



# Parent Pages

## Preparing the environment of the Domestic Church\*

\* The term "Domestic Church" refers to the family, the smallest body of gathered believers in Christ. Though recovered only recently, the term dates back to the first century AD. The Greek word ecclesiola referred to "little church." The early Church understood that the home was fertile ground for discipleship, sanctification, and holiness. Visit us at [www.cgsusa.org](http://www.cgsusa.org)

## The Lord's Prayer

Sofia Cavalletti speaks about the Our Father...

"Among the teachings of Jesus, the Our Father has a privileged place in our catechesis since it is also included in the content of the 3-6 Atrium. This is keeping with our rule, 'give the greatest things to the youngest children.' Thus, after pondering the great parables of the Kingdom with the youngest children we pray with them, 'your kingdom come' both in words and in song, but no more than that." (Level III CGS DVD)

The Lord's Prayer is also lifted up in the Level II or the 6-9-year-old Atrium. When the apostles asked Jesus how they were to pray He shared these words of prayer with them. After hearing His words proclaimed from Scripture, the children are invited to place the lines of the Our Father in the order in which they are prayed. Often, the children also enjoy copying them and praying them together in community. On the First Sacraments Retreat the children who have received the gift of this beautiful prayer are invited to prepare their own copy of the prayer and "return" this gift by praying it together with their families and Atrium community.



