

CATHOLIC VISION OF LOVE

Parent Meeting



Introduction

Role of Parents with the Help of the Church:
Combating Societal Influences

Role of Parents with the Help of the Church

- Parents have the primary responsibility for faith formation of their children.
- The role of the Church is to help the parents.
- Above all, we “teach” through witness.

Today's Society

- Pervasive lack of positive morals in society:
 - Television
 - Movies
 - Music
 - Idols – Actors, Musical Artists, Sports Heroes
 - Internet
 - Video Games
 - Schools

How can this meeting help?

- The Church has good news!
- Catholic Vision of Love (CVOL) – Integral part of Gospel values
 - ▣ Goal – Present Christ’s vision of love and sexuality
- Context for evaluating issues related to sexuality
- More than an ideal
- Provide materials to support parents



Catholic Vision of Love

Vision & Goals

What it IS and What it is NOT

- CVOL is NOT a sex education program!
- CVOL DOES put forth the Church's teaching on chastity.
- CVOL is not taught in isolation, but integrated into the Faith Formation curriculum.
- Taught by well qualified catechists.

Goals

- The principal goal of The Catholic Vision of Love is:
To present Christ's vision of love and sexuality, and to encourage all to live according to the Good News of His teaching on love, Marriage, the family, sexuality, and the freedom of self-possession.
- All other goals and objectives follow from this principal goal.

Specific Goals

- To show that God is the Creator of all our being: that our sexuality is God's rich gift, which affects all that we are and serves precious human goods, when it is understood in the light of Christ's gracious teaching.
- To stress the sublime importance of every person and the essential equality of all persons; and to show that each one is called to greatness of heart and to friendship with the Lord.
- To teach the profound Christian motives for reverence for every person, and for a healthy self esteem; to make clear how precious every person is to God, and how by God's grace each is capable of living the excellent ways Christ makes known.

Specific Goals

- To guide all toward a fuller understanding of what Christ teaches in His Church about sexual morality and self possession, and to assist them in seeing how good Christ's teaching is, and how important it is to shape our consciences to live in His way.
- To lead all toward understanding and acceptance of all the dimensions of our human lives: spiritual, moral, psychological, physical, emotional, sexual, intellectual, and social.
- To seek to guard all from exploitation by providing a clear understanding of everything one needs to know about sexuality to be secure and fortified to live in this contemporary world.

Specific Goals

- To support all persons in their efforts to acquire the skill, insights, and virtues they need to have confidence and peace in leading chaste lives.
- To motivate and assist all to follow Christ's vision of love, guarding all the good things God intended sexuality to serve, in lives enriched by heeding the commandments and beatitudes, and by doing the works of mercy.

Curriculum

Grades 6th, 7th & 8th

6th Grade Curriculum

- Vocation – Strengthen a sense of vocation, a realization that their lives are important, and that God has a wonderful plan for their lives.
 - ▣ Reflection on “who we are” leads us to fulfillment and happiness.

6th Grade Curriculum

- Freedom – Help students understand the gift of freedom and how Christ helps them to use their free will for *true* and *lasting* happiness.
 - ▣ Things Happening to Them vs. Things They Do

6th Grade Curriculum

- Love – The central message of Christ is that genuine love is the most important of all things.
 - ▣ Everything we do should flow from love of God and love of neighbor.

7th Grade Curriculum

- Vocation: Different Calls in Life – Help students realize the goodness of our vocation as Christians and to a specific state in life.
 - ▣ Big “V” Vocation vs. Little “v” vocation

7th Grade Curriculum

- Modesty and Purity – Help students grasp the meaning of modesty and purity, and appreciate their attractiveness and goodness.
 - More than just clothing.

7th Grade Curriculum

- Reconciliation Living a Life of Grace – At this time of their life this sacrament is a necessary support for their life of faith and grace.
 - Necessity, not Luxury.

8th Grade Curriculum

- Social Nature of Vocation – Stresses the importance of accepting responsibility to make the world a better place by overcoming injustices.
 - ▣ Building the kingdom of God on earth.

8th Grade Curriculum

- Consequences of Abusing Sexuality – physical, emotional and spiritual
 - ▣ Not the primary motivator for living a chaste life.

8th Grade Curriculum

- Christ and the Role of Conscience – Realize what conscience really is, and how they can be radically honest in facing what is truly good or truly bad in the shaping of their own lives

8th Grade Curriculum

- The Eucharist and Love – The Eucharist is a gift of God's most generous love and shows us how to be generous in love in every part of life.



Parents' Role

What can parents do?

Parents' Role

- Discuss sexuality at home.
- Does your child know:
 - ▣ Sexuality is a gift from God.
 - ▣ The purpose of sex in God's divine plan.
 - ▣ Goodness of sexual love, our responsibility and the need for self-possession and self-discipline.
 - ▣ Living a virtuous life is possible.

Parents' Role

- Monitor the media they use.
 - ▣ Discuss your values and rules.
 - ▣ Affirm when they make good use of media.
- Help your child experience the goodness of modesty in dress, speech, attitude and actions.
- Grow in your own understanding of our Catholic faith.
 - ▣ Parent Booklet
 - ▣ Diocesan Website

Parents' Role

- Help your child realize the foolishness and dangers of casual sex and trivializing sexuality.
- The importance of family prayer.
- Keep the lines of communication open.

Dates for CVOL in 2015

6th Grade – Tuesday, January 27th 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Or, Wednesday, January 28th 6:30-8:00 p.m.

7th Grade – Tuesday, February 3rd 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Or, Wednesday, February 4th 6:30-8:00 p.m.

8th Grade – Tuesday, March 10th 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Or, Wednesday, March 11th 6:30-8:00 p.m.



Closing Prayer

Prayer for One's Children

Prayer for One's Children

My God, source of all life,
thank you for the blessing you gave me,
when you entrusted me with children.

I have tried faithfully
to live up to your expectations.

It is not for me, but for them that I pray.

Care for them in your great kindness.

Wherever I am lacking,

supply the blessing of your protection.

Lord, you know how much I love them,

however small it is,

compared with what they need and deserve.

Keep them Lord, along the path of life,
free from evil,
and make them always strong, happy and loving.
My children are a living part of my being.
My God, I want them to be better than I am.

In the midst of the rich opportunities of life,
may they count on your powerful help.

In total confidence,

I place them under your divine, paternal care.

In Jesus name I pray.

Amen.