

January, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In an effort to assist in the monumental mission of protecting children from abuse, St Rose of Lima's Faith Formation program is partnering with you to present two safe environment lessons to your youth. It is our cherished role as adults to fully protect children. In addition, we must also teach children about their safety rights and boundaries, so that they have tools to protect themselves.

This upcoming year, your child will be presented with a program entitled *Empowering God's Children*, in which we ask you as their parents and guardians to present two safety lessons to children. The program houses a grade-appropriate video component along with a hands-on activity. The material is designed to better equip your child to know their rights, recognize their boundaries, and to empower them to protect themselves when safe adults are not immediately available—and ultimately be safer from people who might want to harm them.

This year youth will be taught the following two lessons:

- Lesson 5: Being a Safe Friend
- Lesson 6: Boundaries: Feelings and Facts

As the primary educators of your children, parents and guardians are encouraged to review these lessons - videos and activities can be found on our web-site under the [Empowering God's Children web-page](#) and discuss the information at home. If you have ever thought about how to empower children to protect themselves, fortify their boundaries or increase their safety through in-person and online situations, then reviewing the lessons on your own to both begin *and* reiterate the message at home is the best next step to take.

Thank you for your partnership with us to protect youth.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Once the lessons are completed at home, we ask that you complete and return the acknowledgement form that can be found on our web-site or click here: [Acknowledgement Form](#) by its due date as we are responsible to report back to the archdiocese that our children have been educated.

You also can “opt” the youth out of the program if you wish. Please complete and return the opt-out form that can also be found on our web-site or click here: [Opt-Out Form](#) by its due date if you do not want your child to receive safe environment information. We need this information back as well to report to the archdiocese.

Thank you again for your help and support of this important program.

Sr. Sandy DeMasi, SSJ.

Director of Liturgical Ministries & Faith Formation