

To: Parents of children ages Kindergarten through Senior in High School

From: Office of Faith Formation at St. Patrick, Holy Cross, and St. Rita and including St. Charles Youth

Kim Ward, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation

Subject: Opportunity to “opt your child out” of the *Touching Safety* program

Date: January 2019

St. Patrick Parish, Holy Cross Parish, and St. Rita Parish Faith Formation will present a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Touching Safety* program, to our students on Thursday February 7, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. at the St. Patrick Parish Center. These will be taught by:

- Kim Ward (Kinder-2nd grade)
- Brian Donovan (3rd-5th grade)
- Moira Cashman (Junior High Students)
- Allison Verhofstadt (Senior High Students)

The creators of the *Protecting God’s Children* program developed the *Touching Safety* program. This program is provided to us by the Archdiocese of Seattle, and is part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to protect all children from sexual abuse. The scheduled lesson is being offered to all students Kinder- Sr. High. As a parent, you have the right to choose whether your student participates. We encourage you to read the attached so you’ll be aware of the nature of the *Touching Safety* program.

http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Assets/SEP/10755_TeachingBoundaries&Safety.pdfs

If you have questions about the program or the lesson, please contact Kim Ward at 253-383-2783 ext. 4108 or kward@saintpats.org.

If you determine that you DO NOT want your child to participate, please complete the “opt-out” form at the bottom of this page, and return it to your child’s catechist/Youth Leader no later than February 4th, 2019

For more information on the Touching Safety program, visit the VIRTUS Online website at www.virtus.org

Opt-out form for use with the Touching Safety program:

The Office of Faith Formation at St. Patrick, Holy Cross, and St. Rita does not have my permission to present the Touching Safety program, to my child whose name is _____

Parent’s name (printed): _____

Parent’s signature: _____

Date: _____