

FORMED®

Does your parish community speak Spanish and English?

Parish-Wide Studies (PWS) unite us as a family of faith. Parishes with Hispanic ministry are present in every diocese of the United States from East to West. This diverse presence is one of the greatest blessings for the Church in the last few decades, but many pastors feel as if they are running “two parishes under one roof.” The sense of unity and collaboration that should be part of every Catholic community is difficult to reach because each group uses its own programs, models, and content. At the Augustine Institute, we believe what St. John Paul II proclaimed in *Novo Millennio Ineunte*: “To make the Church the home and the school of communion: that is the great challenge facing us in the millennium, which is now beginning, if we wish to be faithful to God’s plan and respond to the world’s deepest yearnings” (no. 43).

For that reason, we have created the **One Family Under God** initiative. Our Catholic Faith is the uniting bond that calls us and brings us together. It is not only by knowing other cultures and customs that we build the unity of the Body of Christ, but by acknowledging and embracing our common Catholic Faith. Being Catholics before being Hispanics, Anglos, or Asians, we unite fully in the faith of our one Church. At FORMED, we want all parishioners—regardless of language or national origin—growing, learning, and strengthening their faith and relationship with our one Lord Jesus Christ in the Church. With the **One Family Under God** initiative, all parishioners will watch the same content, in their own language, but nothing will be specifically Hispanic or English; rather, it will be Catholic.

To use a parish-wide study to build unity within your parish family, do the following:

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1. Choose a Study

Choose a study that fits the needs of your parish. We recommend that you begin with [Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist](#) and [Presencia: El Misterio de la Eucaristía](#).

Order the Augustine Institute's study guides, specially priced at 60% off for parishes with FORMED. Study guides are downloadable for FREE with a FORMED subscription and can be printed in-house, but many parishes prefer the ease and comparable cost of ordering discounted guides in bulk from Catholic.Market (Guides in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)).

2. Extend an Invitation to Participate

Access [free promotional materials](#) to spread the word about the study in your parish. Use your printed materials to spread the word in your bulletin, gathering space, and invite the whole community to take part through a pulpit pitch. Most importantly, extend personal invitations to families, small groups, and individuals.

3. Go through the Study

Use the study's Homily Talking Points (found with the [Parish-Wide Study Resources](#)) to continue delving into the study as a parish family every Sunday. Use social media, weekly announcements, your parish website, and your bulletin to remind parishioners to watch this week's episode.

4. Celebrate as One Family Under God

Invite all parishioners to take part in the Parish-Wide Study in their own language. At the end, invite them to celebrate that they have been nourished by the common faith of the Church. By recognizing that the Catholic Faith which unites us is greater than our differences, we will be opened to living and collaborating as a family, human and fragile, but filled with our Lord's grace to be One Family Under God.