

St. Laurence Home Study Faith Formation 2025-26 Home Study Expectations

*Here at St. Laurence, we firmly believe that **parents are the first and best teachers of faith**. The parish seeks to encourage, support, and equip parents and other loving adults to teach, pray, and celebrate the sacraments with the children God entrusted to their care. In this way our Catholic identity is strengthened in the current generation and is passed on to the next generation.*

***St. Laurence Home Study Faith Formation** supports each parent's vocation as the first and best teacher of their children in the ways of faith in a very intentional way. This option, offered to families of children in PreK3 through High School, supports those parents wishing to teach their child(ren) at home for their ongoing grade-level faith formation. As faith formation and practicing the Catholic faith becomes more deeply integrated into your family's daily life, you will experience the graces and blessings of strengthening your domestic church at home.*

Requirements to Satisfactorily Complete Home Study Faith Formation:

1) Attend the Home Study Parent Kick-off in the Marian Hall of the Ave Maria Center

✓ **September 22, 2025 from 7-8 pm**

One parent must attend this session to receive the grade-level materials, instructions, and resources for the Home Study program.

2) Complete Regular Lessons at Home

The parent must commit to spending time *regularly* preparing for and discussing the assigned lesson with their child for the “at home” sessions to ensure that your child meets the curriculum checkpoints scheduled throughout the program year. *Parents of PreK and Elementary students* (PreK3 through 5th) will receive a weekly lesson outline, drafted in a one-room schoolhouse-type format, allowing the entire family to all sit down together. *Parents of Middle School students* will receive a similar weekly lesson outline to complete at home. *Parents of High School students* will receive a lesson schedule that guides them through an online resource, led by the teen and guided by the parent. See Home Study webpage for lesson schedule, posted at least a week before the start of each parent meeting

3) Attend all four (4) *mandatory* Parent Enrichment & Checkpoint Sessions, Mondays from 7-8 pm (Marian Hall) *

At these sessions, there will be a short presentation to support you in teaching your children/teens the faith, as well as an opportunity to get answers to any questions that you may have. **These meetings will be counted as attendance for your children/teens by facilitating a check point in the program to ensure that the faith formation materials are being covered. Be sure to mark or flag completed materials for review.** Children/teens are welcome to attend these mandatory meetings with their parents but are not required to do so. The dates of our sessions (all Mondays) for the upcoming formation year are as follows:

- ✓ **October 27, 2025**
- ✓ **December 1, 2025**
- ✓ **February 23, 2026**
- ✓ **April 13, 2026**

*These periodic checkpoint meetings do not apply to PREK3 and PREK4 Home Study learners. Parents of the PREK3 and PREK4 Home Study students are invited to attend the quarterly Home Study Parent Enrichment & Checkpoint meetings but are *not obligated to do so*.

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How to Receive Credit

For your child/teen to receive credit for the year, you will need to bring their textbook (K-8th) or copy of online work (9th-12th), as well as any other completed work, to each Parent Enrichment & Checkpoint meetings. The materials check shows progress that has been made on the scheduled lessons since the prior parent meeting. Feel free to have your child/teen work through the textbook or online activities, complete chapter reviews in the textbook/online resource or bring photos of crafts, projects, activities, etc. completed at home from the suggested supplemental resources in the lesson schedule.

Important Notice on Receiving Credit

Since there is no weekly attendance to track formation for your child or teen, **it is essential that the scheduled lessons are completed *as well as parental attendance at the Parent Enrichment and Checkpoint Sessions confirmed*, in order to receive credit for successfully completing the Home Study year of faith formation.**

Satisfactory completion of Home Study Faith Formation is required, particularly if it is being completed in the year of sacrament preparation or the year just prior to beginning sacramental preparation. Missing work or unsatisfactory completion of the faith formation year may lead to a delay in celebrating the sacraments. **Please be in communication with the grade level coordinator if you cannot attend the enrichment sessions and we will provide you with instructions for making up the session.**

Only two (2) parent absences from the four (4) scheduled Parent Enrichments & Checkpoint meetings per year are eligible for makeup. Makeup work, which includes an audio recording, handout, and demonstration of completed work, should be turned in by the *next meeting* to receive credit. Note that the final meeting cannot be made up and no makeup work will be accepted after that point.

For more information or curriculum questions, please contact your child's grade-level faith formation Coordinator at the Ave Maria Center (AMC) @ 281.265.5774, or

PreK3 & PreK4:
Elementary (K – 5th):
Middle School (6th–8th):
High School (9th-12th);

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