

Diocese of Austin

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Office of the Bishop

March 30, 2016

Dear Pastors:

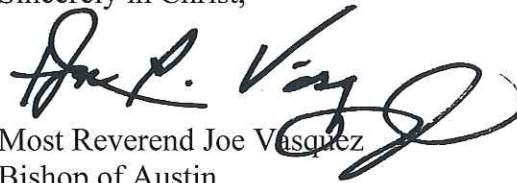
Enclosed is the newly-revised *List of Approved Texts for Catechetical Instruction for the Diocese of Austin* effective immediately. These are the only religion texts that are authorized for use in the catechesis and sacramental preparation of children and adolescents in the Diocese of Austin. Any previous lists are now considered obsolete and should not be used.

The 2016 list has been prepared by the diocesan Office of Evangelization, Catechesis, and Family Life and is in line with the conformity list of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Subcommittee on the Catechism. The diocesan list is somewhat more restrictive than that of the USCCB as it is based on the criteria of pedagogical best practices, age-appropriateness, and practicality and ease of use for both classroom and family settings.

I encourage you to share this list with those in your parish who are responsible for choosing religion texts. You will note that the document has both an explanatory preface and an appendix of "Frequently Asked Questions." These resources will also be posted on the diocesan website at <http://www.austindiocese.org/offices-ministries/offices/evangelization-and-catechesis/resources-recursos>. Further questions about the conformity list may be directed to Gustavo Rodriguez, Associate Director for Catechesis, in the Office of Evangelization, Catechesis, and Family Life, which is dedicated to serving you and the needs of your parish.

Thank you for your continued ministry of catechetical oversight on behalf of the children, adolescent, and adult members of your parish.

Sincerely in Christ,



Most Reverend Joe Vasquez
Bishop of Austin

JSV:mj

Enclosure