



## Circle of Grace Overview © Archdiocese of Omaha

**All Curriculum and Resources are also in Spanish.**

### Goal:

The goal of the Circle of Grace curriculum is to educate & empower children and young people to actively participate in a safe environment for themselves & others.

### Objectives:

1. Children/Young People will understand they are created by God and live in the love of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit.
2. Children/Young People will be able to describe the Circle of Grace which God gives each of us.
3. Children/Young People will be able to identify, maintain and discern appropriate physical, emotional, spiritual, and sexual boundaries.
4. Children/Young People can identify all types of boundary violations.
5. Children/Young People will demonstrate how to take action if any boundary is threatened or violated.

**\*C is for Comprehensive (Objectives are taught in great detail) F is for Focus (Objectives are summarized & applied to an issue) & P is for parent take home letter**  
**The curriculum for each grade covers charter requirements and curriculum objectives. This allows for flexibility for parishes/schools that have lower enrollment.**  
**One can decide what grade to teach a class (who may have students of different ages).**

Grade Level	# of lessons	Concepts covered		Activities	Objectives #s met	Notes
Kindergarten-C, P	1, two parts	Everyone has a Circle of Grace	Touch, Secrets, Safety Plan, Trusted Adult	The COG card game; The Stoplight scenarios Feelings	1,2	K-2 lessons are very similar with varied age-appropriate activities. Developmentally it is important to have repetition of concepts. Parent letters
Grade 1-C,P	1, two parts	Your Circle of Grace and Others			3,4,5	
Grade 2-C,P	1, two parts	Being Safe in your Circle of Grace			1,2,3,4,5	
Grade 3-C,P	1, two parts	Sacredness and Boundaries			Boundary limits, Safety plan, Trusted adult	Gift box, Scenarios

Grade 4- <b>F,P</b>	1	Social Media and Our Circle of Grace	Activities and discussion	1,2,3,4,5	New internet words introduced, Teaches discernment of media Parent take home
Grade 5- <b>F,P</b>	1	Coping with Stress and Pressure	Boundaries, Trusted adult	1,2,3,4,5	Teaches discernment of how stress and pressure can effect boundaries.
Grade 6- <b>F,P</b>	4	Social Media's Influence on Our Relationships	In person vs online connections	1,2,3,4,5	Discerning social media's influence – Don't be Duped Safety Plan
Grade 7- <b>F,P</b>	1	Saying "No" to Disrespect, Anti-bullying Contract	Code of Conduct	1,2,3,4,5	Bullying, don't be Duped Safety Plan
Grade 8- <b>F,P</b>	1	How to be Morally Responsible in Today's Culture	Ten commandment activity	1,2,3,4,5	Activity has them visually compare Catholic values to culture's.

**Grade 5-8 ALTERNATE Lessons covers Charter requirements and curriculum objectives.**

The traditional way is teaching the lessons for grades 5 -8. The second way is to use the alternate lessons for 5-8 grade.

One can select anyone of the grade 5-8 alternate lessons to teach to the class or group.

**Honoring Relationships-** 1 focused lesson. Different boundaries for different relationships. Parent letter.

**Technology-** 1 focused lesson. Consequences of using technology. Parent technology letter.

**COG and New Age-** 1 focused lesson. Is it coming from God or Something Else? Parent letter

**COG and Anything Goes Culture-** 1 focused lesson. Learning to discern culture's influence. Parent Letter

**Modesty-**1 focused lesson Humility and Modesty: Does the world know who you really are? Parent Letter

**Retreat-** Puzzles: Recognizing the Big Picture of God's Love 4 parts: Pieces of the Puzzle, Safe Relationships: Putting the Puzzle Together,  
Boundaries- Every Piece has a Border, "Don't be Duped" Safety Plan When Something Doesn't Fit Half Day Retreat

The 9-12 curriculum is formatted to be used in two ways. The traditional way is teaching the lessons for the identified grade. The second way is to use the Grades 9-11 or the alternate lessons for any grade or setting. One can select anyone of the 9-11 or alternate lessons to teach to the class or group. The lesson for grade 12 is only to be taught to seniors. A general parent letter is sent out to high school parents outlining the different lessons.

Grade 9-F	4	Notice when boundaries are challenged	Many activities	1,2,3,4,5	Key behaviors when boundaries are violated/challenged.
Grade 10-F	1	Levels of Intimacy and Influence	In-person relationships vs online connection	1,2,3,4,5	Circle of Virtue introduced.
Grade 11-F	1	Social Media: Can you be Savvy and Safe?	Scenarios	1,2,3,4,5	Behaviors that block virtue
Grade 12-F	1	Circle of Grace ~Circle of Virtue Love and Theology of the Body	How Healthy are your Relationships?	1,2,3,4,5	Theology of the Body Principles as it relates to safe relationships.

**Grade 9-12 ALTERNATE Lessons covers Charter requirements and curriculum objectives.**

The traditional way is teaching the lessons for grades 9-12. The second way is to use the alternate lessons for 9-12 grade. One can select any of the alternate lessons to teach to the class or group.

- A.C.T.I.O.N.** – 1 focused lesson. Steps to take when concerns don't go away.
- Modesty-** 1 focused lesson. Modesty Quiz Modesty is the outward expression of our true selves.
- Human Trafficking-** 1 focused lesson. Modern day slavery. Fact or Fiction activity
- New Age and COG-** 1 focused lesson Is it from God or not? Expanded the 5-8 lesson to be a deeper dive into the topic.
- COG and Anything Goes Culture-** 1 focused lesson Learning discernment. Expanded the 5-8 lesson to be a deeper dive into the topic.
- Uncomfortable Situations with Peers-** 1 focused lesson Real life scenarios for discussion and discernment
- Retreat: Our Path to Wholeness-** 4 parts: Communion of Saints, Mary and Joseph Say, "Yes", When the Circle is Broken, "Don't Be Duped" "Safety Plan"

# Circle of Grace Resources



## **Family, Faith, and Circle of Grace Curriculum**

Safety curriculum for parish family faith formation programs. Complete curriculum with information on family gatherings, adult sessions, youth sessions and resources

## **Parent's First Newsletter**

Every grade has a newsletter only for parents and not taught to the class. It provides faith-based information about how to talk to their child about sexuality.

## **Training Booklet for Youth Assisting in Ministries**

A safety training booklet for youth who help in ministries like vacation bible school etc. It reviews roles, relationships and what to do if they see or hear any concerns.

## **Circle of Grace Partner's Website**

The Website is only for partner dioceses who use the curriculum. It has all that they need to implement Circle of Grace.