

## Dear Middle School Faith Formation (CCE) Home Study Families,

Welcome to the St. Laurence Middle School Faith Formation (CCE) Home Study Program!

You have chosen the Middle School Home Study option for your child or children this year, likely for many thoughtful reasons. At the heart of that decision, we know, is your commitment to ensuring your children continue to grow in their Catholic faith and develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ. As Daniel Cardinal DiNardo reminds us, faith formation is a lifelong journey “from cradle to grave.” What a blessing it is to walk this path with your children during these formative years.

We pray that this year will be a meaningful time of spiritual growth for both you and your children as you continue to build your *domestic church*—the living, breathing faith community that is your family.

For our Middle School Faith Formation (Grades 6–8), we are excited to introduce a dynamic new curriculum called **Word of Life**, published by the Augustine Institute in partnership with Ignatius Press. Word of Life is a robust, Christ-centered curriculum that brings together Scripture, Sacred Tradition, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the liturgical life of the Church to form young people in truth and discipleship.

This curriculum is specifically designed to engage middle school learners—helping them not only understand the *what* and *why* of our Catholic faith, but also how to live it out joyfully and authentically in their daily lives. Each lesson is rooted in key truths of the faith and presented through engaging videos, discussions, and interactive activities that are accessible to both students and parent-catechists.

### What You Can Expect This Year:

- Weekly lesson outlines and resources will be provided via email and are also available at [www.stlaurence.org/home-study-middle-school](http://www.stlaurence.org/home-study-middle-school).
- A **Home Study Lesson Schedule** has been included online and will be available to you at the first Home Study meeting.
- The **Word of Life** book and material will be used as the curriculum for this year’s Home study, this book will guide the learning and spiritual reflection for each lesson.
- Lessons are not necessarily completed in textbook chapter order; rather, they are structured to align with essential themes and key Church teachings throughout the liturgical and academic year.

While this program is self-paced, we encourage families to cover one lesson per week in order to complete the required content by April. This allows your child to build a strong foundation of faith, one concept at a time.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions about your child’s textbook, lesson schedules, expectations, or would like help finding additional resources. We are here to support and accompany you as you take on the beautiful role of primary catechist in your child’s life.

May the Holy Spirit guide and bless you as you lead your children closer to Jesus Christ, forming them as joyful and committed disciples.

With prayers and support,

**Caitlyn White**

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