

{PARISH NAME}

**Safe Environment Training for
Parish Religious Education Students**

{Date}

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As part of the Diocese of Venice's commitment to keep children safe, *(parish name)* is hosting sessions for students to help them remain safe from sexual predators and abusive situations. Safe environment training allows children to become aware of their own bodies in both the physical and spiritual sense. It provides them someone with whom they feel safe and can trust to tell, and instills in them the knowledge that they can receive help without feeling guilt or shame if they do tell.

A one-hour program will be held in place of the regular faith formation classes on *(insert day and date)*. The students will be divided into four groups: grades K-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8, and youth (grades 9-12). Pre-K students will remain in their own class. As members of this parish community, we feel we can be partners with parents in giving children information so they can tell someone if they are harmed or in danger of being harmed and can assist in their own self-protection. Together we minimize the risk of all child abuse, especially child sexual abuse.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this program or its contents, please feel free to contact *(insert contact name and title at parish)*, at *(insert phone number and email address)*.

If you do *NOT* wish your child to attend the Safe Environment training on *(insert day and date)*, please do not bring your child to class, as no alternative classes will be offered. In addition, please complete and return the bottom portion of this page to opt out of the program. Those who wish their children to attend the program do not need to return the sheet.

Thank you.

(Insert name and title of person at parish)



(Parish Name)

Safe Environment Training Opt-Out Form

I, (print name) _____, do not wish my child (print name)

_____, grade _____, to attend the Safe Environment training program on *(insert day and date)*.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____