

Conference Timeline

Friday, April 13	Saturday, April 14
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	8:00 a.m.
Check-in. Vendor Hall open for Registered Guests Only	Mass. Our Lady of Peace Church. Confessions Available
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
“First Steps: How to Get Started in Catholic Homeschooling” by Virginia Seuffert	Check-in, Free Continental Breakfast. Vendor Hall Opens
Ready to take the plunge into homeschooling, but not sure where to start? This talk will simplify the process by breaking it down into just a few simple steps. Dealing with doubting relatives, setting up school space, finding support, and choosing curriculum can now come with ease.	9:15 a.m.
4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Saturday Morning Welcome & Introductions
Break For Dinner. Please Check Local Listings page for Restaurant/Fast Food information. Vendor Hall Open.	9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
7:00 p.m. – 9 p.m.	“Ten Things That Really Make a Difference” by Laura Berquist
Workshops: Session 1	Homeschooling is not only concerned with which materials are better, and how one ought to use them. Homeschooling is, more essentially, about raising children, and forming them academically and spiritually. Without the children’s cooperation, these goals can’t be achieved. Acquiring the cooperation of your children, in the right way, is a matter of great importance. This Workshop will offer ten techniques that can help you gain your children’s cooperation so that they can grow academically and spiritually.
Workshop A: “Special Needs” by Sharon Hensley	10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Part 1 – Understanding Learning Challenges Learning difficulties can feel frustrating for both child and parent. This workshop will take the mystery out of learning challenges. We will explore the specific processing difficulties experienced by children with disabilities and see how each type of processing problem interferes with learning. We will also see how to uncover your child’s strengths.	Workshops: Session 2
Part 2 - Successful Programs for Kids with Special Needs Students with special learning needs require consistent, realistic and appropriate programs in order to succeed. This workshop will focus on a variety of ways to incorporate these important ingredients into a home school program for your challenged learner.	Workshop C: “What Can We Learn From the Classical Composition?” By Marita Vargas (Kolbe Academy)
*****	For nearly two millennia, the West had a superb method of training writers and speakers to communicate clearly, logically, and beautifully. The classical model that was used for hundreds of years is now resurging among homeschooling Catholics. What are the basic nuts and bolts of this approach? How does it work? How could your child benefit? This talk will address such questions.
Workshop B: FREE - Open to the Public “The Basics: Why do we Homeschool?” by Mary Anne Shapiro	*****
A brief overview of Catholic homeschooling: Why anyone would choose it, the different resources and methods from which to choose, and some basic tips and warnings from 30 years of experience.	Workshop D: “Homeschooling Through High School” by Laura Berquist
9:00 p.m. Day Ends. Vendor Hall Closes	Until our children are about eleven or twelve, it is relatively easy to be confident that we are providing the best education for our children. At the junior-high age, doubts often arise. This may happen either because of our children’s change in attitude or our own concerns about our teaching abilities. This talk addresses both of those issues and points out that the most important help we can give our adolescent children is our time and conversation. Homeschooling thru high school makes it easier to do this.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“Raising Your Kids in Faith”

By Auxiliary Bishop Thomas A. Daly of the Diocese of San Jose

2:10 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

“Controlling the Chaos” By Ginny Seuffert

Having trouble balancing schoolwork, caring for babies, and housework? The key to getting it all done, while remaining serene and confident, is to simplify. Getting rid of clutter, regular household routines, an orderly curriculum, and straightforward discipline really work. This talk will help you control the chaos!

3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Workshops: Sessions 3

Workshop E: “High School to College” By Theresa Johnson and College Panel

The process from high school to college can be a challenge. What does your student need? Transcripts, Common Application, Homeschool supplement, SAT, ACT, AP, CLEP? This talk will cover the key aspects of the college application and tips your student needs to be prepared for college.

The talk will also consist of representatives from prominent Catholic universities. Each representative will provide their own insight on key requirements of the application process and offer guidance to help your student transition well into college.

Workshop F: “Toddlers to Teens and Teaching Time for All” By Laura Berquist

Homeschooling mothers of large families often wonder how on earth they can accomplish all of the tasks they need to do. When we have questions about how to do something, a logical first move is to ask advice from those who are doing it. I am blessed to live in a community with many large families, so in preparing this talk I asked a number of the teaching moms to share their wisdom about dealing with multiple grade levels simultaneously. Each family is unique, so what works with one may not work with all, but it is a good idea to accumulate tips about various techniques and keep a list. Then when you need help, try one or another of these suggestions, until you find a procedure that works for you.

4:30 p.m. Conference Ends. 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

This Conference is open to anyone interested in homeschooling. Invite your family and friends. All Religious are especially welcome free of charge.

We love children, but must restrict attendance to nursing babies only.

Please Feel Free to copy program and give to family and friends.

Visit the Gift Shop

www.olo-shrine.org/giftshop.html

Store Hours

Friday: 8:45 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Large selection of First Communion & Confirmation gifts!

Conference Special Features

Got a Question?

Special Education Needs Information and Books for sale in Vendor Hall

*If you would like to attend the **FREE** introductory workshop:*

“The Basics: Why Do We Homeschool?”

Please call or email to reserve your seat.

408-980-9825

OLOPHomeschoolingConference@gmail.com

For News, Updates & Vendors



www.facebook.com/CatholicHomeschoolConference

An email confirmation will be sent to everyone who mails or faxes their registration form.

Featured Speakers

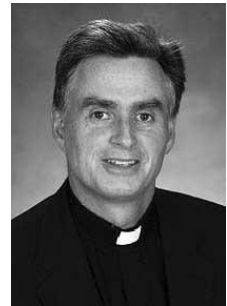


Mrs. Laura M. Berquist, a home schooling mother of six, is founder and director of Mother of Divine Grace School, a home study program currently serving 3800 students. Mrs. Berquist is the author of *Designing Your Own Classical Curriculum* and editor of *The Harp and Laurel Wreath: Poetry and Dictation for the Classical Curriculum*. Based on the philosophy of the classical Trivium—grammar, logic, and rhetoric—she has developed a modern classical home school curriculum for grades K-12 that strengthens character and intellect, and reinforces virtue.

Mrs. Berquist is a graduate of Thomas Aquinas College in Santa Paula, CA. She home schooled her six children for 23 years. All of them graduated from Thomas Aquinas College, in Santa Paula, CA. Four are married and currently three of them are in graduate school, two in philosophy.

Auxiliary Bishop Thomas A. Daly is the first Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of San Jose. He was ordained last May 25, 2011 in San Jose. Bishop Daly was born April 30, 1960, in San Francisco. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of San Francisco, 1982; a Master of Divinity degree from St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park, California, 1987; and a Master of Education degree from Boston College, 1996.

He was ordained a priest for the San Francisco Archdiocese in 1987. After ordination to the priesthood, he was parochial vicar of Our Lady of Loretto Parish, 1987-1992; teacher and campus minister, Marin Catholic High School, 1992-2003; part-time chaplain, San Francisco Police Department, 1995-2003; parochial vicar, St. Cecilia's Church, 1995-1999; Archdiocesan Director of Vocations, 2002-present and President, Marin Catholic High School, 2003-present.



Sharon Hensley is the author of [Home Schooling Children with Special Needs](#). She holds a Master's Degree in Special Education and has worked with a variety of special needs children including her oldest daughter who is autistic and mentally retarded.

Sharon began teaching in 1983, and moved into the field of special education in 1985. She has done classroom teaching, private therapy and consulting. She began home schooling in 1992 and is currently the director of Almaden Valley Christian School, an ISP for families with special needs children.

Marita Vargas has worked for 4 years as an Academic Advisor at Kolbe Academy. A former English/Writing teacher, she is aware of the limitations of process writing, and has embraced the classical model.

She has written course plans in support of a classical composition program for Kolbe, and has taught a junior high class using the method. She has also taken the full training seminars in Classical Composition with Jim Selby and the basic course with Andrew Kern. She is currently studying for her M.A. in English at a Bay Area Catholic university.





Mary Ann Shapiro is a lifelong educator. She started by teaching neighborhood children their catechism using the blackboard in the garage and never looked back. She graduated from Thomas Aquinas College and received her teaching credential through California State University at Los Angeles. After teaching in parochial schools in Los Angeles and working at the Department of Education during the Reagan administration, she 'retired' to raise her family. She is committed to homeschooling, educating her own children at home, working with parents through Christ the King Academy, her private school, and in recent years, working with the independent study charter school, Ocean Grove Charter School, where she is an Education Specialist, Educational Liaison to the community, and a Support Provider for new teachers who are facing their first year of teaching. Her thirty years of experience is broad and gives her a unique perspective on the world of home education.

Virginia (Ginny) Seuffert lectured, debated, and authored articles on behalf of the pro-life movement in New York, for several years before moving to the Chicago area in 1988. Since that time, she has switched her focus to strengthening Catholic family life, especially through home schooling. Ginny has appeared on EWTN, been a guest on numerous radio shows, lectured at Catholic family conferences all over the United States and Canada, and authored several articles on such topics as home education, teaching children the virtues, and household management. Her books *Ginny's Gems: Home Management Essentials* and *Teaching Your Preschooler* are available from Seton Press. She is a regular columnist for the Seton Home Study School Newsletter. Mrs. Seuffert received a first place award from the Illinois Press Association for a column she wrote defending traditional family values in a local newspaper. She is a founding member of the Illinois Association of Roman Catholic Home Educators. Mrs. Seuffert lives in Illinois with her husband of forty years. They have twelve children and sixteen grandchildren.



Theresa Johnson, a homeschooling parent of 15 years, has homeschooled all six of her children through high school. All of her children have gone on to study at universities, studying various fields such as Business, Ancient History, and Interior Design. Two are currently students and four have already graduated. Her oldest two sons have also received Masters Degrees. Theresa herself has studied the college application process vigorously while homeschooling her children. From experience, she knows what traits universities desire in prospective students and how students can work to achieve those qualities. She has served actively as a project leader in 4-H, teaching sewing, instructing public speaking, and organizing county events. Theresa works in accounting. Recently, Theresa and her husband have begun giving talks on Finance for Marriage Preparation Classes at Our Lady of Peace. Theresa is the Conference Coordinator for this year's Northern California Catholic Homeschooling Conference.