

## Chastity Education Guidelines: Addendum (2022)

*Secretariats for:*

*Catholic Schools*

*Worship & Evangelization*

*Pastoral Ministries*

*Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Indianapolis*

This brief document communicates adjustments to the 2008 resource *Guidelines for Chastity and Sexuality Education in the Archdiocese of Indianapolis*. It is hoped that a streamlined approach—especially in light of our recently revised standards for preschool through 8<sup>th</sup>-grade religion—will be helpful to parish catechetical leaders, Catholic school principals and youth ministers throughout the Archdiocese.

The 2008 document addressed three main areas:

- Materials used to address chastity-related topics when teaching the Faith;
- Formation of educators to address these topics suitably in group settings; and
- Communication with parents about their role in chastity education—including resources to support families in this important area of faith and life.

Rather than reiterate the 2008 guidelines here, these updates on materials, formation and parental communication will be most helpful:

1. Because chastity and sexuality are clearly identified in the 2021 Archdiocesan standards for the teaching of religion, and because the requirement that all basal textbooks are determined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to be in conformity with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, it is no longer required that a booklet supplemental to the basic religion book used to teach the Faith be purchased or used to address sexuality-related topics.
2. A workshop for parish catechists and school teachers will be made available.

3. The parental communication resources in the 2008 guidelines (e.g. sample parent meeting agenda, sample letter to parents) are still applicable and useful.

*A recent development, exacerbated since 2008, is the prominence of human trafficking and sexual exploitation of minors—as young as middle school and elementary age. Resources are available and will be further developed in collaboration with our Archdiocesan Anti-Trafficking Ministry.*

Until the 2008 guidelines are updated (goal: 2024-25 program year) this addendum constitutes the most current guidance from Archdiocesan offices regarding catechesis on human love and sexuality. Questions about this area of faith formation can be addressed to the suitable leader below (depending on your area of ministry).

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