

## Parent Letter

### Created to Love Program Introduction—Middle School

Dear Families,

The Archdiocese of Baltimore is committed to providing young people and their parents with education about youth protection within the context of a holistic catechesis in human sexuality. This catechesis is to be offered as an important component of the curriculum of religious instruction and faith formation in the parish or school setting. The National Directory for Catechesis (NDC, Chapter 6, 178) calls for catechesis in human sexuality which “recognizes the duty of pastors and parish catechetical leaders to support and encourage parents as they carry out their role as educators of their children in human sexuality as well as to provide additional instructions regarding Catholic teaching and values that complement and complete the formation provided by parents.”

The Archdiocese of Baltimore has made a concentrated effort to protect our community from the devastating effects of sexual abuse. In fact, the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People requires that all arch/dioceses must establish, offer, and provide safe environment training for children and youth as a regular part of a school curriculum. With the support of Archbishop O’Brien and in concert with the Bishops’ Charter for Child Protection, the Archdiocese has undertaken a very comprehensive project toward this end.

The result is a new curriculum aimed specifically at middle and high school students called Created to Love. The Created to Love curriculum is designed to teach young people about the dignity of human life, Catholic morality, healthy relationships, positive decision-making and the sacramentality of marriage. The sessions, lesson plans, and prayer materials provided through Created to Love take into account our Catholic teachings, as well as best practice recommendations made by experts in the field of abuse prevention and treatment.

In order to present these topics in an age-appropriate manner, the curriculum is divided into separate sessions for middle school and high school age groups.

We believe that parents are and should be the primary educators of their children; nevertheless, the parish and school community also play a secondary but essential role in educating young people about healthy relationships. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to keep our young people safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Noelle Vink

**Archdiocese of Baltimore**  
**Office of Family, Youth, and Young Adult Ministry**  
**PERMISSION FORM AND RELEASE**

Youth Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Other number where Parent can be reached: \_\_\_\_\_

Address City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Male Female (please circle)

In consideration of the wholesome learning experience in which my son/daughter will participate, I as parent or guardian of my son/daughter, do hereby agree to allow my son/daughter to participate in the "Created to Love" program through the youth ministry on:

**January 31st 6:30-8pm in the Saints Francis & Clare House**

**February 7th 6:30-8pm in the Saints Francis & Clare House**

I/we acknowledge receipt of the attached information letter describing the planned activities.

In consideration of the opportunity for my son/daughter to participate in the program, I agree to RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFY Noelle Vink, Church of the Immaculate Conception, the Office of Family, Youth, and Young Adult Ministry, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Baltimore and his successors, a Corporation Sole, and all their agents, servants and employees from any liability, claims, demands and causes of action arising out of or relating to any loss, damage or injury sustained in connection with or arising out of my son/daughter's participation in the program.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Additional resources may be sent home. Please provide a PARENT email address below:

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