

Chastity Education Program Overview

5th through 8th grade

As supportive partners of parents, the Diocese of Erie Catholic Schools will provide a Chastity Education Program for all 5th through 8th grade students. Parents who do not wish to have their child participate must notify the principal in writing to have them excused from this curriculum. Five lessons will be provided to the 5th and 6th graders. At the 7th and 8th grade level, students will have ten lessons from *Love & Life, A Christian Sexual Morality Guide for Teens* by Coleen Kelly Mast. This program has been approved by Bishop Lawrence T. Persico for its alignment with Catholic Doctrine and Diocesan Curriculum Guidelines.

5th grade lessons

Lesson One: Self-Knowledge Can Help Us Grow
Lesson Two: Selfish or Selfless?
Lesson Three: Practicing Love at Home
Lesson Four: Do We Think Before We Act?
Lesson Five: Growing Up Loving

6th grade lessons

Lesson One: The Gift
Lesson Two: How Love Got Scrambled?
Lesson Three: The Journey
Lesson Four: They Become One
Lesson Five: Practicing Chastity Makes Perfect

7th Grade:

Unit One Topics

The virtue of chastity is defined, and its value is presented.
God is the proper center of all love and life.
Our imperfect condition conflicts with what is best for us.
The love of God helps us to live a life of real love.
The Church as Christ's Mystical Body provides grace through the sacraments.

Unit Two Topics

God reveals the goodness of our human sexuality.
God has created us in His own image; we need to become the best we can be.
Are we becoming a great Christian lover of God, our family and our friends?
What are the qualities of true friendship?
Emotions are indicators of pleasure or pain, not direction for our moral actions.
Developing self-mastery provides control over our desires.

8th Grade:

Unit Three Topics

How does one form a good conscience?
Temptation is not a sin until we stop resisting it.
Developing modesty and purity in one's life are critical.
Wholesome dating practices for the future are outlined.
Positive results of chastity and negative results of sins against chastity are discussed.
The sacraments of Penance and Eucharist are important to strengthen us to avoid sin.
The saints are our models of chastity.

Unit Four Topics

Chastity leaves us free to answer God's call.
The sacrament of Matrimony is a lifelong commitment.
Sexual union has a God-given purpose.
God is pro-life and pro-love.
God challenges us to live this life of love.
What is the call to chastity?