



Frequently Asked Questions about COR

What does COR mean?

Cor is Latin for heart. This program seeks to get back to the heart of things: bringing faith into the heart of the home, so that we can grow closer to the heart of Jesus, who enlivens the hearts of those who participate.

What is COR?

COR is a method of growing deeper in Catholic life, particularly within the home. While time spent at the parish is an important part of our faith, the home is often the heart of where the faith is put into practice. COR is designed to empower individuals, couples, and families with simple weekly tools and information that can be used to encounter Christ together at home.

Who is it for?

COR is for everyone; individuals, couples, and families. This is an opportunity to commit to dedicated time for you to spend growing in your faith with those you care about. It could be you as an individual, couple, or family; no matter how you participate, it is a chance for all of us to grow in our faith.

How will we know what to do?

Great care has been taken to organize and lay out a format that will be easy to follow. One can expect to see the following information each week to guide your time:

- **Weekly Theme:** The topic for the week will be introduced.
- **Feast Days, Saints, & Such:** Information about feast days and saints that the church will be celebrating in the coming week or month.
- **Discussion:** Questions to guide your conversation. This is not a strict outline, but a guide for conversation.
- **Prayer:** It is important to pray as a family to develop an open and honest relationship with the Lord. A recommended prayer for the evening will be provided.
- **Activity:** Each week there will be an activity related to the theme or feast, complete with steps as well as information about how the activity relates to that week's theme.
- **Extras:** If you are looking for more activities or want to go deeper into a topic, this section will direct you to additional resources.
- **Sacramental Life:** Refer to this section to locate notes about how to go deeper into the sacramental life of the church. If a child in your family is preparing to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, or Confirmation, refer to this section for ways to support them.
- **Looking Ahead:** Information about upcoming topics and events will be shared.

How long will it take?

COR is designed to be centered around your evening meal. An approximate time of about 1.5 hours should be planned. For those who are used to participating in faith formation classes on Wednesday nights, the amount of time spent should be comparable.

What does it cost?

To participate in COR as an individual, couple or family, the suggested contribution is \$20. These donations help defray the cost of content, printing, occasional materials that will be provided, and supplies for in person gatherings. If your child will participate in 1st Communion Prep (Grade 2) or Confirmation Prep (Grade 10) there will be a fee of \$20 per participant, which goes toward the additional materials and gatherings provided during these years. Payments can be made in the parish office.

How will I receive the material?

We all like to receive information in different ways, so materials will be available in different formats all including the same information. The weekly COR Guide will be printed in the bulletin and other printed materials will be available in the church entry each week following Mass. Online materials will be posted on the home page of the parish website <https://staugustinestedward.org/> under COR. Registration information and archived copies of each week's guide will be posted under the Parish Life tab.

How is this related to or replacing youth faith formation?

Parents are the primary educators of their children; no matter where children might attend class, they will always be most deeply affected by the things their parents talk about and celebrate at home. Forming children in the faith is most effective when it comes through the model and direction of the parents. Therefore, this program is set up to take the tools and knowledge that the parish can offer and place it in the hands of parents, who can then follow the simple format in order to pass it on to their children. To encourage families to invest in this process, the parish will not offer grade level classes, so that families can instead commit to weekly time together.

Do I have to do this on Wednesday nights?

Wednesday night is the preferred time to participate in COR activities. This is a time in our community that has already been established as a time to gather for church and parish events, and we are asking that you continue to set aside this time to gather in your homes. We will also hold some in person activities on Wednesday nights throughout the year, so establishing this as COR time will align with these in person opportunities. However, you can do these activities any day of the week that works best for you and/or your family.

What materials will I need to provide?

Most materials will be provided for you. There may be times that some general household or office supplies may be needed to complete an activity or you may need to find a cross or other item to be a part of your conversation. In the Looking Ahead section of the guide, you will get a preview of any materials that you may need for the upcoming week.

Will there be any in-person content?

Yes! Families that have children preparing to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation will meet 5 times throughout the year. Parents are intended to be a part of these meetings and share in the learning. There will also be other events that will be hosted for anyone that has registered for COR or that is a part of the parish family. Established church organizations like youth groups, Young Adult Group, Adult Education, etc. will continue to meet in person throughout the year.

How will this program prepare the children to receive first sacraments?

Children preparing to receive sacraments should participate in the COR formation program as a part of their family. The COR guide page has a Sacraments section, where additional questions or activities are provided. These are designed to be simple things that invite the child to prepare his or her heart to receive Jesus, while not adding much additional time to the weekly family commitment. Families are expected to attend the 5 in person sessions throughout the preparation year.

Who can I contact about this when I have questions?

There is a team of people working to provide a positive faith filled experience for you that would be happy to answer your questions. Contact the Parish Office at 437-4537 and your questions will be directed to the person who can best help answer your question.

Planned in Person Dates for 2022-2023:

COR Parish Family	First Reconciliation/ Communion (2nd Graders)	Confirmation (10th Graders)
Wednesday, November 2, 2022	Wednesday, November 16, 2022	Wednesday, October 12, 2022
Wednesday, May 17, 2023	Wednesday, January 11, 2023	Wednesday, January 11, 2023
	Wednesday, February 8, 2023	Wednesday, February 8, 2023
	Wednesday, March 8, 2023	Wednesday, March 8, 2023
	Wednesday, April 12, 2023	Wednesday, April 12, 2023
	Saturday, April 15, 2023 1st Communion Retreat	Date TBD Confirmation
	Saturday, April 22, 2023 Sunday, April 23, 2023 1st Communion	

Dates subject to change.