

TO: Parents

FROM: _____ (Parish Now)

SUBJECT: Opportunity to “opt your child out” of the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program

DATE: 2020-2021 School Year

_____ (Parish) will present a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program, to our students on _____.

The creators of the *Protecting God’s Children*® program developed the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program. This program is provided to us by the [NAME of archdiocese or diocese], 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 at the Religious Ed Classes at _____ (Parish). 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 *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program.

If you have questions about the program or the lesson, please contact _____ at _____. 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 teacher no later than _____.

For more information on the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program, visit the VIRTUS Online™ website at www.virtus.org.

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

_____ **does not** have my permission to present the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program, to my child whose name is _____.

Parent’s name (printed): _____

Parent’s Signature: _____

Date: _____