









FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
16	2	4	CELEBRATIONS	Modern Saints	67: St John of Shanghai and San Francisco

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)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K	Musical M	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter - personal P2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural N

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

Prayer: in giving birth you preserved your virginity; in falling asleep you did not forsake the world, O Theotokos. You were translated to life, O Mother of life, and by your prayers, you deliver our souls from death.

Starter: "Sanctity is not just a virtue. It is an attainment of such spiritual heights, that the abundance of God's grace which fills the saint overflows on all who associate with him. Great is the saint's state of bliss in which they dwell contemplating the Glory of God. Being filled with love for God and man, they are responsive to man's needs, interceding before God and helping those who turn to them."

Learning objectives: Teach the students that by staying awake and praying (Matthew 26:40-42), (Mark 14:38) like saint John, we also can make miracles.

Core Activities and Learning

- ❖ Michael was born from a noble family of Maximovitch on June 4, 1896, in the village of Adamovka, a true town of holy southern Russia, in the province of Kharkov. Upon completing his secondary in the military school, he entered Kharkov Imperial University in the faculty of law, from which he graduated in 1918.
- ❖ In 1921, during the Civil War in Russia, the future archbishop, was evacuated with his Family to Belgrade, where he graduated in 1925 from the faculty of theology.
- ❖ In 1926, tonsured monk in the Milkov Monastery, giving the name John, and in the same year was ordained hieromonk, by Metropolitan Anthony who More than once said "If you wish to see a living saint, go to Bitol to Father John."
- ❖ On 28th May 1934 Hieromonk John raised to the rank of bishop, he protested that this was out of the question, since he had a speech defect and could not enunciate clearly, he was only told that the Prophet Moses had the same difficulty. Late November Bishop John was assigned to the Diocese of Shanghai, where first resolve the large cathedral jurisdictional conflict, restore Church Unity, and paid special attention to religious education and made it a rule to be present at the oral examinations of the catechism classes in all the Orthodox schools in Shanghai. He at once became a protector of various charitable and philanthropic societies and actively participated in their work. With true fatherly love, he organised a home for orphans, gathered sick and starving children off the streets and dark alleys of Shanghai's slums. Beginning with eight children absolutely devoted to him, the orphanage later housed 1500 in all.
- ❖ He was an entirely extraordinary man, the core of his asceticism was prayer, fasting, and he was known that scarcely slept at all, since taking the monastic vows and never in a bed for forty years, allowing himself only an hour or two each night of uncomfortable rest in a sitting position, or bent over on the floor praying before icons. No matter where he was, he celebrated the Divine Liturgy daily. Many faithful saw a radiance light surrounding him during the sermon.
- ❖ He taught people not to judge, He healed many by his prayer, the Lord himself inspired him when someone is sick, his spiritual boldness based on absolute faith; his ability to see the future and to overcome by his spiritual sight the bounds of space; and the power of his prayer, which beyond all doubt worked miracles.
- ❖ He knew beforehand of his death, which occurred on July 2, 1966. The Russian Church glorified him as one of the greatest saint of the 20th century, on 2nd July 1994.

Activity Sheet 67: Fill in the blanks with the right word.

Complete the Word Search

Resources: Activity Sheet 67

Review: God was drawn to the burning, loving heart of Vladyka John, which became a vessel of His grace. He entrusted the Saint with heavenly secrets and the ability to transcend physical laws, making him a point of contact between Himself, the Creator, and us, His creatures (Bishop Alexander Mileant)

Follow Up: Reflection: How can I become a more dedicated Christian?