

Faith is best handed on from parent to child. To help you do this in your family, we ask you to do six simple steps each week:

1. Begin with Prayer (1-2 minutes)

Begin with a simple prayer to focus your family. Traditional prayers can be found at *Celebrating Sundays for Catholic Families* pages 115-121 and *Catholic Children's Bible* pages 1992-1999.

2. Explore the Sunday Gospel (10-20 minutes)

Using *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families* or *Catholic Children's Bible*, read the Sunday Gospel out loud, preferably more than once. Have each member of the family share what stood out to them or what it meant to them. Read "Reflecting on the Word," discuss the questions "On the Way to Mass" and "On the Way Home from Mass," and read "Living the Word." What is your family's take-away from this?

3. Read the Bible Story or Catechism (10-15 minutes)

We love God with our mind by learning more about him. For **Preschool and Kindergarten**, read the assigned story from the *Jesus Storybook Bible* and talk about it. For **Elementary Grades**, read the assigned questions from *Youcat for Kids* and try to answer them as a family before reading the answers. We've also cross-referenced *Youcat* for **Middle Schoolers**. It is actually a good thing if your family has more questions about the topic than the catechism answers. You can research those questions throughout the week and watch the videos provided by our Faith Formation staff. If you have kids in more than one age group, feel free to pick one of these resources to work with as a family.

4. Read about the Saint for the week (5 minutes)

The Saints are examples of how to put the faith into practice in the real world. The Discover the Saints book will help you get to know the Saints, as will the YouTube videos in the weekly email.

5. Conclude in Prayer (5 minutes)

After your study, invite each family member to share a prayer request. This could be in thanksgiving for something, for a friend or relative, a concern, a societal issue, etc. Then conclude together with any of the traditional prayers cited above.

6. Complete the Learning Check In (2-5 minutes)

Click the link in the weekly email to complete the Learning Check In. You only need to do one per household, and only answer the questions that pertain to your family.



Reading Schedule for Your Domestic Church

(Dates listed are Sundays)

September 14, 2025 – Jesus and Nicodemus
(John 3:13-17)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
4-5

Bible Story – The beginning: a perfect home,
Jesus Storybook Bible page 18

Catechism Theme - Knowing God
Youcat for Kids questions 1-5
Youcat questions 1-6

St. Dominic Savio – *Discover the Saints* page
22

**“Take to heart these words
which I command you today.
Keep repeating them to your
children. Recite them when you
are at home and when you are
away, when you lie down and
when you get up.”**

Deuteronomy 6:6-7

September 21, 2025 – You Cannot Serve God
and Mammon (Luke 16:10-13)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
6-7

Bible Story – The terrible lie, *Jesus Storybook
Bible* page 28

Catechism Theme – Believing in God
Youcat for Kids questions 6-9
Youcat questions 7-13

St. John XXIII– *Discover the Saints* page 44

September 28, 2025 – The Rich Man and
Lazarus (Luke 16:19-29)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
8-9

Bible Story – A new beginning, *Jesus
Storybook Bible* page 38

Catechism Theme – God Revealed in the
Bible
Youcat for Kids questions 10-12
Youcat questions 14-19

St. Therese of Lisieux – *Discover the Saints*
page 38

October 5, 2025 – Faith the Size of a Mustard
Seed (Luke 17:5-10)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
10-11

Bible Story – A giant staircase to heaven!,
Jesus Storybook Bible page 48

Catechism Theme - Who is God?
Youcat for Kids questions 13-18
Youcat questions 30-36

St. Francis of Assisi – *Discover the Saints* page
42

**“Before all others, parents are
bound to form their children, by
word and example, in faith and
in Christian living.”**

Code of Canon Law 774.2

October 12, 2025 – The Ten Lepers (Luke 17:11-19)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 12-13

Bible Story – The forgiving prince, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 76

Catechism Theme – God Cares for Us

Youcat for Kids questions 19-22

Youcat questions 40-43, 49-51

St. Teresa of Avila– *Discover the Saints* page 46

October 19, 2025 – The Unjust Judge (Luke 18:1-8)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 14-15

Bible Story – God to the rescue!, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 84

Catechism Theme – Who is Jesus?

Youcat for Kids questions 23-27 (pages 40-46)

Youcat questions 71-79

St. John Paul II – *Discover the Saints* page 48

“The family is, so to speak, the domestic church. In it parents should, by their word and example, be the first preachers of the faith to their children.”

Lumen Gentium (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church), 11

“Parents receive in the sacrament of Matrimony the grace and the ministry of the Christian education of their children.”

General Directory for Catechesis, 227

October 26, 2025 – The Pharisee and the Tax Collector (Luke 18:9-14)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 16-17

Bible Story – The warrior leader, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 108

Catechism Theme – Mary, the Mother of God
Youcat for Kids questions 28-31 (pages 47-55)
Youcat questions 80-85

St. Joan of Arc – *Discover the Saints* page 22

November 2, 2025 – Many Dwelling Places (John 14:1-6) [NOTE: There are several Gospel options for today, so you may hear something different at Mass. It's ok to discuss that reading instead.]

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 18-19

Bible Story – The teeny, weenie...true king, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 116

Catechism Theme – Jesus Died for You
Youcat for Kids questions 32-36
Youcat questions 96-101

St. Martin de Porres – *Discover the Saints* page 50



November 9, 2025 – Jesus Cleanses the Temple
(John 2:13-22)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
20-21

Bible Story – The young hero and the horrible
giant, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 122

Catechism Theme – Jesus' Resurrection to
New Life

Youcat for Kids questions 37-40

Youcat questions 103-108

St. Kateri Tekakwitha – *Discover the Saints*
page 28

***Celebrant: Are you prepared
to accept children lovingly
from God and to bring them
up according to the law of
Christ and his Church?***

***The bridegroom and bride
each say: I am.***

**The Order of Celebrating
Matrimony, 60**

November 16, 2025 – Signs Announcing the
End (Luke 21:5-11)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
22-23

Bible Story – A little servant girl and the
proud general, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 136

Catechism Theme – Jesus' Ascension and
Return

Youcat for Kids questions 41-46

Youcat questions 109-112

St. Elizabeth of Hungary – *Discover the Saints*
page 52

November 23, 2025 – The Repentant Thief
(Luke 23:35-43)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
24-25

Bible Story – Operation No More Tears, *Jesus
Storybook Bible* page 144

Catechism Theme – The Holy Spirit and the
Church

Youcat for Kids questions 47-54

Youcat questions 113, 119-120, 121-124

St. Cecilia – *Discover the Saints* page 54

November 30, 2025 – Stay Awake (Matthew
24:37-44)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page
26-27

Bible Story – Daniel and the scary sleepover,
Jesus Storybook Bible page 152

Catechism Theme – Forgiveness of Sins and
the Resurrection of the Body

Youcat for Kids questions 55-59

Youcat questions 150-155

St. Francis Xavier – *Discover the Saints* page
56

***“Believing parents, with their
daily example of life, have the
most effective capacity to
transmit the beauty of the
Christian faith to their
children.”***

Directory for Catechesis 124



December 7, 2025 – Preaching of John the Baptist (Matthew 3:1-11)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 28-29

Bible Story – God’s Messenger, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 160

Catechism Theme – Life Everlasting
Youcat for Kids questions 60-63
Youcat questions 156-162

St. Juan Diego – *Discover the Saints* page 58

Celebrant: You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?

Parents: We do.

The Rite of Baptism

December 14, 2025 – The One Who Is to Come (Matthew 11:2-11)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 32-33

Bible Story – Get Ready!, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 170

Catechism Theme – Baptism
Youcat for Kids questions 64-69
Youcat questions 193-200

St. Clare of Assisi – *Discover the Saints* page 32

December 21, 2025 – Joseph’s Dream (Matthew 1:18-24)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 34-35

Bible Story – He Is Here!, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 176

Catechism Theme – Confirmation
Youcat for Kids questions 70-73
Youcat questions 203-207

St. John the Apostle – *Discover the Saints* page 60

December 28, 2025 – The Flight to Egypt (Matthew 2:19-23)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 38-39

Bible Story – The Light of the Whole World, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 184

Catechism Theme – The Eucharist
Youcat for Kids questions 74-80
Youcat questions 208-211, 219-221

No saint this week.

January 4, 2026 – Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord (Matthew 2:1-5, 7-11)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 42-43

Bible Story – The Friend of Little Children, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 256

Catechism Theme – Penance (aka Confession)
Youcat for Kids questions 81-87
Youcat questions 230-234, 236, 238

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton – *Discover the Saints* page 4



“One of the strongest factors associated with older teens keeping their faith as young adults was having parents who talked about religion and spirituality at home. No other conceivable causal influence comes remotely close to matching the influence of parents on the religious faith and practices of youth.”

Christian Smith

Lead Researcher for the *National Study of Youth and Religion*

January 11, 2026 – Baptism of the Lord
(Matthew 3:13-17)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 44-45

The King of All Kings, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 192

Catechism Theme – Anointing of the Sick
Youcat for Kids questions 88-91
Youcat questions 240-247

St. John the Baptist – *Discover the Saints* page 24

January 18, 2026 – The Witness of John the Baptist (John 1:29-34)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 46-47

Bible Story – Heaven Breaks Through, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 200

Catechism Theme – Holy Orders
Youcat for Kids questions 92-101
Youcat questions 249-251, 256-259

St. Agnes – *Discover the Saints* page 6

January 25, 2026 – Call of the First Disciples
(Matthew 4:13-22)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 48-49

Bible Story – Let’s Go!, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 208

Catechism Theme – Marriage and Sacramentals (**This section addresses separation and same-sex unions. Please read this yourself before reading it with your child.**)

Youcat for Kids, Questions 102-109

Youcat questions 260-263, 271-272

St. John Bosco – *Discover the Saints* page 8

“Family members learn more of the Christian life by observing each other’s strengths or weaknesses than by formal instruction.”

National Directory for Catechesis, 29.D

February 1, 2026 – The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 50-51

Bible Story – A Little Girl and a Poor Frail Lady, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 214

Catechism Theme – The First Commandment
Youcat for Kids, Questions 110-115
Youcat questions 348, 352-355

St. Pius X – *Discover the Saints* page 34



February 8, 2026 – Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-16)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 52-53

Bible Story – How to pray, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 222

Catechism Theme - The Second and Third Commandments

Youcat for Kids, Questions 116-121

Youcat questions 359-366

St. Teresa of Kolkata – *Discover the Saints* page 36

Kids in religiously involved households tend to experience stronger family relationships, fewer risk behaviors, better social adjustment, and higher self-esteem.

National Study of Youth and Religion

February 15, 2026 – Interpreting the Commandments (Matthew 5:17-37)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 54-55

Bible Story – The Singer, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 228

Catechism Theme - The Fourth and Fifth Commandments

Youcat for Kids, Questions 122-125 (continued on next page)

Youcat questions 367-368, 371-372, 378-380, 383, 387 (**This section addresses abortion. Please read it yourself before reading it with your child.**)

St. Theodore Guerin – *Discover the Saints* page 40

February 22, 2026 – Jesus is Tempted in the Desert (Matthew 4:1-4)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 56-57

Bible Story – The Captain of the storm, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 236

Catechism Theme - The Sixth and Seventh Commandments

Youcat for Kids, Questions 126-129 (**This section addresses married love and uses the word “sex.” Please read this yourself before reading it with your child.**)

Youcat questions 400-406, 415, 426-428 (**This section addresses chaste, sexual love. Please read this yourself before reading it with your child.**)

Sts. Peter and Paul – *Discover the Saints* page 26

“Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues.”

Catechism of the Catholic

March 1, 2026 – The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-8)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 58-59

Bible Story – Filled Full!, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 244

Catechism Theme - The Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Commandments

Youcat for Kids, Questions 130-134

Youcat questions 452-455, 462-468

St. Katherine Drexel – *Discover the Saints* page 10

March 8, 2026 – The Woman at the Well (Matthew John 4:5-42)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 60-61

Bible Story – Treasure hunt, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 250

Catechism Theme - The Precepts of the Church and the Beatitudes

Youcat for Kids, Questions 135-137

Youcat questions 281-284, 345-347

St. Patrick – *Discover the Saints* page 12

March 15, 2026 – The Man Born Blind (John 9:1-41)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 62-63

Bible Story – The Friend of Little Children, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 56

Catechism Theme - Prayer

Youcat for Kids, Questions 138-140

Youcat questions 469-472, 474-477

St. Joseph – *Discover the Saints* page 14

“Hence, parents must be acknowledged as the first and foremost educators of their children. Their role as educators is so decisive that scarcely anything can compensate for their failure in it. The right and duty of parents to give education is essential.”

Pope St. John Paul II

March 22, 2026 – Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1-45)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 64-65

Bible Story – The Man Who Didn't Have Any Friends, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 264

Catechism Theme – God Hears Our Prayers

Youcat for Kids, Questions 141-143

Youcat questions 478, 490-495

St. John the Baptise de La Salle – *Discover the Saints* page 16

March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday (Matthew 21:1-11)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 66-67

Bible Story – Running away, *Jesus Storybook Bible* page 272

Catechism Theme – How to Pray

Youcat for Kids, Questions 144-146

Youcat questions 499-510

No saint this week.



April 5, 2026 – The Resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 68-69

Bible Story – Washed with tears, *Jesus*
Storybook Bible page 280

Catechism Theme - The Our Father
Youcat for Kids, Questions 147-149
Youcat questions 511-527

No saint this week.

April 12, 2026 – Appearance to the Disciples (John 20:19-29)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 70-71

Bible Story – The Servant King, *Jesus*
Storybook Bible page 286

Catechism Theme – Prayer with and to Mary
Youcat for Kids, Questions 150-152
Youcat questions 479-480

St. Mary Magdalene – *Discover the Saints*
page 30

April 19, 2026 – Appearance on the Road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-15, 30-32)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 72-73

Bible Story – The sun stops shining, *Jesus*
Storybook Bible page 302

Catechism Theme – The Rosary
Youcat for Kids, Questions 153-155
Youcat questions 481-482, 496-498

St. Catherine of Siena– *Discover the Saints*
page 18

April 26, 2026 – The Good Shepherd (John 10:1-10)

Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families page 74-75

Bible Story – God’s Wonderful Surprise, *Jesus*
Storybook Bible page 310

Catechism Theme – Other Types of Prayer
Youcat for Kids, Questions 156-159
Youcat questions 473, 483-489

St. David the King – *Discover the Saints* page 62

Now don’t stop! Now that you’ve developed a family habit of prayer, scripture, and learning together, keep going each week with *Celebrating Sundays for Catholic Families*.



FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation Parent Meeting

- Thursday, September 25, 6:30 PM Room 205 (Holy Redeemer)
- Sunday, September 28, 9:05 AM in Oldenski Hall (St. Ferdinand)

First Reconciliation Retreat

- Saturday, January 17, 10:00 AM—Noon at Oldenski Hall (St. Ferdinand)

First Reconciliation Dates:

- Monday, January 19, at 6:30 PM (Holy Redeemer)
- Tuesday, January 20, at 6:30 PM (St. Ferdinand)
- Wednesday, January 21, at 6:30 PM (St. Gregory)

FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion Parent Meeting

- Sunday, February 8, 9:05 AM in Oldenski Hall (St. Ferdinand)
- Thursday, February 12, 6:30 PM Room 205 (Holy Redeemer)

First Communion Retreat

- Saturday, March 14, 11:00 AM—1:30 PM at Oldenski Hall (St. Ferdinand) lunch included

First Communion Masses:

- Saturday, April 25, Noon (St. Gregory—practice on Thursday, April 23 at 6:30 PM)
- Saturday, May 2, Noon (Holy Redeemer—practice on Thursday, April 30 at 6:30 PM)
- Saturday, May 9, Noon (St. Ferdinand—practice on Thursday, May 7 at 6:30 PM)
- Saturday, May 16, Noon (St. Ferdinand—practice on Thursday, May 14 at 6:30 PM)



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Info Meeting

- Sunday, January 25, 9:05 AM in Oldenski Hall (St. Ferdinand)
- Thursday, January 29, 6:30 PM Room 205 (Holy Redeemer)

Confirmation Prep Classes

- Sundays, April 26-May 31, 9:05-9:55 AM, in Oldenski Hall (St. Ferd)
- Tuesdays, April 28-June 2, 6:30-7:30 PM, at Holy Redeemer

Confirmation Evening of Reflection

- Saturday, June 20, 5:00-8:00 PM at St. Gregory
- Saturday, July 11, 4:00-7:00 PM at St. Ferdinand
- Saturday, July 25, 5:00-8:00 PM at Holy Redeemer

Mark your calendar for these fun events throughout the year!

Trunk or Treat – Sunday, October 25, 2:00-3:30 PM at Holy Redeemer

All Saints Dress Up Party—Saturday, November 1, 10:00 AM—Noon in Oldenski Hall (St. Ferdinand)

Easter Egg Hunt – Holy Saturday, April 4, 10:00 AM—Noon at St. Ferdinand

Family Field Day—Saturday, May 16, 5:00-7:00 PM at St. Ferdinand

OLMC Summer Camps – All summer long; find out more at olmccamp.org

VBS – June 15-19, 9:00 AM—Noon at St. Ferdinand and June 22-24, 9:00 AM—Noon at Holy Redeemer; register at divinegracephg.org/vbs beginning over Christmas Break