

My Catholic Family

*"The home of Nazareth is the school where we begin to understand the life of Jesus – the school of the Gospel."
Catechism of the Catholic Church #533*

Is Homeschooling my child in Religion an option?

Yes, if your child is entering Grade 1 or Grades 3 to 7. It is a policy that all parish second and eighth graders who attend public school must register for an on-site PSR class during their immediate sacrament preparation year. This enhances their Religious Education as they prepare for sacraments as part of the community of their peers at Saint Raphael Parish. There are experiences we can give them at church and on our campus that cannot be duplicated in your home.

What is required by the parent to Home School?

In a Home School Religion situation, the parent IS the Religion Teacher. 45 minutes per week must be spent on a Religion lesson with your child and a log must be kept. Parents and the child sign a contract, **attend a September meeting**, and meet with Miss Telepak two more times at the Parish Office for a **Winter** and **Spring report**. The report is given orally (like a book report) but a written copy is also handed in by the student along with written reflections each semester by the parent. When the log and both report meetings are completed, your child will receive credit for that grade level of Religion and be promoted to the next grade!

What is the cost to Home School in Religion?

The tuition for Home School Religion is \$30 per student (Grades K, 1, 3-6) and \$50 per student for Grade 7. It covers the cost of the consumable student textbook, folder, paperwork and rental of the teacher manual for the parent. *(Grade 7 uses multiple textbooks, fulfilling the curriculum standards for Year 1 of Confirmation preparation* - *this does not include the Sacrament Materials fee.)*

What is the completion rate for Home School Religion families?

While we recognize that parents are the primary catechists of their children, this program often has a very low success rate and a high failure rate. The families that do Home School Religion well, love it and are good at it. Many remark on the great "God conversations" they have with their children!

Unfortunately, about 70% of our families that try this program, never complete it and their child does not receive Religion credit on their permanent record card for Religion for that grade level. Feedback from families who failed to complete the program tell us that while it seems very attractive at first, they didn't realize the discipline it takes and it was challenging to fit teaching weekly lessons into their already busy life.

How do I register my child for Home School Religion instead of the Monday PSR class?

- Register for a "My Own Church" family ID.
- Once you receive an e-mail confirmation, the next step is to fill in your child's name, age and grade. Follow the on-line instructions.
- When you select a Class Option, pick the Home School grade. It will still list the Session Time as Monday at 4:15, but it will not be on-site here at the parish.
- Send in the Home School Religion fee for your child to the Parish Office.



Share God's Word



If you choose to Home School your children in Religion, you **do not** need to attend the September 10th Opening Day PSR meeting in the PAC. Instead, you and your child/children must attend one of the following PSR Homeschool Religion Orientation Meetings to sign your contract and get your books and materials: **Thursday, September 27th from 7:15-8 p.m. OR Saturday, September 29th from 11-11:45 a.m. Both Orientation Meetings will be held in the Library.**

If you are considering homeschooling your child in Religion, it may be a blessing for your family. You never know: it could work well for your schedule, and you might personally grow more in **your** own faith!