









## FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
10	2	4	CELEBRATIONS	FEASTS OF THE THEOTOKOS	39: The Life-Giving Spring of the Theotokos

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	Kinaesthetic K	Musical M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter - personal P2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural N <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

**Prayer:** It is truly meet to bless thee, O Theotokos, ever-blessed and most pure, and the Mother of our God. More honourable than the Cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the Seraphim, without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos we magnify thee! *(Sing if possible)*

**Starter:** Ask children what is good about a clean sparkling spring of water gushing out of the ground or hillside. How can this help us understand holiness in us?

**Learning objectives:** To learn about the Feast Day of the Life-Giving Spring of the Theotokos and the meaning of the symbolism.

### Core Activities and Learning

**Introduction:** On Bright Friday, the first Friday after Easter, the Life-Giving Spring is celebrated. The Life-Giving Spring is all at once a title given to the Mother of God, an actual miracle-working spring near Constantinople, and an Icon of the same name.

**Tell the story to the children.** You can find the story on the link below:

[http://www.antiochian.org/life\\_giving\\_spring](http://www.antiochian.org/life_giving_spring)

**Ask** children if they remember any miracles of Jesus involving water? In your answers you can give examples from the miracles in Cana (John 2:1-11) and the Man Born Blind John (9:1-12), the story with Samaritan woman (John 4, 13-15).

**Explain** that Theotokos is presented as the Life-Giving Spring, since she bear the "Living Water" Jesus.

**Refer** to the words of Jesus on the New Testament: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, according to the Scriptures, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." **(John 7:38)**

**Group activity:** Bring the icon of the Life-Giving Spring and ask children to describe what they see. For your answers, you can see the link below:

<https://iconreader.wordpress.com/2011/04/28/theotokos-of-the-life-giving-spring/>

**Resources:** [http://www.antiochian.org/life\\_giving\\_spring](http://www.antiochian.org/life_giving_spring)  
<https://iconreader.wordpress.com/2011/04/28/theotokos-of-the-life-giving-spring/>

**Review:** The feast day of the Life-Giving Spring is commemorated on Bright Friday of each year (the Friday following Pascha). The Life-Giving Spring that comes out of Theotokos is our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Follow Up:** Memorise the following Bible verse: "If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believes on me, according to the Scriptures, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." *(John 7:38)*