Youth today have more needs than ever before. We live in a changing world that has seen the disintegration of many families, substance abuse, extreme violence, and moral decay. Today’s youth are thrown into a hothouse of competition and social change that tests their decision-making skills.

Learning for Life is designed to support schools and other youth-serving organizations in their efforts toward preparing youth to successfully handle the complexities of today’s society while enhancing their self-confidence, motivation, and self-worth. Learning for Life helps youth develop social and life skills, assists in character development, and helps them formulate positive personal values. It prepares youth to make ethical decisions that will help them achieve their full potential. Learning for Life enhances teacher capacity and increases youth learning!

The Learning for Life Catholic School Companion lesson plan book was created to supplement the current program for Catholic schools. The Catholic School Companion lesson plan book is divided into three sections: K-8 in English, K-8 in Spanish, and 9-12 in English only.

The K-8 lesson plans discuss the eight character traits taught in the Learning for Life program in relationship to the Old and New Testaments, the writings of various Saints’, John Paul II and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Each lesson plan has a reflection section, which is age appropriate.

The high school program is based around Justice, Prudence, Fortitude, and Temperance. Each lesson plan incorporates a reflection section that focuses on the lesson taught.

The United States Conferences of Catholic Bishops, under the supervision of Sister Glenn Anne McPhee, Secretary of Education, has reviewed Learning for Life’s Catholic Companion and states:

“The identified topics are timely and certainly pertinent to character development among today’s young people. The reflections and corresponding questions are well developed and age appropriate. The extensive use of Old and New Testament writings is very well done.

The supplement will be a definite asset to students in our Catholic schools. It underscores many of the characteristics of Catholic identity that are essential to good Catholic schooling.”

Currently, 180 schools with an enrollment of over 25,000 students participate in this program nationwide. The Catholic Companion lesson plan book is available for $119. We recommend using it in conjunction with our Character Education program for added value.

To find out more about this program, contact Martha Mattox (martha@lflweb.org) at the Learning for Life national office.