



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

**St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**

109 North Main Street, Box 48, Glandorf, OH 45848

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**TO:** Parents of CCD Students  
**FROM:** St. John's Religious Education Department  
**SUBJECT:** Opportunity to "opt your child out" of the *Touching Safety* program  
**DATE:** October 13, 2017

Under the directive of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the Diocese of Toledo has given us a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Touching Safety* program, that we are to teach to our students. The first lesson for 2017-2018 will be taught to Grades K-8 during CCD the week of November 6. The second lesson will be taught the week of January 8 for K-8, and on January 3 for 9-12.

The creators of the *Protecting God's Children*™ program developed the *Touching Safety* program. This program is provided to us by the Diocese of Toledo, 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.

As a parent, you have the right to choose whether your child(ren) participate(s). We encourage you to read two documents, "Protecting God's Children: A Guide for Parents" and "Teaching Boundaries and Safety Guide". These resources will help you be aware of the nature of the *Touching Safety* program. You can access these documents by logging onto the parish website: [stjohnglandorf.org](http://stjohnglandorf.org) under the Parish Forms tab or read the overview included in the Parent Handbook. If you have questions about the program or the lessons, please contact the Religious Education Department at the numbers listed below. If you determine that you DO NOT want your child(ren) to participate, please complete the "opt-out" form at the bottom of this page, and return it to your child's religion teacher or place in the rectory mailslot on the garage door by November 1. This will be the final deadline.

Diane Utrup 419-538-6335 for Grades K-5  
DeVon Dunlap, 419-538-6897 for Grades 6-12

For more information on the *Touching Safety* program, visit the VIRTUS Online™ website at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org).

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

St. John's Religious Education Program does not have my permission to present the *Touching Safety* program, to my child(ren) whose name(s) is/are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in grade(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_