

FOCUS Highlights and Educational Objectives for

The Season of Christmas

Highlights

By the end of this study unit, participants will be able to:

- ***Identify*** the Nativity Fast as the period of preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.
- ***Compare*** the Great Lenten Fast with the Nativity Fast, ***giving examples*** of what is the same and what is different.
- ***Describe*** the importance and ***give examples*** of waiting for something good, and reflect on its positive (or negative) effects in our lives.
- ***Explain*** how the feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos is significant in our preparation for the Nativity of Christ.
- ***Demonstrate*** an understanding of sainthood and how the saints commemorated in this time period provide examples for us.
- ***Discuss*** and ***reflect*** upon the life and works of St. Nicholas.
- ***Relate*** how the Church remembers the prophets, kings and all the faithful people of the Old Testament who served as God's witnesses.
- ***Recognize*** those who prepared the way for the coming of the Savior and gave us the Theotokos who agreed to give birth to God's Son in the Flesh.
- ***Identify*** Jesus Christ as the "Sun of Righteousness" who fulfills the Law and the Prophets.