



Blessed Kateri
Tekakwitha
Catholic Church

Guidelines for Religious Education Home Study 2011

“Education in the faith by the parents should begin in the child’s earliest years...Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God...” CCC #2226

Home Study is an opportunity for parents and children to spend quality time together while both are growing in their faith. The following are guidelines to help enrich your Home Study experience.

1. First, commit to a day and time to teach the lesson. Schedule the same day and time each week. Teach only one lesson a week. Before beginning the lesson with your child, be sure to pray WITH your child.
2. Parents, first prepare for the lesson by reading and reflecting on it yourself. Then, sit down with your child and read the lesson. Be sure to do all of the activities in the chapter together. The activities are designed to help reinforce important concepts in the lesson.
3. The “At Home Family Guide” is a family friendly resource that provides a balanced presentation of doctrine, Scripture and liturgical seasons. It offers age appropriate instructions in a format that respects the schedule demands of today’s families. This guide allows parents to work with all of their children on Home Study together.
4. Another excellent resource for both students and parents can be found on the faith first website: www.faithfirst.com . There, you will find interactive learning games that further engage your child in the lessons. This website also includes parent resources and student activities that accompany each chapter.
5. Bring into your lesson issues regarding the world, nature, experiential things, news, world events, whatever coincides with the lesson for that week.
6. Scripture from the Bible is used in every lesson. Use this as an opportunity to teach your child how to find Scripture passages and then read from the Bible together.
7. Help your child understand that what you are teaching them is for life – i.e. their values, love of God and His church etc. Therefore, it is extremely important that you go to Mass every weekend, pray at home and attend all of the required Adult Formation Classes. What you model encourages your child in his or her own faith formation.
8. Please feel free to contact Mindy Irwin at the Religious Ed office should you have any questions...we’re here to help! elementaryre@blessedkateriparish.org or 296-6945 ext: 7903
9. **Most importantly, enjoy this faith journey with your child. You’ll be surprised how much you both will learn!!**

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic Church