

TO: Parents of RE Students, Grades 1-8
FROM: Susan McCoy, Coordinator of Religious Education
PARISH: St. Patrick, Amboy
SUBJECT: Opportunity to “opt your child out” of the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program
DATE: 2021-2022 Religious Education Year

The St. Patrick Religious Education Program will present a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program, to our students on **Sunday, September 12, 2021**. The creators of the *Protecting God’s Children®* program developed the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program. The program is provided to us by the Diocese of Rockford 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 RE students at St. Patrick, Amboy. As a parent, you have the right to choose whether your student participates. We encourage you to read the program Overview 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 Susan McCoy at susanmccoy60@gmail.com or 815-857-2315. **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 the Parish Office no later than September 8, 2021.**

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 *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* program:

St. Patrick Parish, Amboy, does not have my permission to present the *Teaching Safety – Empowering God’s Children* Training whose name is:

_____. Grade_____

I request training materials to be sent home. I do not request training materials to be sent home.

Parent’s name (printed): _____

Parent’s Signature: _____

Date: _____