

TO: Parents

FROM: The Tacoma Catholic Parishes of St. Patrick, Holy Cross, St. Rita Faith Formation and St. Patrick/St. Charles Youth Groups

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

DATE: Wednesday February 5, 2020

The Tacoma Catholic Parishes of St. Patrick, Holy Cross, St. Rita, and St. Charles will present a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Touching Safety* program, to our students on Wednesday February 5, 2020. The creators of the *Protecting God’s Children*™ program developed the *Touching Safety* program. This program is provided to us by the Seattle Archdiocese, and is a 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 Kindergarten- 12th grade. As a parent, you have the right to choose whether your student participates. We encourage you to read the attached “overview” and “lesson plan” so you’ll be aware of the nature of the *Touching Safety* program. If you have questions about the program or the lesson, please contact Kim Ward at 253-383-2783 ext. 4108. 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/ minister no later than February 1st, 2020.

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 Tacoma Catholic Parishes of St. Patrick, Holy Cross, St. Rita, and St. Charles, do not have my permission to present the *Touching Safety* program, to my child whose name is

_____.

Parent’s name (printed): _____

Parent’s Signature: _____

Date: _____