

Parent Witnesses Concerning Parent Catechesis

Our Catechesis Experience: Our family has enjoyed this past year in the Family Catechesis Program. We have had an opportunity to spend more quality time together as a family all while reviewing the Catholic teachings in more depth. Also, many fights about "going to PREP" or "doing homework" are no longer part of our weekly struggle because this teaching structure has allowed us the flexibility to review the lessons/teachings at a time that makes sense to our family - meaning when our son is receptive to learning and not when he is tired, etc... It has been an overall very pleasant experience for both our son and us.

The Graci Family

Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to participate in family catechesis this year. We have had a very positive experience. It has been great to get to know the other families, and the catechists who have worked with us have been wonderful. Our family really enjoyed participating in the gift delivery to Saint Martin de Porres. Being part of this activity and others has helped us to feel more connected to our parish community. Similarly family catechesis has emphasized for us the importance of all of us - parents and kids - learning about our faith together and with our SFA community.

The Lombrana Family

For our family, this was mainly based on our son and his challenges and what led us to do family prep. And I know right now this is a big discussion with the change in Confirmation moving back a year. Some will say that not having to run back and forth on Tuesday's would be there focal point and don't get me wrong it's a plus. But I am big on family time and sitting at the table and discussing our day and what is happening in everyone's life. When you are running back and forth and in 2 separate classes and 2 different times that takes away from us discussing as a family. I get to discuss with both of my children what we are teaching and learning together. I know what my child is now learning and understanding. When I send them to class and ask them how prep was I would get good and that's it. Now I am involved and see, hear and watch what they are learning.

I have question myself on whether I made the right decision or the best decision for my family. But after speaking and hearing what some parents have had to say about different things, I realize that I did and now I have control over what my kids are learning about Catholicism and the Catholic church.

The Hammond Family

Raising a child is a challenging task. There are so many variables and considerations in how to discipline, guide and instruct. One of the most important areas for me as a parent is raising my son as a child of God wrapped in our Catholic faith. This is a challenging feat with so many outside influences and so little time in our days.

My son is in 4th grade. Up until this year we did the usual Tuesday PREP days. I would drop him off and run to Target, he would once again be sitting in a desk getting spoken too. After PREP I would ask what he learned, he would say "God stuff" and that was that. My Catholic mom obligations were fulfilled until Sunday Mass.

But slowly I realized my son and I were not on a Faith to live journey. We were going through the motions of "being Catholic." This made me very sad and empty. When the opportunity of the Family Catechesis came to be I was thrilled and did not hesitate to begin this new journey!

Each week my son and I share a special time of prayer, age appropriate reflection and lessons on our Catholic faith. As his catechist, parent and now faith partner we are deepening our knowledge and love in our Church and most importantly our relationship with God. The journey we are taking together has opened his eyes and heart to God in daily reminders and has brought our Faith into the forefront of daily life.

Do I miss the hour alone at Target? A little. But being such a hands one and consistent part of my son's Catholic Faith is far more rewarding for our relationship with each other, and most importantly, our God.

The Moore Family