

Key Implementation Strategies

Tasks:

- Set a date/month for the implementation.
- Send out general parent letter at least two weeks prior to lessons.
- Brainstorm on how your “space” can reflect the Circle of Grace concepts.
- Meet with catechists and teachers to review the importance of the program.
- Students who only receive sacramental preparation should be taught the current grade they are in when receiving the sacrament.
- Extra time should be spent on the Circle of Grace Summary at the beginning of each grade.
- There are parent letters/activities for Kindergarten through grade 8.
- Grade 6 and middle school grades parent letter MUST not be delivered by the student. This letter has sensitive information for the parents only
- It is encouraged that the lesson evaluations are turned in to the administration. This helps to keep track of the implementation of the program.

Resources:

- ▶ Remember there is lots of extra resources such as the Circle of Grace song, sticker template, parents first flier located in the Administrator/Director section or resource file.
- ▶ Action Card (located in the administration section) for leaders is helpful.
- ▶ It is helpful for parishes and schools to be aware of the general concept. Consider making brochure available to the parish/school.
- ▶ The “Parents First” newsletter and the *Circle of Grace* curriculum, although separate initiatives, complement each other and assist parents in being the first educator of your child/youth regarding sexuality. The Parent’s First information is NOT reviewed with the students.

Be Aware:

- Lessons are easy to follow and complement our Catholic teachings.
- Remember if the leader is not passionate about what they are teaching, the kids will know and not embrace the information.
- You don’t have to be an expert in this area to teach the lessons- the most important aspect of the teaching is your passion for God’s most precious gifts.
- ▶ Each grade has everything needed for the USCCB requirements.
- ▶ Be aware that the content may trigger past issues for some leaders
- ▶ Leaders/teachers need to be aware of how to handle a child’s disclosure.
- ▶ Be aware of child abuse and neglect laws in your state.