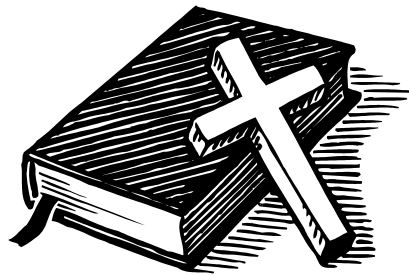


ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC CHURCH

**YOUTH FORMATION
PROGRAM**



**Parent/Guardian
Handbook**

The Ten Areas of Catechesis

A well-planned catechetical program includes all ten areas of catechesis:

1. **Adults**- A study of adult forms of learning is part of the planning for the adult formation programs. A variety of adult programs meets the needs of all people.
2. **Family**- A family-centered formation program provides an opportunity for the entire family to do quality sharing and eliminates pulling the family in different directions.
3. **Young Adults**- Post high school people often have a difficult time finding their place in the Church. Programs of peer ministry, scripture study, spirituality, social service programs are appropriate offerings
4. **Adolescents**- Working with adolescents involves both catechizing and formation e.g. social, recreational, community building, and apostolic activities.
5. **Children of Catechetical Age**- An organized catechetical program helps call children to a greater understanding of their faith. A budget that allows for materials to develop creative, interesting programs is a necessity.
6. **Early Childhood**- A program to provide an environment where children will develop attitudes of love and respect for themselves and others through sharing, group experiences, awareness of feelings, use of creativity, and developing language skills. These activities call forth the child's deep sense of wonder.
7. **Persons with Disabilities**- Programs designed to meet the needs of persons with disabilities and their families flow from a welcoming parish community. When possible, special needs persons are to be included in the parish catechetical and sacramental programs. Gatherings to meet the special needs are encouraged; such as retreats, renewals, "Faith and Light." Advocacy for special needs includes accessibility to buildings, availability of programs, mentors, and inclusion in parish life and activities.
8. **Catholic Schools**- Catholic schools provide an atmosphere where the student's faith grows, and is integrated into all life experiences.
9. **Marginalized**- Catechesis must address itself to those who are "the least of the brethren" (Mt 25:40-45) such as immigrants, refugees, nomads, traveling people, the chronically ill, drug addicts, prisoners, and others whose spiritual needs must be nourished and cared for.
10. **Elderly**- The growing number of people who are elderly represents a great pastoral challenge for the Church. Catechesis of the elderly must happen within the context of the community of believers who see the elderly as valuable gifts of God to the Church and society.

Program planning committees assess how best to address the needs of these groups. The CRE/DRE is constantly aware of this responsibility, evaluating what has been done and looking at new ways to meet the needs of the people involved.

Parish Sacramental Preparation Policy

Families in the religious education program must be registered members of All Saints Parish. The religious education and formation of each child is a responsibility shared by the parent/guardian and the parish religious education program.

A person must be a baptized member of the Catholic faith **and** a member of All Saints Parish to be in a preparation phase for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation. Persons not baptized in the Catholic tradition must be involved in a catechumenate process to prepare for the sacraments.

The program preparing children for the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation involve parents. Parent education is aimed in assisting parents in fulfilling their roles as primary educators. It is required for parent/guardian to attend meetings for sacramental preparation if a child is to participate in the sacramental celebrations. Parish religious education is meant to enhance and assist the parents.

Baptism

- Parents of infants and children under the age of seven who wish to have their child baptized must attend a Pre-Baptismal class.
- Classes are offered four or more times a year.
- Baptisms are scheduled by pastoral appointment.

Reconciliation

- A child must have been in a religious education program at least one year prior to preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Formal catechesis for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place before catechesis for First Eucharist.
- Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is primarily the responsibility of the parents.
- The minimum age for a person preparing for the sacrament is seven years old.
- If the person preparing for the sacrament is of grade school age, a parent is expected to attend the preparation meeting(s).

Eucharist

- A child must have been in a religious education program at least one year prior to preparing for the Sacrament of Eucharist.
- Formal catechesis for the Sacrament of Eucharist will take place after catechesis for First Reconciliation.
- Preparation for the Sacrament of Eucharist is primarily the responsibility of the parents.
- The minimum age for a person preparing for the sacrament is seven years old.

Confirmation

- A student must have been in a religious education program at least one year prior to preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Formal catechesis and adherence to Confirmation requirements is essential to receive Confirmation.
- Preparation for Confirmation relies heavily on aid from parents and the candidate's sponsor.
- The norm age for the Sacrament of Confirmation is 15 according to the Archdiocesan Handbook.

(For more information, see "Sacramental Guidelines from Church Documents")

Vision 2000

A Vision for the Church of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, in response to Pope John Paul II's call to prepare for the celebration of Christ's coming amongst us 2000 years ago.

We Believe...

in the God whose saving love is revealed to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and who sent the Holy Spirit to form us into the community of Christ's disciples, the Church.

We Affirm...

that all of us are called to share fully in the Church's mission to teach, to serve, and sanctify.

We Envision...

a Church in which the spirit of community and service is renewed, in which all have full access to the Word of God, in which faithful ministers are provided for all communities, and in which Christian family life is fully supported.

We Plan...

with the help of God's grace, to fulfill the goals and carry out the strategies which will make this vision a reality.

Archdiocesan Mission Statement

We the Church of the Archdiocese of Dubuque,
are God's people
gathering together as a Eucharistic community to worship,
sharing the Word of God,
affirming traditional and emerging leadership roles
and supporting families
to model Catholic faith and morality
for the next generation.
We commit ourselves
to lifelong faith formation and to the service of humanity
because we believe in the Risen Christ,
in the wisdom and kindness of God, the Author of life
and in the love the Holy Spirit bestows.

We Envision...

This faith and these principles inspired us to envision a Church in which we
...are disciples of Christ empowered by the Holy Spirit to be a community "devoted to the apostles' instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and prayers," zealous in caring for the needs of others. (Acts 1:8; 2:42; 4:34)
...are a people in whom the biblical Word of God finds rich soil, flourishes in the truth of Catholic teaching and produces a harvest of holiness and social justice. (Luke 8:8; 6:45)
... are ministered to by faith-filled and qualified persons in leadership who imitate the Good Shepherd and are "worthy of their hire." (1 Peter 5:1-4, Matthew 10:10)
...support families, in various forms, striving to be domestic churches which instill Catholic faith and morality in the hearts of the next generation. (Ephesians 5:21-6:4)

Discipline Policy

The respect and dignity of all persons is valued. Discipline helps all students as it contributes to a climate of learning, loving, and living. It helps each student as it provides an environment to guide students to become a self-disciplined person.

Each catechist in the classroom will clarify and set up goals for learning and establish classroom guidelines. These guidelines will be posted and shared with the Director of Religious Education (DRE). Goal-setting and positive consequences encourage students to choose appropriate behavior. Normal discipline problems are to be handled by the classroom catechist.

If there are recurrent or serious problems, the catechist discusses the situation with the DRE. The student will be dismissed from class, following this procedure:

1. The student will meet with the DRE.
2. The student will fill out a discipline form. The student and DRE agree on appropriate behavior.
3. The student and DRE will sign the discipline form. The student returns to class. After class, the DRE will give the form to the catechist to sign and the student will take it home to obtain the parent/guardian signature.
4. The DRE will notify the parent/guardian of the disciplinary action.
5. Discipline forms will be filed in the Religious Education Office for the year. When a student has two forms on file, a conference will be held with the parent/guardian, the student, the catechist, and DRE.
6. A mutual agreement with the above parties involved may mean a two week assigned work at home.
7. If, after returning to the classroom, the student is again dismissed from class, the student will not be allowed to attend class for the remainder of the year. An appropriate family religious education plan will be designed at home and monitored by the DRE.

Guidelines and Procedures

Calendar Changes – If the calendar is changed, you will receive written notice with your child and/or a notice will be placed in the parish bulletin/website.

Inclement weather- In the event of inclement weather, cancellation of classes for that day or evening will be announced by e-mail as well as on the parish website at allsaintscr.com. If there is no school for the day (CR Area Community Schools) religious education classes are automatically cancelled.

Arrival and Dismissal – Classes for 1-5 are from 6:30-7:45 p.m. Children will enter and be dismissed at the doors of their classroom. Parents/guardians of students in grades 1-5 will pick up their children at the classroom. Encourage your children to walk as they enter the building. Classes for grades 6-10 are from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Students will not be allowed in any classroom before the catechist arrives. After the catechist admits the students to the room, the catechist is responsible for supervising the students. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and courteous manner.

Attendance- Attendance at programs and classes is essential to develop a sense of belonging to our Parish Community, for growth in your child's relationship to God, and for an ongoing understanding of our Catholic faith.

Please call the Youth Formation office at 363-6130 ext.114 or email youthformation@allsaintscr.com if your child cannot attend class for any reason. Please call as soon as you know your child will not be in class. This message will then be relayed to your child's teacher. If your child is not accounted for, an office assistant will call you to ensure your child's safety.

1st -9th Grade: Students can miss 2 classes per semester (a total of 4 per year) and make up work may be sent home with a sibling or picked up by the parent.

10th Grade: Students can miss 3 classes throughout the year and make up work may be sent home with a sibling or picked up by the parent. Any absences over 3 will result in a make-up class for each absence.

Note: Confirmation students will only be allowed to 1 of the 9 scheduled Confirmation preparation classes. The student will make up the work missed in order to insure the student is prepared for his or her Confirmation.

Special Needs – Parents are requested to list any health concerns of a student on the registration form. Parents are also requested to list any special needs of a student with learning disabilities on the registration form. This information will be communicated only to the appropriate catechists.

Communications – There will be written communications to parents during the year. Children will be responsible to deliver notes to parents from catechists or the DRE. Ongoing communication between catechists and parents is highly recommended. Parents are encouraged to contact the catechists and/or the DRE if a problem develops. E-mail is heavily utilized for the program year. Please make sure to provide an e-mail address if you wish to receive electronic communication.

Property – Respect for a person's property and for school and parish property is expected in every area of the school. Children are required to walk in school corridors and classrooms for their safety. Food

and gum are not allowed in any classroom or building unless it is part of the class program and under the authority of the catechists.

Proper Dress- Appropriate attire in the Religious Education Program is necessary. Dress reflects one's attitude towards persons and the activity.

Emergency Calls- Phone calls by a child will be made from the Religious Education Office. Only necessary calls will be made, with permission and assistance from the DRE.

Lost Articles – Lost and found articles are kept in the Religious Education Office.

Field Trips – If a field trip is planned, parents are required to give written permission for a child to participate. Permission forms need to be signed before departure. Parents are encouraged to assist in transportation and/or as chaperons. Students who do not receive parental permission will complete assigned work in the Religious Education Office.

Prayers, Beliefs, and Practices – Prayer is an integral part of every lesson at all age levels. Parents/guardians are to help their child learn their prayers. Please see the listing of Prayers, Beliefs and Practices and the grade levels at which they are to be taught.

Sacramental Preparations – Children who will receive Sacraments and their parents are expected to attend all preparation meetings and other events as well as comply with all requirements.

Electronic Devices- Students are to have all portable electronic devices (cell phones, music players, video games, etc) off and not visible. It is preferred that these devices are left at home. Catechists, aids, and volunteer staff have the authority to take away these devices if they become a distraction to the class or collect them at the beginning of class to prevent distraction. Students then will be able claim their electronic device at the end of class.

Roles and Responsibilities

Parents/Guardians

You model your faith for your children daily. What your child will learn from religious education class depends on your support and reinforcement at home, attending Sunday mass as a family, and family prayer. Your interest and encouragement let your child know you value what is being done in the religious education class. Learning prayers and the Catholic faith cannot be done only during classtime. We expect you, the parents/guardians, to work with your child at home by using the family activity pages brought home and by dialoguing with your child about what is being learned in the classroom.

Catechist

The role of the catechist is to “echo the Good News.” The Good News is the message of Jesus and the Catholic Church, prayer and worship, community with each other and within the parish, and service to all peoples. Catechists help lead the children to grow in their faith and relationship with Christ in the Church.

Parish Faith Formation Commission (FFC)

The FFC is responsible for establishing goals, setting policies in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Faith Formation Commission, setting the budget, implementing programs, and evaluating the programs with the DRE. Members are elected from the parish. The Pastor and DRE serve as members on the Commission.

Director of Religious Education (DRE)

The DRE is a catechetical leader and administrator who is responsible for overall direction of parish catechetical programs. This includes working with the pastor, other ministers, and appropriate committees, boards or councils involved in setting policy and planning; supervising coordinators, designing catechetical programs; assisting in liturgical planning; conducting sacramental preparation workshops; and providing opportunities for catechetical formation.

Archdiocesan Faith Formation Commission – Significant Policies

Policy numbers and titles are in **bold**, followed by a short description of the policy. The complete policy can be found in the Archdiocesan Faith Formation Commission Policy Book.

2511 – Internet

Employees, volunteers, and students of the Archdiocese of Dubuque shall abide by the terms, conditions, and regulations for the use of Internet and related technologies.

2515.1 – Sexual Harassment

All educational programs governed by the Archdiocese of Dubuque shall maintain a learning and working environment free from sexual harassment.

2515.11 – Harassment

All educational programs governed by the Archdiocese of Dubuque shall maintain a learning and working environment free from any type of harassment. No employee, volunteer or student associated with these programs shall be subjected to harassment

4111.4d – Standards of Conduct

The policy describes the type of conduct expected from those who work in educational programs of the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

4116.30a – Mandatory reporting of Child Abuse

Any certified or licensed employee must report suspected child abuse to the Department of Human Services within 24 hours. The school will provide training for mandatory reporters within six months of initial employment and every five years thereafter.

5117.1 – Home Schooling – Religious Education

Parents/guardians and children are expected to participate in the parish sponsored catechetical programs approved by the Office of Catechetical Services.

5131.7b – Guns/Weapons in Parish/Regional/Diocesan Programs

Weapons or dangerous objects will be confiscated from catechetical program students and reported to law enforcement officials. The participant will be subjected to disciplinary action.

5133 – Gangs

Youth gangs and gang related activities are prohibited. Involvement and jurisdiction of school program authorities in gang related incidents occurring outside the school or off school/parish property will be determined.

5141.3 – Bloodborne Pathogens

All educational programs governed by the Archdiocese of Dubuque shall strive to eliminate occupational exposure to bloodborne pathogens in schools and catechetical programs.

5144 – Discipline Guidelines

Schools and catechetical programs establish rules and regulations in keeping with Catholic principles and values. Corporal punishment is not used.

5144.1 – Probation, Suspension and/or Expulsion

The administrator has the authority to place a student on probation or to suspend a student temporarily. A Discipline Committee appointed by the administrator shall have the authority to expel a student.

5144.3 – Harassment/ Bullying of Students

No student associated with the educational programs governed by the Archdiocese of Dubuque shall be subjected to any type of harassment/bullying while on school/parish property, and any school/parish function, or at a school/parish sponsored activity regardless of location.

5145.2 – Search and Seizure

A school official may conduct search if there is reasonable suspicion of criminal offense, or school rule violated, or the belief that a search will provide evidence.

6141.11 – Education in Human Sexuality

Catholic schools and catechetical programs will provide education in human sexuality. It moves beyond the biological and scientific information into the fields of values and moral formation. Parents are included in the education process.

6150 – Catechetical Program Standards

Parishes provide catechetical programs for students attending public school. Commissions need to evaluate annually the program, the number of students per class and the integration of persons with disabilities. Approved textbooks are used.

6150.2 – Parental Involvement

Parents are the primary educators of children. Parents/guardians are to be involved in the parish catechetical program.

6150.4 – Sacramental Catechesis

In parishes with a Catholic school and a catechetical program, the program for parents/guardians, sponsors, and parish involvement is to be conducted jointly in the preparation for sacraments.

Sacramental Guidelines from Church Documents

Sacraments

The Sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated signify and make present the graces proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions (Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) #1131).

The purpose of the sacraments is to sanctify, to build up the Body of Christ and, finally, to give worship to God. Because they are signs they also instruct. They not only presuppose faith, but by words and objects they also nourish, strengthen, and express it. That is why they are called sacraments of faith (CCC, #1123).

Sacraments of Initiation

The sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, lay the foundations of every Christian life. Baptism is the beginning of new life, Confirmation strengthens the life born in Christ, and Eucharist nourishes the disciple with the Body and Blood of Christ (CCC, #1212, 1275).

Baptism

Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, the way to life in the Spirit and the door which gives access to the other sacraments.

Catechesis for Baptism

From the time of the apostles, becoming a Christian as been accomplished by a journey and initiation in several stages. This journey can be covered rapidly or slowly but certain essential elements will always have to be present: proclamation of the Word, acceptance of the Gospel entailing conversion, profession of faith, Baptism itself, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, and admission to Eucharistic Communion (CCC, #1229).

Where infant Baptism is celebrated, it has become a single act of abridging the preparatory stages of Christian initiation. An opportunity for catechesis is to be given to parents in preparation for the celebration of the sacrament.

Children of catechetical age (7) should follow the adult Christian initiation model; that is, catechumenal formation and celebrating the three sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil (Canon 852). The Archdiocese of Dubuque encourages the reception of all three sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Even though the person of catechetical age receives all three sacraments, it is assumed that they participate in the preparation program offered in their teen years. If, however, parents, in consultation with the pastor on the options available and the rationale, wish to delay their child's reception of the sacrament of Confirmation until after age 15, they need to make that request of the archbishop. The dispensation would be granted on an individual basis (Handbook, Archdiocese of Dubuque, #2115).

The Christian initiation for adults and adapted for older children, begins with their entry into the catechumenate and culminates in a single celebration of the three sacraments of initiation. The rites for these stages are to be found in the *Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults* (1972, 1988). The catechumenate, or formation of catechumens, is to bring conversion and faith to maturity. The formation of Christian life initiates the catechumen into the mystery of salvation and the practice of the evangelical virtues, as well as the life of faith, liturgy, and charity (CCC, #1248).

Confirmation

Confirmation, as a sacrament, deepens baptismal grace in us by uniting us more firmly to Christ, increasing the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us, bonding us more fully with the Church, and strengthens us by the Holy Spirit to live the faith by word and action.

Like Baptism which it completes, Confirmation is given only once.

Catechesis for Confirmation

Catechetical preparation is to lead the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and bonding with the Holy Spirit in order to assume the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. Catechesis is to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church as well as the parish community. The parish community has the special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands.

The Confirmation process has three phases: preparation, celebration, and mystagogy. Program planning should approach these distinct phases as an integrated whole.

To receive the sacrament of Confirmation, the ordinary norm is the minimum age of 15 in the Archdiocese of Dubuque.

Candidates for Confirmation are to have a sponsor. To emphasize the unity of Baptism and Confirmation as initiation sacraments, it is appropriate that this be one of the baptismal godparents. Sponsors must be at least 16 years old, already confirmed, and a practicing Catholic. The role of the sponsor is to assist in the catechetical and liturgical preparation for the sacrament, witness the celebration, and support the candidate to fulfill the baptismal promises (Handbook, Archdiocese of Dubuque, #2150).

Holy Eucharist

The Holy Eucharist completes Christian initiation. The Eucharist is the efficacious sign and sublime cause of the communion in the divine life and the unity of the People of God as Church. It is the culmination of the act of God sanctifying the world in Christ and of the worship offered to Christ and through him to the father in the Holy Spirit (CCC, #1322,1325).

Anyone who desires to receive Christ in Eucharistic communion must be in the state of grace. Anyone aware of having sinned mortally must not receive communion without having received absolution in the sacrament of Reconciliation (CCC, #1415)

Catechesis for Holy Eucharist

Children must have sufficient knowledge and careful preparation to receive the sacrament of Holy Eucharist. They are to understand the mystery of Christ according to their capacity, and receive the Body of the Lord with faith and devotion. Children must be able to distinguish the Body of Christ from ordinary food and to receive Holy Communion reverently (Canon 913).

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians as well as the pastor to see that children who have reached the age of reason are correctly prepared and are nourished by the divine food as early as possible, preceded by sacramental confession (Canon 914).

Sacrament of Healing

Reconciliation

In the sacrament of Reconciliation, also referred to as the sacrament of conversion, confession, and penance, sins committed after baptism are forgiven. The penitent reconciles with God in grace, reconciles with the Church, and receives penance for their sins, receives inner peace and spiritual strength to live in the Christian life (CCC, #1496).

The penitent asks forgiveness, confesses sins to the priest, and makes the intention to do reparation (CCC, #1491).

Catechesis for Reconciliation

The decision as to when the child will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation is to be made by the child and his or her parents/guardians, in consultation with the priest who knows the child and the catechist how has helped prepare the child. In all cases the rights of the child must be respected.

Catechesis for the sacrament of Reconciliation is to be separated from catechesis for the sacrament of Eucharist so that the child will come to understand Reconciliation as a distinct sacrament.

A child is to receive instruction on the sacrament of Reconciliation before his or her first Communion.

It is the uniform practice in the Archdiocese of Dubuque that sacramental confession precedes the reception of first Holy Communion. In those parishes where this is not the case, the practice should be brought into conformity with the Church's law as quickly as prudently possible (Handbook, Archdiocese of Dubuque, #2219)

Parental involvement in Sacramental Preparation

Parents/guardians are to be involved in the preparation of their children for the celebration of the sacraments. Therefore, parishes/systems are to plan and implement programs following the directives of the archdiocese for the reception of the sacraments. These directives are designed to prepare and involve parents/guardians, sponsors and the parish community in the preparation for sacraments, in particular with regard to Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. Parent meetings/parish involvement should jointly involve individuals from all programs offered (AFFC Policy #6150.4).

Prayers, Beliefs and Practices

Suggested/Recommended at Developmentally Appropriate Grade Levels

Kindergarten

- Sign of the Cross
- Grace Before a Meal
- Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
- Hail Mary

Grade 1

- Sign of the Cross
 - Grace Before a Meal
 - Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
 - Hail Mary
- New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:
- Grace After a Meal
 - Glory Be
 - Morning Prayer
 - Angel of God

Grade 2

- Sign of the Cross
 - Grace Before/After a Meal
 - Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
 - Hail Mary
 - Glory Be
 - Morning Prayer
 - Angel of God
- New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:
- Act of Contrition
 - Communion Fast
 - Communion Regulations
 - The Ten Commandments

Grade 3

- Sign of the Cross
 - Grace Before/After a Meal
 - Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
 - Hail Mary
 - Glory Be
 - Morning Prayer
 - Angel of God
 - Act of Contrition
 - Communion Fast
 - Communion Regulations
 - The Ten Commandments
- New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:
- Apostles' Creed
 - The Rosary
 - The Two Commandments of Love • Liturgical Year

Grade 4

- Sign of the Cross
 - Grace Before/After a Meal
 - Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
 - Hail Mary
 - Glory Be
 - Morning Prayer
 - Angel of God
 - Act of Contrition
 - Communion Fast
 - Communion Regulations
 - The Ten Commandments
 - Apostles' Creed
 - The Rosary
 - The Two Commandments of Love
 - Liturgical Year
- New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:
- Jesus Prayer
 - Act of Faith
 - Act of Hope
 - Act of Love
 - Seven Sacraments
 - Beatitudes
 - Mysteries of the Rosary

Grade 5

- Sign of the Cross
- Grace Before/After a Meal
- Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
- Hail Mary
- Glory Be
- Morning Prayer
- Angel of God
- Act of Contrition
- Communion Fast
- Communion Regulations
- The Ten Commandments
- Apostles' Creed
- The Rosary
- The Two Commandments of Love
- Liturgical Year
- Jesus Prayer
- Act of Faith
- Act of Hope
- Act of Love
- Seven Sacraments
- Beatitudes
- Mysteries of the Rosary

New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:

- The Stations of the Cross
- Morning Offering
- Memorare
- Hail Holy Queen
- The Five Precepts of the Church
- Parts of the Mass

Grade 6

- Sign of the Cross
- Grace Before/After a Meal
- Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
- Hail Mary
- Glory Be
- Morning Prayer
- Angel of God
- Act of Contrition
- Communion Fast
- Communion Regulations
- The Ten Commandments
- Apostles' Creed
- The Rosary
- The Two Commandments of Love
- Liturgical Year
- Jesus Prayer
- Act of Faith
- Act of Hope
- Act of Love
- Seven Sacraments
- Beatitudes
- Mysteries of the Rosary

New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:

- The Stations of the Cross
- Morning Offering
- Memorare
- Hail Holy Queen
- The Five Precepts of the Church
- Parts of the Mass

New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:

- The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy
- The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy
- The Fruits of the Holy Spirit
- The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Four Gospels
- The Golden Rule

Grade 7

- Sign of the Cross
 - Grace Before/After a Meal
 - Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
 - Hail Mary
 - Glory Be
 - Morning Prayer
 - Angel of God
 - Act of Contrition
 - Communion Fast
 - Communion Regulations
 - The Ten Commandments
 - Apostles' Creed
 - The Rosary
 - The Two Commandments of Love
 - Liturgical Year
 - Jesus Prayer
 - Act of Faith
 - Act of Hope
 - Act of Love
 - Seven Sacraments
 - Beatitudes
 - Mysteries of the Rosary
 - The Stations of the Cross
 - Morning Offering
 - Memorare
 - Hail Holy Queen
 - The Five Precepts of the Church
 - Parts of the Mass
 - The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy
 - The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy
 - The Fruits of the Holy Spirit
 - The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
 - Four Gospels
 - The Golden Rule
- New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:
- Nicene Creed
 - Come, Holy Spirit (Prayer to the Holy Spirit)
 - Angelus
 - Holy Days of Obligation
 - Regulations for Fast and Abstinence
 - The Three Theological Virtues
 - The Four Cardinal Virtues

Grade 8

- Sign of the Cross
 - Our Father/The Lord's Prayer
 - Hail Mary
 - Grace Before/After a Meal
 - Glory Be
 - Angel of God
 - Act of Contrition
 - Communion Fast
 - Communion Regulations
 - The Ten Commandments
 - Apostles' Creed
 - The Rosary
 - The Two Commandments of Love
 - Liturgical Year
 - Jesus Prayer
 - Act of Faith
 - Act of Hope
 - Act of Love
 - Seven Sacraments
 - Beatitudes
 - Mysteries of the Rosary
 - The Stations of the Cross
 - Morning Offering
 - Memorare
 - Hail Holy Queen
 - The Five Precepts of the Church
 - Parts of the Mass
 - The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy
 - The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy
 - The Fruits of the Holy Spirit
 - The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
 - Four Gospels
 - The Golden Rule
 - Nicene Creed
 - Come, Holy Spirit (Prayer to the Holy Spirit)
 - Angelus
 - Holy Days of Obligation
 - Regulations for Fast and Abstinence
 - The Three Theological Virtues
 - The Four Cardinal Virtues
- New Prayers, Beliefs and Practices introduced at this level are:
- Prayer of St. Francis
 - Mary's Prayer (Magnificat)
 - Psalm 23
 - Confiteor
 - The Seven Capital Sins
 - The Four Last Things

Education in Human Sexuality

Instruction - 6141.11

Education In Human Sexuality (Most recent review: March 6, 2004)

Policy adopted: October 9, 1982

Revised: December 3, 1988; July 1, 2003

Archdiocesan Board of Education

Education in human sexuality is mandated in Catholic schools and in catechetical programs and is understood within the context of the dimensions below.

Local boards of education have a responsibility to appoint a resource committee to study comprehensive programs for education in human sexuality. These programs are to be in accord with the guidelines of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Catholic School curriculum must also comply with the Code of Iowa §279.50.

That is, education in human sexuality:

- is developed and applied in the individual's environments—home, church, school and community;
- meets the changing needs of the growing, developing person from early childhood to advanced age;
- embraces the entire person— moral, spiritual, psychological, emotional and physical;
- includes all the important biological and scientific information regarding human sexuality, and moves beyond that into the fields of values and moral formation;
- includes parents/guardians in the education process;
- present a positive view of human sexuality which builds upon mutual respect, and provides youth with an understanding of the elements of a safe environment which fosters respect.

Rationale:

“As children and young people advance in years, they should be given positive and prudent sexual education.” Vatican II, Declaration on Christian Education, N. 1 (1965)

“We continue to regard this education in human sexuality as an important priority in Christian education, met in part through diocesan-approved Family Life education in Catholic schools and other instructional programs.” U.S. Bishops, To Teach as Jesus Did, N. 56 (1971)

“Parents have a most solemn obligation to educate their offspring, including matters of sexuality. They are assisted in this task by educators working in schools, parishes, and dioceses. It is vital that educators involve parents in the planning, programming, and implementation of formal human-sexuality education programs. Educators work not only with children but also with other adults, who continue to grow in their understanding of sexuality.” Human Sexuality, a Catholic Perspective for Education and Lifelong Learning, USCC, (1991) p.86

“Each school board shall provide instruction in human growth and development including instruction regarding human sexuality, self-esteem, stress management, interpersonal relationships, and acquired immune deficiency syndrome as required in section 256.11, in grades one through twelve. Each school board shall annually provide to a parent or guardian of any pupil enrolled in the school district, information about the human growth and development curriculum used in the pupil's grade level and the procedure for inspecting the instructional materials prior to their use in the classroom. A pupil shall not be required to take instruction in human growth and development if the pupil's parent or guardian files with the appropriate principal a written request that the pupil be excused from the instruction.” School Laws of Iowa, §279.50.

Guidelines

Regulation approved: June 4, 1983

Revised: December 3, 1988

Archdiocesan Board of Education

These guidelines are given to provide immediate direction to local boards of education in the implementation of Policy 6141.11 and the State of Iowa Code §279.50.

Guidelines

Establish a parish resource committee made up of representatives of parents/guardians, teachers, school administrators, directors of religious education, students, health care professionals, priests, members of the parish community. Use the Office of Educational Services as a resource when appropriate.

Revised June 2011

Tasks of the Committee:

1. Study the Archdiocesan Policy 6141.11 and Iowa Code § 279.50.
2. Study pertinent church documents, including the Policy for Protection of Minors, Archdiocese of Dubuque (2003).
3. Develop the parish program in the light of the policies and guidelines.
4. Inform all parents/guardians and parishioners at each step of the program and receive input.
5. Provide for excused students as required in church documents and Iowa Code §279.50.
6. In-service teachers in the teaching of the human sexuality program.
7. Follow ABE 1312 in cases of complaints.

Components of the Program:

1. Objectives of the program;
2. Participants in the program;
3. Manner of involving parish, parents/guardians, school, catechetical program;
4. Materials that will be used;
5. Preparation of instructors and continued in-service;
6. Timeline of implementation.

Exclusion from participation

It is recognized that opinions differ concerning the appropriateness of courses of instruction. Occasionally parent/guardians may find a topic in the Human Growth and Development Curriculum Guide in conflict with their religious/personal views. In these circumstances the student may be excused from participation in the instructional program.

In a catechetical class outside of the school program, parents/guardians may request a similar exclusion. In notifying the principal or C/DRE, the parents/guardian, the notice shall be in writing.