

Safe Haven Sunday

Parish Implementation Guide
Year One

Safe Haven Sunday is raising awareness throughout dioceses and parishes in the United States regarding the negative impacts of pornography on individuals, marriages, families and society.

Safe Haven Sunday is a weekend set aside by dioceses and parishes to directly address the harms of pornography. Within the context of the Mass, dioceses and parishes are able to provide teaching and resources that will support and protect individuals, marriages and families in making all homes a safe haven.

It is inspired by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' formal statement *Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography*, where they explain, "The use of pornography by anyone in the home deprives the home of its role as a safe haven and has negative effects throughout a family's life and across generations."

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is Safe Haven Sunday?

A. It is a weekend within the liturgical calendar selected by the diocese or parish to directly address the harms of pornography and to provide resources to support and protect individuals, marriages, and families in overcoming pornography and making their homes safe.

Q. Why is Covenant Eyes involved with Safe Haven Sunday?

A. Covenant Eyes is committed to creating faith-based resources that foster the virtue of chastity and the tools to overcome pornography use and addiction (their flagship service is Screen Accountability). Safe Haven Sunday is one of the many resources Covenant Eyes has developed to assist U.S. dioceses and parishes implement the USCCB's formal statement *Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography*, one step at a time.

Q. Is Safe Haven Sunday an annual initiative?

A. Yes. It is an annual initiative that is to occur in the life of a diocese and/or parish on a selected weekend to educate and form individuals, marriages, and families on the harms of pornography. New implementation materials will be designed every year that will reflect the annual theme to assist diocesan and parish leaders with the promotion and implementation of Safe Haven Sunday.

Q. What is the theme for Safe Haven Sunday?

A. This year's theme is Equipping the Family: Safeguarding Children.

Q. Is Safe Haven Sunday implemented at the diocesan or parish level?

A. Both. This is a weekend that can be initiated by a diocese and/or parish. If the

Frequently Asked Questions

diocesan bishop requests that parishes implement this weekend, the diocese plays a leading role in the weekend, primarily by way of communicating necessary actions to implement the weekend and at the same time spearheading communication with the parishes and the public. The parish role is to provide communications to parishioners and implement Safe Haven Sunday, and (optional) provide this year's educational resource, *Equipped: Smart Catholic Parenting in a Sexualized Culture*.

Q. What role does the parish priest have in the implementation of Safe Haven Sunday?

A. This effort is designed to be led primarily by the parish priest. He will be provided all the tools to make Safe Haven Sunday a success, including general intercessions, homily samples, bulletin blurbs and inserts, as well as the opportunity to purchase the Covenant Eyes' book, *Equipped: Smart Catholic Parenting in a Sexualized Culture*, and sign up for a free, seven-day email series on practical tips to create safer digital environments. **Both these resources are available in English and Spanish.**

Throughout the book, readers will be encouraged to sign up for the seven day email series by texting SECURE to 66866.

7 Day Email Series:

When parishioners text SECURE to 66866, they are automatically enrolled into seven days of emailed digital tips about iPhone restrictions, Google Safe Search, managing social media apps, and more.

Q. Who sets the date for Safe Haven Sunday?

A. The diocese sets the date for their diocesan implementation. All parishes in the diocese celebrate Safe Haven Sunday on the same day.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What costs are involved with Safe Haven Sunday?

A. The only cost involved is the purchasing of the book *Equipped* (\$3/per book) and the printing of the official Safe Haven Sunday prayer card locally.

Q. How can I get my other questions answered as they arise?

A. Please contact your diocesan office and/or Amanda Zurface, JCL, the Catholic Church Outreach Specialist at Amanda.Zurface@covenanteyes.com.

Q. What other resources are available to help implement Safe Haven Sunday?

A. In addition to the Diocesan and Parish Implementation Guides, Covenant Eyes has developed a Book and Promotional Cards Display.

Covenant Eyes Catholic Team



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The following section provides suggested steps that can be taken at the parish level leading up to Safe Haven Sunday weekend.

Implementation Timeline

Month of Implementation

- **4 weeks out:** Parish priest writes about Safe Haven Sunday in his bulletin, newsletter, and/or mails letter to parishioners.
- **4 weeks out:** Safe Haven Sunday promoted on parish social media.
- **1 week out:** First bulletin blurb: Weekend prior to Safe Haven Sunday.
- **Implementation Weekend: Safe Haven Sunday**
 - Second bulletin blurb: Safe Haven Sunday (may also be used as Pulpit Announcement) and one-page bulletin Insert
 - Homily Sample and Homily Video
 - General Intercessions
 - Prayer Card (may be prayed after the General Intercessions or the closing song)
 - *Equipped* distributed after closing song
- **1 week after:** Third and final bulletin blurb thanking parishioners for participating in Safe Haven Sunday.
- **1 week after:** Safe Haven Sunday / Thank You posted on parish social media.
- **1 week after:** Bulletin article on the parish effort.

The following section provides suggested resources that can be used to implement Safe Haven Sunday.

Implementation Resources

Bulletin Blurbs *(English & Spanish)*

Bulletin Inserts *(English & Spanish)*

General Intercessions *(English & Spanish)*

Homily Video *(English & Spanish Subtitles)*

Letter From Parish Priests to Parishioners

Prayer Card for Parishioners *(English & Spanish)*

Social Media Kit *(English & Spanish)*

[Click here to access the resources listed above](#)