Catholic Family ADVENTURE CLUB

NEWSLETTER



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Welcome, CFAC Families!

Is it just me, or does it feel like Christmas preparations start earlier every year? We're barely through Halloween, Thanksgiving is right around the corner, and somehow I'm already thinking about Advent calendars, Christmas gifts, and all the things I'd like to do with my family this season.

I love Advent and all the traditions that come with it, but sometimes I get so caught up in making it special for my children that I lose sight of what we're actually preparing for.

This year, I'm trying to be more intentional about preparing Him room in our home and in our hearts, without feeling like we have to do it all. As we head into Thanksgiving and Advent, I'm especially grateful for this community of Catholic families to share the season with.

We hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter and find a little encouragement for the months ahead!
— CFAC Team

Looking Back at Fall

What a great start to our 2026–2027 CFAC year! We kicked things off with our annual Sundaes on Sunday and a special Homeschool Blessing Mass with the bishop. We've enjoyed field trips, served our community, and gathered to celebrate the feast day of our patron saint, St. John Paul II. We're so grateful for the families who make these adventures and memories possible!





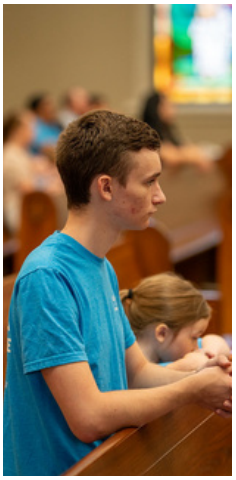












Catholic Family
ADVENTURE CLUB

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Veterans Day Parade
Ellen Trout Zoo & Texas Forestry Museum Field Trip

DECEMBER

Feast of St. Nicholas
Caroling for Seniors
Mom's Night Out

JANUARY

Caldwell Zoo Field Trip
KLTV Tour Field Trip
Mom's Night Out

FEBRUARY

Community Builders Gathering
Post Office Field Trip
Duckling Village Field Trip

RECURRING MONTHLY EVENTS

First Friday Mass and Park & Play
Matthew 28 Youth Ministry:
Quest (10-14)
Voyages (14-18)
Tiny Tot Meetups

Members can view more details, RSVP for events, and see the full calendar in the member portal. Don't forget to check out the photo albums for even more photos from our recent events!

THE FACES BEHIND CFAC

Meet the volunteers who help bring our community together! Over the next few newsletters, we'll introduce you to the ladies who help make CFAC happen.



Melissa Reaves
Director



Chelsea Lockman
Membership Coordinator



Janae Spencer
Communications Coordinator



Kristina Christian
Finance Coordinator

Coming up next: Meet Kristina Christian, our Finance Coordinator!

Meet Kristina Christian

LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT



This month, we're getting to know about a leadership team member that has been here since the very beginning! One of her favorite parts of serving has been getting to know the other leadership team members on a deeper level and meeting new families each year.

A LITTLE ABOUT KRISTINA

Kristina and her husband, Steve, live in Chandler with their three children. This is their eleventh year of homeschooling! She is a book keeper, making her a natural fit for the finance coordinator on the leadership team.

WHAT CFAC MEANS TO HER

For Kristina, CFAC has been a place to build lasting friendships, both for her children and herself. Her family tries to attend as many events as they can, and her kids especially look forward to Quest and Voyages. She loves seeing them excited to spend time with their friends, whether that's at an event, grabbing pizza together, or meeting up at the park after Holy Hour each month.

Kristina also appreciates the chance to spend time with other moms in the same season of life. She shared how meaningful First Friday Holy Hour was to her after losing her mother. Having an hour of quiet prayer, something she hadn't been able to do in a long time, brought peace and healing when she needed it most.

"The more you get involved, the more you feel part of something."

SOMETHING YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW

Kristina grew up in Canada and Western New York, where winters looked a little different than they do here in East Texas! She remembers having to plug in the car's battery each night so it would start on cold mornings and using the garage as an extra refrigerator for Thanksgiving leftovers. She moved to Arizona when she was 19 and eventually made her way to Texas after getting married. She never imagined she'd end up living here, but she's gotten used to our warmer weather!



HER FAVORITE CFAC MEMORY

One of Kristina's most memorable CFAC outings was a field trip to a dairy farm and museum in Sulphur Springs. There was a giant cow, but what really stuck with her were the bathrooms at a nearby park! They had mirrored glass that allowed you to see outside, but nobody could see in. Definitely a field trip she won't forget!



HER ADVICE FOR CFAC FAMILIES

Kristina's advice is simple: Get involved!

Volunteering or attending an event where you don't know many people might feel intimidating at first, but it's worth it. She's found that the more you participate, the more connected you feel. Sometimes those lasting friendships begin simply by showing up and finding a way to help.

Our Story is Still Being Written

Giving Tuesday - December 1





GIVINGTUESDAY

BE A PART OF OUR STORY

"Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure"

Our story is made up of the families who walk alongside one another, the friendships that grow, and the faith that we share.

This Giving Tuesday, we're inviting others to discover what makes our Catholic social community so unique and help us continue to create opportunities for homeschool families to connect and support each other.

INVITE FRIENDS AND FAMILY TO BE A PART OF OUR STORY!

Share our story. Spread the word. Help our community grow.

Every share helps our story reach someone new.

www.catholicfamilyadventureclub.com/givingtuesday



Simple Ways to Celebrate Feast Days this Fall

NOVEMBER–DECEMBER 2026 • ORDINARY TIME

Mark your calendar with these special days throughout the fall.

NOVEMBER

- 1 — All Saints Day
- 2 — All Souls Day
- 22 — St. Cecilia

DECEMBER

- 6 — St. Nicholas
- 8 — Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 12 — Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Month of November is Dedicated to...



HOLY SOULS IN PURGATORY

Family challenge:

Visit a cemetery to pray for the dead. Take some time to clean off a tombstone or put fresh flowers at a grave.



The Feast of St Cecilia

November 22

Family challenge:

Sing sacred hymns or play classical music. Make some DIY musical instruments to honor the patron saint of music.



The Month of December is Dedicated to...

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Family challenge:

Set a white dinner table. White is the liturgical color for Marian feasts. Make some white frosted cupcakes.



The Feast of

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

December 12

Family Challenge:

Pray a rosary in front of an image of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Bring fresh roses to her statue at your parish. Enjoy some Mexican cuisine as a family!



Simple Ways to Celebrate Feast Days this Winter

JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2027 • ORDINARY TIME

Mark your calendar with these special days throughout the winter.

JANUARY

- 1 — Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- 6 — The Epiphany
- 25 — Conversion of St. Paul

FEBRUARY

- 2 — Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple
- 11 — Our Lady of Lourdes
- 14 — St. Valentine



The Month of January is Dedicated to...

THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

Family challenge:

Say a few small prayers of reparation daily. Make some alphabet soup and talk about what makes the names in your family special.



The Feast of

THE EPIPHANY

January 6

Family Challenge:

Make a traditional King Cake to honor the 3 Kings and their visit to Jesus.

Get some blessed chalk from your parish and bless the entrances to your home.



The Month of February is Dedicated to...

THE HOLY FAMILY

Family challenge:

Celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord (Candlemas) by getting candles for your home blessed.



The Feast of

OUR LADY OF LOURDES

February 11

Family Challenge:

Pray the Litany of Our Lady of Lourdes. Make a mini pilgrimage to a nearby grotto or parish church.

CFAC EVENT SPOTLIGHT

The Feast of St. Nicholas:

Celebrating the original Santa Claus

CFAC is kicking off the Advent season with a special celebration for the feast of St. Nicholas. We will gather for Mass, then activities, treats, and holiday cheer. The real "St. Nicholas" is gracing us with his presence to add to the fun!



DID YOU KNOW?

Hundreds of churches worldwide have been named after him.

He was one of several bishops to sign the Nicene Creed

The oranges traditionally placed in stockings for generations represent the gold coins he gave to a poor family.

A Prayer for Children

God, Our Father, we pray that through Your intercession of St. Nicholas you will protect our children. Keep them safe from harm and help them grow and become worthy in Your sight. Give them strength to keep their Faith in You; and to keep alive their joy in Your creation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Prepare Him Room: Prayer

Family Challenge:

Add a few devotions to your daily prayers to prepare your hearts for the Christ Child.

Short Prayers Throughout the Day:

Come, Lord Jesus, into whatever this day holds.

God, make room in my heart as Bethlehem made room for You in a manger.

Come quickly, Lord, we are ready to receive you.

Come, Emmanuel, and be God with us today and always.

St Andrew Novena

Say 15 times daily from November 30 to Christmas Eve

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of a most pure Virgin at midnight in Bethlehem in piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe I beseech Thee to hear my prayers and grant my desires. (mention intentions here). Through Jesus Christ and His most Blessed Mother. Amen



Prepare Him Room : Advent Traditions

You don't have to do it all! Choose a tradition or two that helps your family slow down and prepare for the coming of Christ.

- Set up your Advent wreath
- Turn off the lights and spend an evening by candlelight
- Make time to go to Confession
- Decorate a Jesse tree
- Read the gospels of St. John and St. Luke
- Sing your favorite Advent hymn

STAY CONNECTED WITH CFAC

Follow Along

Follow Catholic Family Adventure Club on Facebook for a glimpse into our adventures, community, and Catholic homeschool life across East Texas.

www.facebook.com/catholicfamilyadventureclub

Looking Ahead → March

Our next issue is coming March 1. Look for:

- Lenten traditions to unite us to Christ in His Passion
- Finishing the school year strong!
- Upcoming field trips and activities

Here's to another year of faith, friendship, and adventure together!

Do you have a question or comment? Contact us!

generalinfo@catholicfamilyadventureclub.com

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