

At-Home Parent Orientation Notes

Flocknote:

Flocknote is an email and text messaging tool created for churches, ministries, teams and other community organizations. You can find us at <https://app.flocknote.com/saintmikes/>. We have uploaded the email(s) you provided at registration. You can add another email to the list (work/home, mom/dad, grandparent). Look at the Flocknote Help box for ways to change your contact information, change notifications and ensure you receive your emails. Go to: <https://www.saint-mikes.org/home-school-program>

- You will receive the **monthly** Elementary News Feed Newsletter
- You will receive **quarterly** notifications with
 - Reminders to pick up the new quarter of Gospel Weeklies for your student(s) from the Education Wing Hallway
 - Links to the Teacher Guides for the new Gospel Weekly installment
 - Links to the assessments that are due (for Good News, Venture and Visions students)

Middle School Families –Feel free to contact our Associate Youth Advocate for more information about keeping your child connected to St. Mike while you do the At-Home program.

How to Receive Credit for At-Home Faith Formation:

Promise - K and 1st grade

Good News – 2nd and 3rd grade

Venture – 4th & 5th grade

Visions – 6th - 8th grade

Curriculum is distributed in quarterly installments (8 weeks). We will email you when the next installment is available. You will pick up your child's curriculum in the Education Wing Hallway (*near the coffee station*). Look for the box on the cabinet in the hallway leading to room 206. Be sure to take the materials with your child's name on them.

1. **Cover the lessons during the week PRIOR to the Sunday Gospel.** When you attend mass, the Gospel reading and message will be familiar to your child.
2. **At the end of each Unit** – see the calendar for specific dates
 - You can access the unit tests on the St. Mike Webpage <https://www.saint-mikes.org/tests>
 - Go to “Elementary” (**even for the 6-8th grade Visions**)
 - Click on “At Home Program”
 - Click “Assessments”
 - Choose the appropriate age level of Pflaum and the appropriate unit test under “Assessments” and a Google form will appear. Have your child complete the assessment in its entirety and then click the submit button at the bottom. The results will be sent to me automatically.

- There are great online resources available from Pflaum including seasonal ideas and activities for the family. Go to <http://www.pflaumweeklies.com/resources-for-families/>

How to Teach a Lesson:

- **Your child will get a 2 (Promise/Good News) or 4 page (Venture/Visions) nested unit pack of Pflaum Gospel Weeklies** (you will need to separate the appropriate week from the quarterly packet – the first lesson is the outermost layer and the last lesson is the innermost weekly)
- You will need the **Pflaum Teaching Guide** - available to print or view online at: <http://www.pflaumweeklies.com/catechists-and-teachers/>
- Your child will also get a glossy, “**What the Church Believes & Teaches**” book (an age appropriate catechism) which will be used weekly **throughout the entire year** with the Gospel Weeklies.

Turn the page of the Teaching Guide to the appropriate Gospel lesson. You can view a video overview of the Teaching Guide at: <https://www.saint-mikes.org/home-school-program>

Each lesson has 3 components:

1. **Share Experiences** – This part of the lesson includes an Opening Ritual, incorporates the Cover Activity (the first page of the Gospel Weekly) and a story which introduces the Gospel theme through an age-appropriate life experience that children can relate.
2. **Discover Gospel and Doctrine** – This part of the lesson introduces the Gospel story. Sometimes it will be a reading, other times a play. Be as simple or elaborate as you wish with this section.
3. **Live the Gospel** – This part of the lesson shows the children how they can live out the Gospel message in their families, their school/church and all relationships.

Each lesson also has a correlation with the What the Church Believes and Teaches book. This is an important component of each lesson so please do not skip it!

For more information on how to teach the lessons refer to the Pflaum Gospel Weekly videos at <https://www.saint-mikes.org/home-school-program>

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