

Safe Haven Sunday

Diocesan Implementation Guide
Year Three

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 in an appropriate way. Within the context of the Mass, dioceses and parishes are able to provide teaching and resources that will support 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*, in which 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 Internet Accountability and Filtering). Safe Haven Sunday is one of the many resources Covenant Eyes has developed to assist U.S. dioceses and parishes in implementing 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. It is currently a four-year initiative that can be repeated in the life of a diocese and/or parish on a selected weekend to educate and inform individuals, marriages, and families on the harms of pornography.

Q. What is the theme for Safe Haven Sunday?

A. This year's theme is Equipping the Family: Safety Through Connection.

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 diocesan bishop requests that parishes implement this weekend, the diocese plays a leading role in the weekend, primarily by way of communicating necessary actions

Frequently Asked Questions

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, implement Safe Haven Sunday, and (optional) provide this year's educational resource, *Connected: How Strong Family Relationships Lead to Internet-Safe Kids*.

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, prayer card, bulletin blurbs and inserts, as well as the opportunity to purchase the Covenant Eyes' book, *Connected: How Strong Family Relationships Lead to Internet-Safe Kids*, and sign up for the [Safe Digital Family Challenge](#), a free, seven-day email series for parents and all responsible adults on how 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.

Safe Digital Family Challenge: 7 Days of Digital Encouragement for Parents:

When parishioners sign up on the [website](#) or text SECURE to 66866, they are automatically enrolled into seven days of helpful digital tips about the importance of accountability, preparing kids for social media, how to have critical conversations, and more!

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who sets the date for Safe Haven Sunday?

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

Q. What costs are involved with Safe Haven Sunday?

A. The only cost involved is the purchasing of *Connected* (\$3/per book) and the printing of the official Safe Haven Sunday prayer card locally. Parishes place their order by using the Parish Resource Order Form provided by the diocese.

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

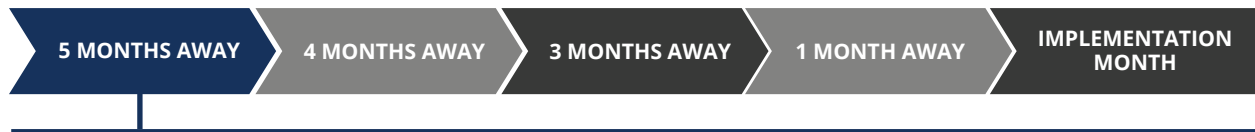
A. Please visit <https://www.covenanteyes.com/church/> to connect with our church outreach team.

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

A. In addition to the Diocesan and Parish Implementation Guides, Covenant Eyes provides telephone, Zoom, and in-person consultations to help with the implementation of Safe Haven Sunday. Also, homily samples are available for dioceses and parishes that celebrate Safe Haven Sunday within the liturgical season of Lent.

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

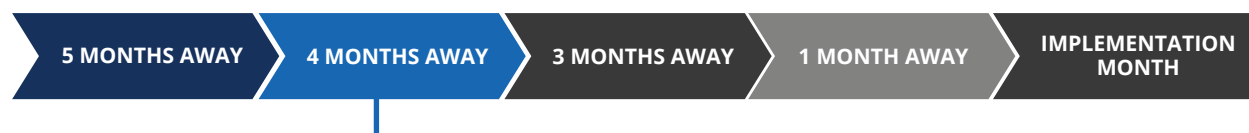
Implementation Timeline



Five Months Until Implementation

- Request sample copies of *Connected: How Strong Family Relationships Lead to Internet-Safe Kids* to include with Bishop's letter to all priests, diocesan leaders and parish leaders.
- Bishop sends a letter and sample copies of *Connected* to all priests, diocesan leaders, and parish leaders in the diocese reintroducing Safe Haven Sunday.

Implementation Timeline



Four Months Until Implementation

- Meet with Diocesan Presbyteral Council to share plans for Safe Haven Sunday and receive suggestions about how to get parishes passionate about the annual implementation of Safe Haven Sunday.
- Diocesan representative(s) speak at all deanery meetings about Safe Haven Sunday.

Implementation Timeline



Three Months Until Implementation

- Diocesan representative(s) to contact priests who were unable to attend their deanery meeting and review Safe Haven Sunday.
- Diocesan representative to send follow-up communication to clergy, diocesan and parish leaders about ordering copies of *Connected* by the designated deadline and printing the prayer cards locally.

Implementation Timeline



One Month Until Implementation

- Diocesan representative to send a final communication to clergy, diocesan and parish leaders about ordering copies of *Connected* by the designated deadline and printing the prayer cards locally.
- Orders of *Connected* and Safe Haven Sunday prayer cards arrive at diocese.
- Diocesan representative(s) organize drop-off or pick-up of *Connected* and Safe Haven Sunday prayer cards to parishes.
- Safe Haven Sunday promoted on local Catholic Radio Station.
- Bishop and/or diocesan representative(s) interviewed about Safe Haven Sunday on local Catholic Radio Station.

Implementation Timeline



Month of Implementation

- **4 weeks out:** Bishop introduces Safe Haven Sunday in his diocesan newspaper column.
- **4 weeks out:** Safe Haven Sunday ad printed in diocesan newspaper.
- **4 weeks out:** Safe Haven Sunday shared on diocesan social media.
- **1 week out:** First Bulletin Blurb sent the weekend prior to Safe Haven Sunday.
- **Implementation Weekend: Safe Haven Sunday in all Parishes**
 - Second Bulletin Blurb (may also be used as Pulpit Announcement)
 - Bulletin Insert
 - Homily and/or Homily Video
 - General Intercessions
 - Prayer Card (may be prayed after the General Intercessions or the closing song)
 - Announcement made at the end of Mass encouraging parents to pick up a copy of *Connected* on their way out of the church. During the announcement, a description of the book, as well as instructions regarding the *Safe Digital Family Challenge*, may be provided.

Implementation Timeline



- *Connected* distributed after closing song. One copy provided to every household.
- **1 week after:** Third and final bulletin thanking people for participating in Safe Haven Sunday.
- **1 week after:** Safe Haven Sunday / Thank You posted on diocesan social media.
- **1 week after:** Letter sent from bishop to clergy, diocesan and parish leaders thanking them for their support and leadership.
- **1 week after:** Diocesan newspaper article on local parish efforts.

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)*

Diocesan Representative Follow-Up

Diocesan Representative Final Follow-Up

Diocesan Newspaper Ads *(English & Spanish)*

Diocesan Newspaper Article From Bishop *(English & Spanish)*

General Intercessions *(English & Spanish)*

Homily Video *(English & Spanish Subtitles)*

Introduction Letter From Bishop to Priests

Letter From Parish Priest to Parishioners

Parish Resource Order Form

Prayer Card for Parishioners *(English & Spanish)*

Thank You Letter From Bishop to Diocesan and Parish leaders

Social Media Kit

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