

Policies and Guidelines for those who prepare their children At-Home

1) At-Home Catechesis is a Viable Option

- a) All *intentional* catechesis is parish-based.
- b) The formal catechesis can take place in three settings:
 - i) Catholic School setting
 - ii) Parish setting,
 - iii) Home setting
- c) The diocesan bishop has the responsibility “to issue norms concerning catechetics” [CL #775.1] and to ensure that all who exercise this ministry are in communion with him.

2) Parents Who Opt to Use At-Home Catechesis are properly considered Catechists

- a) As catechists, they are subject to the norms established by the bishop through the Office of Worship and the diocesan office of Evangelization and Faith Formation.
- b) They are expected to take advantage of catechist formation programs offered by the diocesan offices.

3) At-Home Catechesis Needs to be Intentional, Complete and On-going

- a) Parents or guardians, who choose to prepare at home, are to register their children according to the regulations established by the parish.
- b) They are to use the catechetical text and supplementary catechetical resources established by the parish program and in compliance with the USCCB Committee for the Implementation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church
- c) Parents and sponsors (where applicable) are expected to participate in all other activities as required in the parish program, i.e., interviews, retreats, service projects, parent/sponsor formation
- d) Families who prepare at-home are expected to participate in the weekly celebration of Sunday Mass of the parish.

4) Children to prepare at-home are to receive the sacraments in the parish.

- a) Sacramental Preparation is a two-year process
- b) They are to receive the sacraments at the same celebration of those who are catechized in the parish setting program.
- c) They are to receive the sacraments at the appropriate age –as those who are catechized in the parish, in accord with diocesan guidelines and as established by Canon Law and the USCCB