

# *St. Henry Parish*

## *Religious Education & Faith Formation*

Date: October 27, 2011

To: Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

From: Patty Cook, Director of Religious Education

Under the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, all dioceses in the United States have agreed to do the following:

1. Establish age-appropriate safe environment training for children. Key training components are to include information about quality relationships, proper forms of touch, actions to take in uncomfortable situations, and reporting possible abuse. This program is not the same as sex education.
2. Offer the training to all children/young people.
3. Document that the training has taken place.

While all children are to be offered the Archdiocesan safe environment training, a parent/guardian can refuse to allow their child to participate in the Archdiocesan training. The following conditions must be met if a parent/guardian decides not to have their child(ren) participate:

4. Provide to the parent/guardian the Archdiocesan curriculum if the parent chooses to cover this material with their own child(ren).
5. The parent must specifically state in writing: (1) that safe environment training was offered to their child, (2) that they refused to allow their child to participate in this training, and (3) that they have been offered safe environment training materials to use with their child. This signed form must be maintained by the archdiocese to ensure full accountability concerning the safe environment training of every child.

The safe environment training program at St. Henry Parish will be offered on: Wednesday, November 16 and Sunday, November 20 for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders.

The safe environment training program that will be used can be viewed at [sthenryparish.com](http://sthenryparish.com) on the Protecting Children Page.

In the event that you do not wish your student to participate in the safe environment training, please complete, date, sign, and return the form on the reverse side of this letter. Please list each child and the level/grade training they would have the opportunity to receive. If we do not receive the form by Sunday, November 13, we will assume your approval of your child(ren)'s participation in the program.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

*Patty Cook*

## Parent/Guardian Safe Environment Training Refusal Form

Please return this form **ONLY** if you do **NOT** wish to have your child(ren) listed below participate in the safe environment training(s) for the current academic year.

1. We/I do not wish our child(ren) to participate in the *Safe Environment Training for Children* program at:

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*(insert name of school/program and location)*

2. List child(ren) and level/grades they are in who we/I do not wish to have participate in the safe environment training for the 2010/11 program year. (List only those children who are in the grades/levels receiving training this year.)

Child(ren)

Level/Grade

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3. To receive a copy of the *Safe Environment Training for Children* that you can use with your child(ren) please check here.

I/we wish to receive a copy of the *Safe Environment Training for Children* program materials for the child(ren) listed on this form.

4. Signature and Date:

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Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Date

Note: Completed forms are maintained locally and a copy is on file at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center in Dubuque, IA as required by the Charter for the Protection of Children.