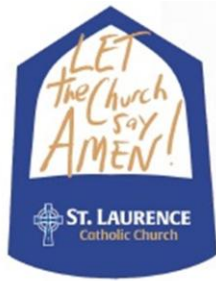


St. Laurence Catholic Church
Home Study Faith Formation Kick Off
September 21, 2026



Meeting Agenda

Opening Prayer

A Parents Prayer

Loving God, you are the giver of all we possess,
the source of all of our blessings.
We thank and praise you.

Thank you for the gift of our children.
Help us to set boundaries for them, and yet encourage them to explore.

Give us the strength and courage to treat each day as a fresh start.

May our children come to know you, the one true God,
and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope, and love,
so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.
May their ears hear your voice.

May their eyes see your presence in all things.
May their lips proclaim your word.

May their hearts be your dwelling place.

May their hands do works of charity.
May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.
Amen.

Home Study Program Overview

Requirements for Satisfactory Completion of Home Study Program

- Attend Parent Kick-off Meeting on September 21, 2026

St. Laurence Catholic Church
Home Study Faith Formation Kick Off
September 21, 2026

- Complete Weekly Lessons at Home
- **Attend all 4 mandatory Parent Enrichment / Homework Checkpoint Sessions**
 1. Monday, October 26th, 2026, 7-8pm, Marian Hall
 2. *Monday, December 7th, 2026, 7-8pm, Marian Hall*
 3. Monday, February 22nd, 2027, 7-8pm, Marian Hall
 4. *Monday, April 12th 2027, 7-8pm, Marian Hall*

Receiving Credit

- Bring your child's textbook and other completed work to the Parent Enrichment/ Homework Checkpoint Session to show progress.
- Please communicate with grade-level coordinator if you cannot attend a session: instructions for making up the session will be provided after completion of the meeting.
- ***Special Note:*** 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 and handout (for the parents) and demonstration of completed work (for the parent and child), should be turned in by the *next* meeting to receive credit. **Note that the final meeting (April 12th) cannot be made up and no makeup work will be accepted after that point.**

Home Study Grade-Level Contacts & Resources

Kinder-5th Grade

<https://www.stlaurence.org/home-study-prek-elementary>

Joan Hastreiter (K-5th)

jhastreiter@stlaurence.org

Preschool Inquiries (ClubHouse 10;14):

Susan Mulé (PreK3/PreK4)

smule@stlaurence.org

Middle School (6th-8th)

<https://www.stlaurence.org/home-study-middle-school>

Caitlyn White

cwhite@stlaurence.org

High School (9th-12th)

<https://www.stlaurence.org/home-study-high-school>

Rachel Alcocer

ralcocer@stlaurence.org

St. Laurence Catholic Church
Home Study Faith Formation Kick Off
September 21, 2026

PARENTS are the FIRST and BEST teachers of their children!
(This is what the Church believes and teaches; CCC 2223)

- ❖ Parish staff are here to *encourage, support* and *equip* parents and other loving adults to *teach, pray* and *celebrate the sacraments* with your children whom God entrusted to your care.
- ❖ As faith formation and practicing the Catholic faith becomes deeply integrated into your family life, you will experience the *graces* and *blessings* of *strengthening* your family at home.
- ❖ Faith formation is a *lifelong process* from ‘cradle to grave’, childhood through adulthood. This is a process of *shared growth* for both you and your child as you continue to *intentionally form* your family at home.

Reflection Activity

Part 1: Watch Video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V2_fVfgVpRg

The Catholic Family in a Post-Christian World | The Mission of the Family, 13:19

Part 2: After reflecting on the insights provided in The Catholic Family in a Post-Christian World video, consider the following questions:

- Why do you think that the Catholic Church refers to the basic unit in society (i.e., the family) as the “domestic church”? What does that term imply to you and how does it inform or influence the mission of your own family?
- As a parent and family, do you feel a counter-cultural pressure against practicing the faith? What are some of the specific challenges have you encountered?
- In what ways have you overcome those challenges or pressures? What are some other ways or practices you can implement at home to do so?
- Have you ever had an experience of God “allowing you to feel the reality of your dreams without him in it”? What was that like and how did it affect you?

Turn to a neighbor or partner and share your thoughts, time permitting.

St. Laurence Catholic Church
Home Study Faith Formation Kick Off
September 21, 2026

Closing Prayer

A Parent-Catechist Prayer

Loving Father,
pour forth your Holy Spirit upon me that I may be a good catechist for my children of
your Word, your Son, Jesus Christ.
Render my heart and mind so open, receptive and responsive to your Holy Spirit that,
Like Mary, I might become a living instrument of your Word to my children.
Help me to be a faithful witness to Gospel life.
Let the fire of your love so enkindle my heart that I may be an instrument
of drawing my children to love you.
I ask this through Christ our Lord,
Amen.

Resources:

- **Insights from Research - United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)**
<https://www.usccb.org/news/2020/partnering-parents-nurture-family-faith-insights-research>
- **Catechism of the Catholic Church (online version)**
<https://usccb.cld.bz/Catechism-of-the-Catholic-Church2/>
- **Loyola Press**
<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/family/>
- **Strong Catholic Family Faith**
<https://www.catholicfamilyfaith.org/>
- **The Peyton Institute for Domestic Church Life**
<https://www.peytonfamilyinstitute.org/about-us>
- **FORMED**
<https://formed.org/>
Go to: <https://stlaurence.org/formed> to register for a FREE account thru the SLCC subscription
- **Forming Intentional Families**
<https://stlaurence.org/family>

REFLECTION NOTES:
