

FAQ

Chastity and Sexuality Guidelines in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

1. Refresh my memory, “which grade levels of Family Life are schools and faith formation programs required to teach in the 2010-11 program year?”

The revisions to our chastity guidelines signed by Archbishop Buechlein in 2008, required each school or parish faith formation program to implemented either the Benziger Family Life series or the Harcourt Growing in Love series by the 2009-10 program year. The above resources will be implemented for grades K – 8 by the program year 2011-12.

As of *this* program year 2010-11, minimally, each school and parish faith formation program needs to have implemented either the Harcourt *Growing in Love* series or the Benziger *Family Life* series, including parent/student resources, in grades 5 – 8.

At this point, schools and parish programs have had time to budget for implementation of these guidelines.

Thanks to those schools and parish faith formation programs that have “led the way” integrating the resources and teacher/catechist training. Over all, the response especially from parents has been positive.

If you have not implemented these resources and/or need training for staff, now is the time to “get ‘er done!” Call or email Margaret Hendricks at 317.441.8956 or Mhendricks@archindy.org if you have questions.

2. Tell me, “why do I have to attend training when I have been teaching these lessons for years?”

The need for training was identified through program evaluation and focus groups. In other words, teachers and catechists, told us they needed training.

Training is a requirement for all who teach chastity or sexuality because as Catholics, we have a responsibility to teach the Faith clearly, compellingly and pastorally. The goal of this initiative is to foster *in all persons* an understanding of and guidance in **“life-long” human sexuality and chastity education.**

The introductory teacher/catechist training is an 8 hour in-service that is broken into the following sections: Medical, Psychological, Theological and a practical section that helps define the roles and responsibility of parents, teachers, catechists and pastors.

This training is ADULT training and is designed to educate ADULTS. Not all the information in the training will be used in the classroom with adolescents. There are many adults who do not realize the magnitude of sexual promiscuity and its impact upon our FAMILIES, the domestic church. There are also some individuals with limited knowledge regarding chastity and sexuality but find it is difficult to articulate the information appropriately with other adults, let alone adolescents.

