

February 4, 2008

Dear Parents,

As you already know our Sunday School students in the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades will be participating in the annual St. John Chrysostom Oratorical Festival on Sunday, March 9, after liturgy.

Each student should have already chosen a topic from a pre-approved list of subjects and should be busy writing and rehearsing his/her 3- 5 minute speech. If your son/daughter needs additional help in the above activities, please contact your assigned mentor. All speeches must be submitted to me on Sunday, February 10. I will have a practice session on Saturday, March 8, at 11:30am in church for all the participants. Please try to have your son/daughter at this important session.

On March 9, our participants will give their speeches and be judged by a panel of experts. One or two winners from each division will be selected to go on to the District Oratorical Festival that will be held on Long Island during the month of April. The winner of this round will go on to the Diocesan Festival to be held during the month of May. The two speakers from each Diocese will then speak at the Archdiocese National finals to be held in June.

I have provided each participant with two invitations so that extended family members can attend this worthwhile event. Please let me know if you need more invitations.

Our presence at this Oratorical Festival will encourage and support our teens as they so eloquently express their feelings about the Orthodox Faith, Church and Heritage to us on this most special day.

Sincerely,

Oratorical Festival Chairperson