



St. Joseph Catholic Church

Austintown, Ohio

Families Forming Faith @Home

One of the documents of the Second Vatican Council – Lumen Gentium (“Light of the Nations”) – describes **the family as the “domestic Church.”** In paragraph 11 it states:

“Christian spouses... **help each other to attain to holiness in their married life and in the rearing and education of their children.**” “**The family is, so to speak, the domestic church.** In it parents should, by their word and example, be the **first preachers of the faith to their children...**” So how do we go about being ‘domestic Church?’ We do so in much the same way that the larger Church does. We focus on the **Word, Worship and Service.**

Below are resources that may help you fulfill your mission as domestic Church during these extraordinary times:

Word:

Listen to the word of God in the Bible and in the many other ways that we learn as a faith community.

- Catechist Café – Resources and Ideas for Faith Formation from the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown Office of Religious Education. <https://catechistcafe.weebly.com/coronavirus-response.html> Scroll past the RCIA Information.
- Lots of resources on Holy Week may be found at <https://catechistcafe.weebly.com/holy-week--easter.html>
- Visit the parish website to find various resources under the Religious Education menu item on our homepage: <https://stjosephaustintown.org/>

Worship:

Pray individually and together at home and online.

- Catechist Café – Resources and Ideas for Faith Formation from the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown Office of Religious Education. <https://catechistcafe.weebly.com/coronavirus-response.html> Scroll down to the purple and red box plus the items below it.
- The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops “Catholic Current” has “Resources for Prayer and Engagement during Coronavirus.” https://catholiccurrent.org/covid19/?mc_cid=653133a134&mc_eid=7734c10162
- For Your Marriage, a website sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has “Building Family Bonds during COVID-19” <https://www.foryourmarriage.org/building-family-bonds-in-challenging-times/> and “Newlyweds in the Time of Coronavirus” <https://www.foryourmarriage.org/newlyweds-in-the-time-of-coronavirus/>
- Pope Francis had an inspiring mediation at his extraordinary Urbi et Orbi Blessing on March 27, 2020. <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-03/urbi-et-orbi-pope-coronavirus-prayer-blessing.html>
- Join us for our Facebook Live prayer services on our parish Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Joseph-Church-Austintown-Ohio-495273303816774/>
- We have adult prayer resources on our website too: <https://stjosephaustintown.org/adult-education/>

Service:

Times like these remind us that Christians are called to serve others. There are many opportunities to offer service in your neighborhood and in our community.

- St. Joseph Parish has a Vincent de Paul Society that is reaching out in time of need: <https://stjosephaustintown.org/st-vincent-depaul-society/>
- Our Caring Neighbors project is also working with our KofC to reach out to older parishioners to address their needs during the pandemic: <https://stjosephaustintown.org/caring-neighbors/>
- The United Way has opportunities available for you to make a difference: <https://www.ymvnitedway.org/program/covid-19-community-response/>