

## §1500 SELECTION OF CATECHETICAL MATERIAL

*"Textbooks are guides for learning, summary statements of course content, and ready instruments of review. They must present the authentic and complete message of Christ and His Church, adapted to the capacity of the learners, with balanced emphasis proportionate to the importance of their particular truths." (NCD, # 264)*

**1501.1. Policy** Parish personnel shall follow Archdiocesan guidelines in selecting published material to be used in parish catechetical programs.

### ***Procedures***

- a) The responsibility for selecting catechetical materials rests with the Pastor, Principal, and DRE in consultation with parish catechists, teachers, other parish/school professionals, parents and the participants themselves.
- b) The choice of materials takes into consideration:
  - ✓ the orthodoxy (doctrinal fidelity) of the materials,
  - ✓ the principles of effective catechesis, especially as specified by the documents of the Church,
  - ✓ the methodological effectiveness of the materials themselves,
  - ✓ the racial, ethnic and cultural composition of the parish
  - ✓ the unique qualities of the community of faith, and
  - ✓ the overall consistency of the total program.
- c) Persons from the catechetical staff primarily responsible for guiding the selection of catechetical materials at the local level will be familiar with the evaluative criteria for this selection. The Office for Catechesis sponsors workshops examining these evaluative criteria on a regular basis.
- d) When selecting catechetical materials, a committee comprised of members of the catechetical staff, and, where possible, representative parents and participants, examines possible materials to determine their appropriateness for the specific parish situation.
- e) The DRE and/or Principal, with the approval of the Pastor, makes the final selection of materials, in light of the recommendations of those who have reviewed the materials.

- f)** When a change in the local catechetical curriculum involves a significant change in teaching style and materials, catechists, administrators and parents participate in appropriate in-service prior to implementation.
  
- g)** It is the responsibility of the DRE to inform the parish education commission, the pastoral staff, parents, participants and the parish-at-large of a significant curriculum change for a parish program of religious education.