

What is FAMILIA?

<http://www.regnumchristi.org/english/quienes/index.phtml?se=3&ca=30&te=10&id=748>

FAMILIA is an international Catholic lay apostolate of the Church committed to the well-being of the family. It is dedicated to meeting the challenges facing the family in contemporary society through the integral formation of each family member. All programs are fully aligned with the teaching authority of the Catholic Church.

Fourth year participants share their views on Familia:

“Familia helped me understand my faith and be strengthened in it. It was a wonderful experience!”

“Before Familia, my relationship with God and my Catholic faith were not connected. Since Familia, I have developed a relationship with God and a real knowledge of Catholicism. This has enhanced my faith. I have a stronger relationship than I ever imagined possible with God through my Catholic faith.”

“As a convert, Familia has given me a better knowledge of the teachings of the Catholic Church regarding family life, and an appreciation for Pope John Paul II’s writings. It has also provided me with an opportunity to form new relationships within the Church.”

How does it work?

FAMILIA teams are formed at the parish level, comprised of 8-15 men or women. Two team members serve as facilitators to moderate the meetings. They receive training each month to help them in this role.

There are 15 lessons a year. Teams meet twice a month for eight consecutive months. Each meeting last about one and a half hours. Each year of the program is complete in itself, but the program can extend for up to four years. Each year contains new material and builds on what was previously covered.

Study guides have been prepared by theologians, lay and religious who hold Licentiate, Masters, and Doctorate degrees in Theology from such institutes as the Angelicum in Rome and the John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family in Rome and in Washington D.C.

Topics studied are:

- Developing prayer life and persevering in the life of grace
- Living out our baptismal promises to the fullest
- God’s plan for marriage and the family
- God’s esteem for the dignity and vocation of motherhood

Each meeting has three parts:

Gospel reflection - a reflection on the following Sunday's Gospel and developing a concrete resolution to put the Gospel message into action.

Catechesis - studying a small section of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Document Study - read and discuss what the Church teaches, especially as it applies to marriage and family life. The objective is to understand and share this knowledge in the family environment.

What to do...

Be a part of this exciting program that will invigorate your family. Uncover the personal message in the teachings of the Church as they pertain to marriage and the family. Unite with your spouse and with the transforming grace present in the sacrament of marriage to form a strong and unshakeable foundation. Marriage is not for the faint of heart! FAMILIA can provide you with the tools you need to face the challenge.

FAMILIA teams already exist in these parishes of the Charleston Diocese:

Jesus, Our Risen Savior in Spartanburg
St. Mary Magdalene in Simpsonville
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Mauldin
Our Lady of the Rosary in Greenville
Our Lady of Lourdes in Greenwood

If you would like more information on Familia:

www.familiausa.net

If you would like to contact a representative to see about joining an existing team or starting FAMILIA in your parish:

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