

MOST SACRED HEART PARISH
Parish School of Religion

GOD’S OWN MAKING (Chastity Program)
Parental Summary

God’s Own Making is a religious education program in human sexuality designed for Parish School of Religion students in Grades 4 through 8. The program was developed by the Archdiocese of St. Louis Religious Education Department in 1997 and is presented annually to the students. Parents can choose not to have their children participate in the program.

The lessons are based on following Catholic Church teachings. There are three general themes presented over a three to four week period to each of the grades at an age appropriate level. The three themes are:

- ❖ Respect for Life
- ❖ Sexuality as Relational
- ❖ Life-Giving and Love-Giving

The following is a brief summary for each grade level:

Grade 4

<i>Respect for Life</i>	<i>Taking care of self; respecting self</i>
<i>Sexuality as Relational</i>	<i>Good communications; honesty; naming and expressing feelings in relation to family members</i>
<i>Sex is life-giving and love-giving</i>	<i>Affection communicates feelings; how we show affection; how families express affection. We change in being comfortable with different signs of affection.</i>

Grade 5

<i>Respect for Life</i>	<i>Respecting self and others in our actions; name calling; seeing the differences in others particularly gender differences; language especially violent language; affect of media in influencing our actions and behavior</i>
<i>Sexuality as Relational</i>	<i>Trust and faithfulness in relationships with friends and God; the consequences of being unfaithful; friends help us to know ourselves and our good and bad points</i>
<i>Sex is life-giving and love-giving</i>	<i>Respect our bodies and gender differences. Reproduction is a gift to be respected.</i>

Grade 6

<i>Respect for Life</i>	<i>Inclusiveness; cliques; relationships (both same and opposite sex relations); peer pressure; respecting differences and the “right to be different”</i>
<i>Sexuality as Relational</i>	<i>Communications and honesty in their circle of friends; how they help to build relationships; friends naturally change because of interests, etc.</i>
<i>Sex is life-giving and love-giving</i>	<i>Responsibility with sex and affection; chastity; right not to be touched; assertive skills</i>

Grade 7

<i>Respect for Life</i>	<i>Choices are a big part of being human, principles we use to make decisions; Catholics are often counter-cultural in beliefs</i>
<i>Sexuality as Relational</i>	<i>Intimacy-what it is and how it helps us grow; intimacy does not always mean physical sex; dating relationships-purpose and types of dates; virtues of temperance, modesty and chastity</i>
<i>Sex is life-giving and love-giving</i>	<i>Boundaries for sexual expression in relationships; implications of sexual activity out of marriage; using others; hurting ourselves and others; meaning of intimacy</i>

Grade 8

<i>Respect for Life</i>	<i>Communication; honest relationships need good communication; marriage as a Sacrament; divorce; annulments</i>
<i>Sexuality as Relational</i>	<i>All life is valuable; respect differences; actions which help to build good relationships</i>
<i>Sex is life-giving and love-giving</i>	<i>Church teaching on specific topics; God's plan for us is happiness</i>