



**St. Andrew Catholic Church**  
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[www.standrewcatholic.com](http://www.standrewcatholic.com)

October 12, 2006

Dear Parents:

I write this letter in response to a number of inquiries that I have received from parents who home school their children. Their inquiry centers on the religious education and sacramental preparation of children in Home School Education. This letter then addresses itself exclusively to parents who home school their children rather than those who attend public, private, or catholic schools.

The normative method for religious education at St. Andrew, of all students, is within the parish catechetical program, or in the catechetical program offered in Catholic School.

However, some parents have expressed a desire to fulfill their child's religious education requirements within the context of a Home School Program. At the recommendation of the Department of Religious Education for the Archdiocese of Atlanta, the following guidelines have been implemented at St. Andrew for incorporating religious education into a Home School Program.

The guidelines are as follows:

- 1) For recognition in the Religious Education Program a home school family must make the sincere effort of establishing St. Andrew as their home parish and must be registered in St. Andrew religious education program. *Please review the document "Establishing St. Andrew as your Home Parish"*
- 2) Parents, who provide religious education as a part of their Home School Program, must be certified or working towards certification as a catechist. The Director of Religious Education (DRE) can assist you with certification.
- 3) The DRE must be notified in writing of your intention to home school your child.
- 4) Parents of children in any of our sacramental programs will be required to attend the parent meeting of the Parish Religious Program.
- 5) Home schooled Religious Education students must be open to evaluation by the Director of Religious Education (DRE) or the Pastor for academic progress, comprehension and spiritual formation.
- 6) Home School Religious Education must follow a curriculum approved by the Archdiocese of Atlanta. The Pastor or DRE must be informed in writing of the curriculum which you choose to use.
- 7) Whether a student participates in a classroom program, or in a home school program, each grade level must be completed before being promoted to the next level of sacramental preparation.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Msgr. Hugh Marren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Msgr. Hugh Marren  
Pastor, St. Andrew Catholic Church