activities and Learning

- 1. Explanation: The main idea of Vespers is to remember the creation of the world and the man. Vespers symbolises the time before Christ in the Old Testament; hence any readings are from this part of the Scriptures. With the Vespers service begins the new day of the Church. The leader can draw attention to the parallels with Genesis 1:5.
- 2. Activity: students read Ps.103 (104). (All the following from Resource and Activity Sheet 47)
- 3. Discussion: What is the main idea of this psalm? Why it is read in the beginning of Vespers? How is the providence (provision according to His will) of God described?
- 4. Explanation: Sequence: Great Litany and then the singing of "Lord, I have cried out to you", which is Ps.140 (141); short explanation about the other chants sticheras, troparia, which are connected with the feast, fast or saint.
- 5. Activity: separate students into groups and then share the verses of "Lord, I have cried out to you" to the groups. Every group should explain what the main idea of the verses they read is.
- 6. Explanation: about the Entrance and the singing of "O joyful Light..." Christian chant deriving from the "lighting of the lamps" in the ancient evening liturgy of the Church of Jerusalem.
- 7. Activity: read (or if the students can sing it) the "O joyful Light...". What is the main idea of this chant?
- 8. Activity: read the prayer "O Lord, keep us this evening without sin" and the Ode of Simeon. Discuss about the main idea of the prayer. What are we praying for in it? What is the Gospel narrative about Simeon? Who was he? Why did he said these words when he met Christ?
- 9. Activity: fill in the omitted words and expressions.

Resources: Resource and Activity Sheet 47, pencils, box, small paper notes/marbles.

Review: Vesper's main idea is remembering the creation of the world and the man, the expectation of the true Light – Christ and time for glorification of the Lord.

Follow Up: encourage students to participate in the Vesper services; encourage them to learn in order to sing: "O joyful Light...".