



## *How to Start a Homeschool Co-op*

*Saint Emmelia Ministries  
Orthodox Christian Homeschooling*

### **1. Pray and Seek Advice from your Priest**

Begin your efforts by taking time to pray and discuss your desire to start a homeschool co-op with your priest. Delay any major decisions until after the next Feast of the Church.

### **2. Recruit a Team**

Seek out two or three other homeschool parents who share your interest in starting a co-op. You will need each other for shared labor, support and encouragement as the year unfolds.

### **3. Define your Purpose**

Take the time to carefully articulate your purpose in starting a co-op. This will help to guide your efforts and prevent going down rabbit trails in the future.

### **4. Spread the Word**

Use all available platforms to let other Orthodox homeschooling families in your area know about the new co-op. (Area parishes, social media groups, email lists, etc.)

### **5. Organize an Informational Session**

Pick a date to gather those families who are interested to share your vision for this new co-op and to answer questions. Be sure to plan an activity for the children so they are included in this first phase! Collect contact information for those who want to be involved.

### **6. Make a Schedule of Events**

Create your schedule of meetings and activities for the year and distribute them widely. Be sure to remind families as the date of an event draws near!

### **7. Feedback & Review**

Be sure you remain open to feedback throughout the year, but especially as you plan for the next school year!