

"Protection of God's Children"

The Archdiocese of New York has implemented the "Protection of God's Children" program, in addition to the Guidelines for Religious Education throughout the Archdiocese. This program is mandated and must be completed each year.

To accommodate this, in the Religious Education Program students will be given an age appropriate presentation.

Grades 1, 2, 3

This presentation will focus on God's love for students. He truly is the Good Shepherd. In this session the children will understand that God wants each of his children to know how special they are and that He wants them to be safe.

Grades 4, 5 & 6

This presentation will demonstrate safety measures to avoid being lured or taken by a stranger. We are special and sacred. We honor, respect and care for ourselves and other people should honor, respect and care for us.

Grade 7

The focus of this presentation will be to inform these students how they can be deceived and of the possible dangers that exist while using the Internet and entering chat rooms.

Grade 8

The focus of this presentation will be to inform students how God made us special and sacred. Every person has been created with human dignity. If we don't respect ourselves we communicate this to others. When we have self respect, we live chastely.

All students will participate in these presentations unless the parent or guardian has requested their child not be present. Families choosing not to participate will sign the form stating this choice. Those children will attend another activity . Families choosing not to participate will sign the form stating this choice. Those children will be given an alternative activity .

Your Parish Report stating the total number of families and the total number of children who participated plus the number who chose not to participate must be submitted to the Regional Office by April 15, 2007.

It is crucial that the number of students registered in your program in September balances with your report number of students that were present at their age appropriate presentation. In the event students were absent for their presentation, they must participate in a make - up session session.