

ADMINISTRATION

PASTORS

The Pastor is the chief administrative officer of the parish religious education program and maintains overall local responsibility for it. The Pastor, by hiring a trained professional to serve as the Coordinator or Director of Religious Education, empowers that person with the responsibility for the operation, administration and supervision of the parish religious education program, its students and personnel. To ensure collaboration in the educational ministry, the Pastor and the Coordinator or Director of Religious Education confer regularly and frequently on matters which affect the parish religious education program.

Since the Pastor is the foremost faith leader in the parish, he is encouraged to provide spiritual leadership to the Coordinator or Director of Religious education and students and to celebrate liturgies and the Sacrament of Penance for those in the parish religious education program at appropriate times during the year. He should take an active role in the religious education program for the students and in parent sessions for sacramental preparation. In addition, he gives his support to parents and teachers in their responsibility of instruction in human sexuality.

The Pastor, as the administrator of the parish, is ultimately responsible for the preparation of a realistic religious education program budget and for approving and supervising the program's finances. In addition, he is responsible to ensure a Catholic identity, a quality educational program, and safe program facilities.

The Pastor is directly accountable to the Diocesan Director of Religious Education in diocesan religious education matters. Therefore, he acquaints himself with diocesan policies, as well as any directives and recommendations of the Diocesan Director of Religious Education, and assures that the local parish religious education program adheres to them.

Policy

Revised: October 4, 1996

NCD/Bishop of Harrisburg