

TOUCHING SAFETY PARENT FORM

TO: Parents
FROM: Diocese of Shreveport
SUBJECT: Opportunity to “opt your child out” of the *Touching Safety* program
DATE: 2017-2018 School Year

The Parish School of Religion of St. Joseph Parish, Shreveport, will present a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Touching Safety* program, to our students on September 24, 2017. The creators of the *Protecting God’s Children™* program developed the *Touching Safety* program. This program is provided to us by the Diocese of Shreveport, 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 of the Parish School of Religion, St. Joseph Parish, Shreveport. As a parent, you have the right to choose whether your student participates. We encourage you to read the overview of *Teaching Touching Safety* found on the Parish website so you’ll be aware of the nature of the *Touching Safety* program or visit the VIRTUS online website at <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/>. If you have questions or would like a copy of the program please contact Cynthia Pettiette at cpettiette@stjosephchurch.net or 865-3581. 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 no later than September 24, 2017

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:

I DO NOT give my permission to present the *Touching Safety* program, to my child whose name is _____ . I have received a copy of the *Protecting God’s Children Touching Safety – A Guide for Parents, Guardians, and Other Caring Adults*.

I DO give my permission to present the *Touching Safety* program, to my child whose name is _____ .

Parent’s name (printed): _____

Parent’s Signature: _____

Date: _____