

**GUIDELINES FOR HOME-BASED RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI**

1. When parents decide to provide the formal religious education of their children at home, they are encouraged to meet with the pastor so that he and/or his delegate can assist them in developing a catechetical plan and in choosing catechetical materials suitable for home-based religious education. (Canons 776, 793)
  
2. *The Graded Course of Study for Early Childhood and Elementary Catechetical Programs and Forming Young Disciples: Guidelines and Resources for Parish-Based Evangelization & Catechesis for Adolescents* have been approved by the Archdiocesan Commission on Education and promulgated by Archbishop Pilarczyk as the official content to be followed for all early childhood, elementary and high school catechesis in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. All catechists for children or youth are expected to follow the content outlined in these documents.
  
3. Parents should be invited to use the parish resource libraries and the Archdiocesan Media Centers to supplement their educational efforts.
  
4. Parents and their children are welcome and encouraged to participate in parish liturgies and/or other events prepared specifically for children and their families.
  
5. The pastor and/or his delegate should invite the parents to participate in the catechist certification process of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati as outlined in *The Ministry of the Catechist*. (Canons 779, 780)
  
6. Parents are encouraged to meet with the pastor and/or his delegate periodically to review the progress of their catechetical efforts.
  
7. When parents believe that their child is ready to receive a sacrament for the first time, the pastor of the parish to which the child belongs is to decide whether he or she is properly prepared. (Canons 777, 914) The parish to which a child belongs is either the parish in which he or she resides or is another parish in which he or she is registered. Section V of *Sacraments for Young People*, should be used as the basis for determining readiness.

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