



CHIME Getting Started in Homeschooling Meeting

August 4, 2020

Feast of St. John Vianney

25th Anniversary of CHIME

Welcome and Introductions

- Name
- Your town
- New, current, or retired homeschooler
- Grade levels of your children

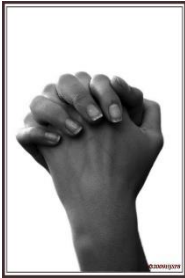


Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Opening Prayer
- How to Homeschool
 - Form the Foundation
 - Massachusetts Law and Legal Requirements
 - HSLDA
 - Methods and Philosophies
 - Curricula
 - Resources
 - Transitioning from “Outschool” to Homeschool
- How CHIME Can Help Your Family
- Your Questions!



Form the Foundation



Pray!

- Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and wisdom
- Ask the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph for their help!

Think about your family's "why" of homeschooling

- This will help determine what you do and don't do
- Both spouses should be involved

Make a mission statement

- Helps determine what is important to YOUR family

Get support

- Experienced homeschoolers are invaluable resources!

Develop routines for chores and schoolwork

- Mom doesn't have to do it all!



Legal Requirements

MA Law, in a nutshell:

Responsibilities of School Authorities and Parents	
SCHOOL AUTHORITY'S RESPONSIBILITY	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enforce the compulsory attendance laws,2. Ensure that each student in his or her district receives an education,3. Expedite approval of home education plans that meet the statutory standard.
PARENT'S RESPONSIBILITY	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Give prior notification to school authorities of their home education plan, which equals the public school's "in thoroughness and efficiency," (<i>Charles</i>) prior to removing their child from school,2. Comply with an evaluation program mutually agreed upon by school and parents.

Required: Letter of Intent and Evaluations

See Getting Started packet for examples



HSLDA

Home School Legal Defense Association

- Legal backing, if ever needed
- Resources
 - Legal questions
 - General Homeschooling Information
- Discount for CHIME members - \$15
 - Regular fee - \$130
 - Annual auto-renewal - \$125
 - Monthly payments – no discount
 - Also have an option for lifetime membership



Methods and Philosophies

Background reading/listening can help form your ideas of what homeschooling can be - find what resonates with you!



There are many ways to help children learn! Find what fits with you, your family culture and mission, and your children's learning styles

CLASSICAL

Unit Studies

Charlotte Mason

Unschooling

Hybrid School



Montessori

ECLECTIC

Curricula



“Boxed” or DIY? Catholic, Christian, or other?

Type	Boxed	Do-it-Yourself
Advantages: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Easy to buy• Often get support• Record keeping (grades)• Accreditation• Lesson plans included	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find things your children like• Find things you like!• Pursue areas of study beyond “typical” ones• Can easily change materials that aren’t working• More adaptable to larger families or teaching children together
Disadvantages: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Can be expensive• Less flexibility• May be “stuck” with something that’s not working well	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Substantial work in developing curriculum and lesson plans• Less support

Catholic Curriculum Providers



OUR LADY OF VICTORY SCHOOL



MOTHER OF DIVINE GRACE SCHOOL

MATER AMABILIS



AQUINAS LEARNING



Other Curriculum Resources



Institute for
Excellence in
Writing
Listen. Speak. Read. Write. Think!



DIY helps

Designing Your Own Classical Curriculum, Laura Berquist

The Well-Trained Mind, Susan Wise Bauer

What your Nth Grader Needs to Know series

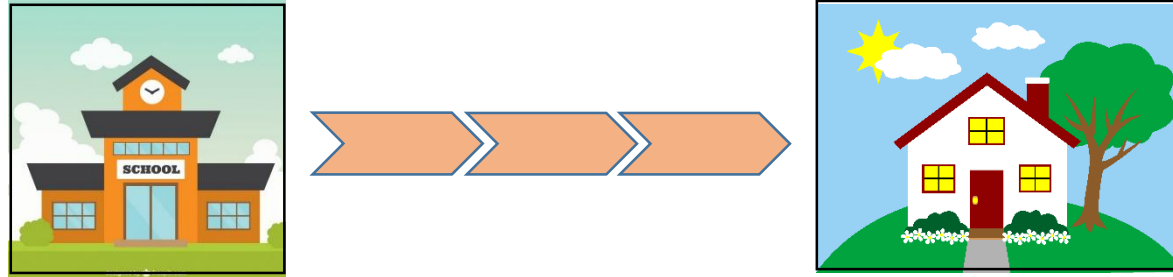
MA school requirements

Resources / Ideas

- Getting Started Packet
Books, websites, podcasts
- Morning Time
- Read-Alouds
- Busy Boxes for Toddlers
- Teaching multiple ages together
- Local learning opportunities
- Upcoming free online conferences – Aug. 6 & 7
Links in meeting notes



Transitioning from “Outschool” to Homeschool



- Homeschooling doesn't *have* to be school at home!
- Give yourself and your kids time to acclimate
- It's okay to switch things up if something isn't working out
 - Try to give it at least a couple of months, then reevaluate
- Utilize other ways of learning - nature, games, reading books aloud, discussions, educational videos
- Consider teaching multiple ages together

How CHIME Can Help Your Family

CHIME has been a Catholic group centered on Faith, Homeschooling, and Community for 25 years



Support

Help with homeschooling
Encouragement in our faith

Activities*

First Friday Mass and fellowship time
Co-op, spring and fall for 6 weeks



Field trips
Park days
and more...



Community

Get to know like-minded Catholic families
Pray for each other
Form lasting friendships

* *Dependent on COVID restrictions and member involvement*

CHIME Parent Resources

Monthly Meet-Ups *Support Group*



Website

(will be upgraded in the next few months)

Forums

Calendar

Prayer Chain

Expanded Resource List *(coming soon!)*

Monthly Newsletter

The CHIME Times
Catholic Homeschoolers in Massachusetts East Newsletter Jul / Aug 2020

The Summer Stretch
Many of us may remember summer as that glorious time of year when we left school behind and there were weeks until we had to be in a classroom again. We could play, rest, and just enjoy life for a few weeks. I remember fondly days spent reading in a tree...or running through the sprinklers...or licking melted popsicles off sticky fingers. Better still were warm nights spent under the stars...chasing lightning bugs...and toasting marshmallows around a flickering campfire.

As we move through the summer season, I hope you and your family are able to enjoy a more relaxed pace and enjoy this beautiful time God gives us every year. May your summer rest set the stage for renewed vigor in work and study in the fall!

O most Precious Blood of Jesus Christ, the Blood of Salvation, cover us and the whole world.
St. Therese of Lisieux, pray for us.
St. John Vianney, pray for us.

July Devotion:
The Precious Blood of Jesus

August Devotion:
The Immaculate Heart of Mary

CHIME Mission Statement:
To support and encourage faithful Catholic families who are called through the vocation of marriage to educate their children at home.

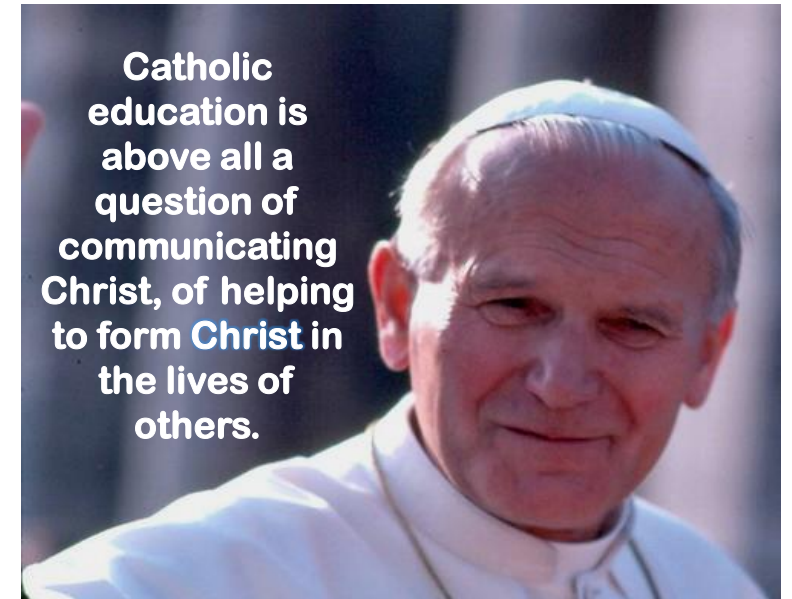
July / Aug 2020

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Closing Thoughts

- Homeschooling is doable! It *can* be enjoyable and rewarding for everyone!
- The information from tonight and many more resources are in the Getting Started Packet and Resources Packet that you will receive after the meeting
- Let us know how we can help you – contact CHIME via website and email
 - Members can use our Forums for questions and discussion
- May God bless your educational journey!



Holy Mary, Seat of Wisdom, pray for us!
St. Joseph, Mirror of Patience, pray for us!
St. Therese of Lisieux, pray for us!
St. John Vianney, pray for us!


Your Questions!



More on Curriculum

CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL
Curriculum Guide

<p><u>Traditional</u> Catholic Heritage Curricula Our Lady of the Rosary Seton Home Study* Our Lady of Victory</p> <p><u>Catechism Options</u> Faith and Life My Catholic Faith Delivered* Seton Home Study Baltimore Catechism Didache Series Saint Anne's Helper Catholic Brain Spirit of Truth</p>	<p><u>Charlotte Mason</u> Mater Amabilis Salt and Light</p> <p><u>Eclectic</u> Homeschool Connections*</p> <p><u>Stand Alone History</u> Story of Civilization Connecting with History Catholic Textbook Project</p>	<p><u>Classical</u> Aquinas Learning Kolbe Academy* Mother of Divine Grace* Angelicum Academy* Queen of Heaven Academy* Catholic Schoolhouse* Classically Catholic Memory Rolling Acres/Schola Rosa* Bellarmine Studies*</p> <p><u>Catholic Friendly Special Mentions</u> Memoria Press* Institute for Excellence in Writing</p>
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*Online options available created by Molly Bruening