



# ST. JOSEPH & HOLY TRINITY

## CATHOLIC PARISHES



424 N. MESA VERDE AVE ~ AZTEC, NM 87410 ~ (505) 334-6535 ~ FAX (505) 334-5902

Email: [office@stjosephaztec.org](mailto:office@stjosephaztec.org)

---

Dear Parents of Grades: K-8th,

Greetings to you! As we begin this new year, you are receiving this letter to inform you of the Diocesan policy for the Touching Safety Program. This program teaches as that: "The job of ensuring children's safety is a challenging undertaking. The prevention of child sexual abuse requires more than adult awareness, education, and training about the nature and scope of the problem. We must also give our children the tools they need to overcome the advances of someone who intends to do them harm. The Teaching Touching Safety program guide (Teaching Touching Safety Guide) is a tool designed to assist parents and teachers in this important task. The Touching Safety program is a vehicle through which parents, teachers, catechists, and youth ministers give children and young people the tools they need to protect themselves from those who might harm them." We're happy to provide this program for your child/children in our religious program this year in an age appropriate way. Two lessons will be provided each year. Lessons 1 was taught last year. We will continue with the following:

Year 4

- Lesson 4: Telling Someone You Trust: Empowering children to tell a safe adult when something bad, uncomfortable, or confusing happens is an important aspect of child safety. Goal: to assist parents, guardians, and other caring adults in teaching children how to know that they have the right to say "no" to tell a trusted adult. We need your permission to teach your child/children these lessons and to be able to participate in these lessons with their teacher and peers.
- Lesson 5: Grooming: To assist children in recognizing the risky, frightening, or confusing behaviors that adults exhibit, and to teach children how to trust their own instincts and resist the overtures of a potential molester. We need your permission to teach your child/children these lessons and to be able to participate in these lessons with their teacher and peers.

If you understand what was explained to you concerning the VIRTUS Touching Safety Program being taught through two (2) lessons this year, please sign the form on the back.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Sister Sara Marie Gomez, OSU*

Sister Sara Marie Gomez, OSU  
Director of Religious Education

**Yes, I/We understand and want my/our child/children**

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name: \_\_\_\_\_

to participate in the Touching Safety Program being taught at St. Joseph and Holy Trinity's religious program on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, lesson 4 and Wednesday, February 21, 2018, lesson 5. I/We can attend the class being taught when presented if we desire by informing the teacher first.

Parent/Guardian's name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**No, I/We understand and do not want my/our child/children**

Child's name:

Child's name:

Child's name:

to participate in the Touching Safety Program being taught at St. Joseph and Holy Trinity's religious program on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, lesson 4 and Wednesday, February 21, 2018, lesson 5.

Parent/Guardian's name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_