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Welcome to the first edition of the ***Principles and Choices*** Quarterly Newsletter. In this issue, you can learn more about our curriculum that teaches about the dignity and value of human life. The yellow menu to the left highlights our featured articles this month.

## School Profile



***Mother Teresa Christe, MSSR, works on an exercise with students at Cardinal Newman High School in Santa Rosa, CA***

### **P&C embraced by students in Santa Rosa, CA**

Cardinal Newman High School in Santa Rosa, CA was one of the first schools to integrate the Principles & Choices curriculum into their learning program. Recently, we asked theology instructor Mother Teresa Christe, M.S.S.R. about how the program has been received.

***Principles & Choices:*** What do you like most about the P&C curriculum?

***Mother Christe:*** Philosophy is an important "sister" to theology. My theology students truly benefit from the clarity and applicability of P&C's information. It is presented in a manner they can understand and utilize in their Christian lives - giving further support to their Faith. As I am a busy

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teacher, I find the lesson plan guide and activity options very helpful - you can have a great class with minimal prep.

**Principles & Choices:** How do you see your students responding to it?

**Mother Christe:** My students, both at the 9th & 10th grade levels are enjoying the first two levels of P&C - they come enthusiastically to class full of curriculum-inspired questions and insights. I wish I had learned what my students are learning when I was their age. Each lesson honors intellect and free will so that Faith may grow more deeply in their young lives.

## Teaching Tools

### Audio dramas bring moral principles to life

One of the unique features of the **Principles & Choices** curriculum is a 4-part audio drama, **Robert & Emma**, that helps teach principles of logic, ethics, and justice using the tool of a four-act play. **Robert & Emma** chronicles the lives of two best friends in high school who, as they journey through life, grapple with issues such as quality of life and disabilities, abortion, euthanasia, hope, and forgiveness.

This professionally produced drama features a cast of 14 voice actors. Each of the four acts is 30 minutes long, and a printed script is available for those who wish to stage their own production of **Robert & Emma** in theater classes or campus ministry programs.

You can listen to a sample of the **Robert & Emma** drama at the following link:

<http://www.principlesandchoices.com/explore/view-samples/>

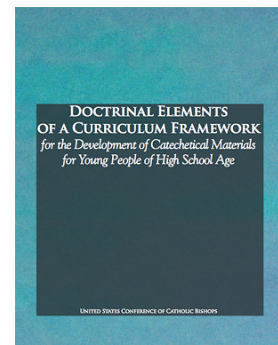
For ordering information, please visit:

<https://www.principlesandchoices.com/store/>

## P&C Correlation to USCCB Framework now available online!

If it's your job to evaluate theology or religion curricula for your school, your first concern is to make sure it conforms to the USCCB's "Doctrinal Elements for a Curriculum Framework." As a supplemental program, P&C enhances and expands the minimum requirements in the Framework. Our online "Framework Correlation Guide" shows when to introduce and/or integrate P&C seamlessly within your course of study.

Every textbook series that conforms with the Framework only skims the surface when it comes to laying the foundational principles to understanding human dignity and the value of human life. While most core curricula do a great job presenting the church's teachings, P&C gives students a much deeper grounding out of which they can make good decisions and contribute to building a culture of life. Implementing P&C is a commitment to giving students a philosophical, sociological, and ethical foundation to human dignity that affirms what the Church teaches! Check out our easy "Correlation Guide" online at:



## On the Road with Principles & Choices



*Camille Pauley, principal author of the **Principles & Choices** curriculum, trains school and parish leaders at the Ministry Days Conference in Sacramento, CA*

### Teachers in Sacramento receive training on P&C

Camille Pauley, the principal author of the ***Principles & Choices*** curriculum, was invited to teach a workshop at the "Ministry Days Conference" sponsored by the Diocese of Sacramento. The conference is an annual event attended by nearly 2,000 people throughout the diocese who are involved in various parish and school ministries.

Pauley said that attendees were very excited by the rich content of the P&C curriculum, as well as the broad array of teaching tools that are offered. "Educators who are discovering P&C for the first time consistently tell us how impressed they are that we have such a diversity of resources to make their job easier," noted Pauley. "Beyond the basic tools of student textbooks and teacher manuals, we offer PowerPoint presentations for each of the curriculum's twelve chapters, audio dramas, a popular flashcards set that helps teach the content, and also a state-of-the-art website that is packed with supplemental materials for both teachers and students.

## P&C in the Buckeye State



*Jill Newell, Sales Associate for the Principles & Choices curriculum, poses at the P&C exhibit at the Ohio Catholic Education Association conference in Columbus.*

More than 3,000 educators from Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, and West Virginia attended the Ohio Catholic Education Conference, held in October 2013 in Columbus. Many of them perused samples of the Principles & Choices curriculum, which were available at our exhibitor table.

## Team Members



*Photo by JEAN PARIETTI*

### **Up close and personal with Camille Pauley**

The principal writer of the ***Principles & Choices*** program, Camille Pauley, had an opportunity to meet the legendary actor Gregory Peck when she was an impressionable 14-year-old. "I breathlessly told Peck that he was

my idol, and asked him how I too could become a famous Hollywood star," recalls Pauley. "But Peck just shook his head, saying 'It's not what you think, kid. Do something more important with your life.'"

In fact, Pauley did take to the stage and film - but not as a career actress. Instead, Pauley is a popular teacher and speaker, delivering a compelling and winsome message on some of the most difficult issues in our culture.

"The ***Principles & Choices*** curriculum incorporates the lessons we've learned over the course of the last 20 years as we've spoken in hundreds of schools and churches, and handled countless news interviews and media programs," Pauley said. "Over time, we learned what pedagogical methods worked for conveying the message about the dignity of human life, and we continually fine-tuned our approach. P&C is really the culmination of what we've learned after decades of research and hands-on work in this field."

Pauley received her B.A. in Communication from the University of New Mexico, and an M.A. in Communication from Washington State University. She and her husband Michael live in the Seattle area and are raising two daughters.

### P&C introduced to U.S. Bishops, wins favorable reviews

Healing the Culture has a firm commitment to working with and through the United States Catholic Bishops and their local diocesan offices. Many Catholic schools and dioceses have asked us whether ***Principles & Choices*** has received a conformity review by the Subcommittee on the Catechism. Because our curriculum is supplemental, it does not meet the criteria to qualify for a review. Nevertheless, P&C received an enthusiastic response to a recent launch in which we mailed materials to every Catholic Bishop in the country.

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain of Seattle, who gave his Imprimatur for all three student textbooks, wrote, "I am happy to offer this word of support for Principles and Choices, an exciting new comprehensive curriculum on the meaning and dignity of human life. I believe the curriculum will be received well by teachers and students alike; even more, I think it will change minds, hearts, and lives."

Bishop David Ricken of Green Bay offered his appreciation for "the intentions you present in this initiative as they are of good, solid value to our youth." In his letter from the Diocese of Bridgeport, Bishop Frank Caggiano said, "I agree with your assessment that we as a Church must strive to teach the youth about the importance of human dignity through a pro-life perspective that is grounded and consistent throughout their education and development." He noted that the formation of young people was an important part of his work in both his previous ministry in Brooklyn, as well as in Bridgeport. "I commend you for believing in our youth," he said, "and for striving to give them the tools necessary to respect all life through enduring pedagogical methods."

Bishop James Conley of Lincoln wrote, "God reward you and your efforts to promote the culture of life." And Archbishop Gustavo Garcia-Siller of San Antonio mentioned hearing much about the program. In his letter to us, he quoted one of our favorites: Deuteronomy 6:7 - "...and you shall teach them

diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

We are grateful for the prayers of our bishops, and for their commitment to promoting a greater respect for life and human dignity!

### Life Principles Academy offers local trainings for schools, churches, and dioceses



***Attendees listen to a presentation on the "Four Levels of Happiness" at a recent Life Principles Academy at Blessed Sacrament Church in Seattle.***

"Thank you Healing the Culture for giving a presentation that is absolutely top drawer. I suspect there is in no other in the world like it. It is unmatched in its approach, its power and its ability to convey simply, concepts from some of the finest thinkers of the human race throughout history."

-- Dirk Bartram, President of the Seattle Respect Life Network

Healing the Culture, the publisher of ***Principles & Choices***, offers training events that focus on the content, resources, and implementation of P&C. These fun, energetic, and exciting programs usually last four hours on a Saturday, and are attended by teachers, administrators, religious educators, pastors, parents, college students, high school student leaders, and other interested community leaders.

At a recent Life Principles Academy in Seattle, WA, retired teacher Barbara Ziemann commented that the day gave her a foundation and the knowledge to actively participate in changing the culture. "It gave me hope!" she said.

Religion teacher Tracey Yackley said, "The Life Principles Academy has systematically given us the words to use in promoting the sanctity of life with our students and the world around us."

Catholic school teacher Erin Bartram noted that the academy offered clear, reasoned explanations to support a faith-filled belief in the dignity and worth of all human life. "The presenter was enthusiastic, engaging, and very knowledgeable," she said. "Her passion and insights were inspiring!"

Contact Lynda Condon at [lynda@healingtheculture.com](mailto:lynda@healingtheculture.com) to learn more about Life Principles Academy and how to host one in your local area.

## Upcoming Events

Here are some upcoming events where our staff will be speaking and/or hosting an exhibit with information about how you can teach Principles & Choices in your school or parish.

<a href="#"><u>Life Principles Academy</u></a> Seattle, WA	March 1
<a href="#"><u>Life Principles Academy</u></a> Anacortes, WA	March 8
<a href="#"><u>Religious Education Congress</u></a> Los Angeles, CA	March 14-16
<a href="#"><u>National Catholic Education Association Conference</u></a> Pittsburgh, PA	April 22-24
<a href="#"><u>The Napa Institute</u></a> Napa, CA	July 24-27