

Our Lady of Loretto Homeschool Co-op

Classically Catholic Memory Homeschool Program Information

Catholic Church of Ss. Peter & Paul
145 Railway St. E., Loretto, MN 55357

What is Classically Catholic Memory (CCM)?

From the Alpha Year Teacher Manual (2011): Classically Catholic Memory is a four-year Catholic memory work program, classical in nature, that guides parents and children in mastering challenging and inspiring material in eight subjects: Religion, Latin, History, Science, Math, Timeline, Geography, and Great Words (poetry, historical documents, and speeches). CCM can be used in conjunction with any homeschool curriculum parents are already using, and it does not replace any subject already being taught by a homeschooling parent. It is a supplementary memory work program that provides basic, factual material to memorize in various subjects. Families are encouraged to spend some quality time reviewing the program information located at www.ccmemory.com.

How does the CCM Program function at Ss. Peter and Paul?

The Our Lady of Loretto Homeschool Co-op, which includes the CCM group, is directed by Fr. John Gallas, Pastor, and Ryan Heim, Formational Ministries Director. We follow the same basic program as described in the CCM website and manual, meaning we offer the same eight subjects with a similar timeline, with one exception: we offer the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)* program for the 3-5 year olds. Parents are the teachers of the subjects and students are broken down into similar age groups.

*CGS is a solidly Catholic hands-on faith formation program.

What role do the Parents have at CCM?

Parents are the primary educators for the children at the CCM program and are expected to participate at each session. There is a lead teacher and an assistant teacher for each class at each level. Parents also staff the nursery, help in the gym and outdoor play areas as needed, assist in the classrooms as needed, and are responsible for their own family's well being. Parents are authority figures for all the children and are expected to be shown the respect they deserve by the children.

Can older children participate in CCM?

Yes! In fact, we enthusiastically welcome 7th graders through high schoolers to assist in the classes as mentors and also be involved in a book club – and can always assist in the nursery. The program is new, so they will be learning right beside the younger students, but with more of a leadership role.

What role does Fr. Gallas have in CCM?

Our faithful shepherd, Fr. Gallas, keeps us on the straight and narrow path throughout the year. He is present often for the morning group prayer, he provides Latin instruction when available and often stops in throughout the morning in the various classes to observe and to share any insights. We show him respect by standing whenever he enters a room and greeting him cheerfully. He loves to join in any snacks or special events we have.

What if I need to miss a CCM class?

It is expected that families plan to attend all of the scheduled CCM sessions. Life happens, so if you need to miss a session, please let the group know as soon as possible (this is important for teachers to be able to plan for their classes). All Lead Teachers are expected to find their own substitutes. Each family is responsible for the study that it takes to learn to their best of their ability the weekly memory work. It is suggested that the CD is listened to often, while in the car and at other times at home. The CCM website and Teacher's Manual outline many good tips on how to incorporate CCM into your school day.

What if there is inclement weather on the morning of CCM?

By 7:00am, an email will be sent to the participating CCM families should the class be cancelled. We follow the Delano School District so if they are closed, we will be as well.

What if I have a sick child or I am sick myself?

By all means, please stay home! We don't want to share our sickness and get other families ill. A good rule of thumb is fever-free for 24 hours and no excessive coughing, sneezing, etc. Remember, this is a memory program so you can just review the cd lessons for the week and be able to stay on track.

Are there any special events for the CCM Group?

A few area homeschool Moms are working to coordinate social, service, and outreach events, including a Mom's Coffee. The events will be scheduled throughout the year and are open to all area homeschool families.

How much does the CCM program cost?

There is a \$25 registration fee to join the program. The only other requirement is that families must purchase the materials needed for the program. At a minimum, this includes 1 Teacher Manual, 1 set of CD's for the appropriate year (this year is GAMMA), 1 set of geography maps/stickers per family, and 1 set of timeline cards (Note: there is only one set of timeline cards that need to be purchased once, for all four years). You may purchase additional materials to fit your family's needs. There is a Student Manual which includes all of the student memory work for each subject, in a larger, more readable font. Visit www.ccmemory.com for your CCM Materials.

Will there be a limit on how many families can join the CCM Group?

Unfortunately, yes. Right now we are closed for registration for 2014-15. Families are welcome to be added to a waiting list by emailing rheim@saintsppta.org. Please know that all homeschool families are encouraged to take advantage of the social and service events, and register for classes as part of the *VIA – Tuesday* classes that are held also at Ss. Peter and Paul Church.