

MEMORANDUM

To: Parents and Guardians

From:

RE: Annual safe environment training for children and young people

Date:

Very soon we will undertake the annual safe environment training to all children and young people in our religious education program (school). While our initial motivation for doing this training came from the Bishops' mandate in the ***Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People***, we know now that this is important personal safety information that every child should have.

Children in preschool to grade five will hear our ***Good Boundaries Script*** presentation. The main points in this presentation include:

1. God made us and loves us. God made our bodies.
2. We each have personal space.
3. We should treat ourselves and others with respect and care (golden rule).
4. Some touches are safe, some are not safe.
5. There are warning signs when we are in danger.
6. If we are ever in danger, not being respected, or being touched in an unsafe way, get away.
7. Get help from an adult. Keep telling and asking until you get the help you need.
8. There are adults in your life to care and protect you.

Children in preschool, kindergarten and first grade may read a storybook, ***The Swimsuit Lesson*** by Jon Holsten (copyright 2005). This book, in story form, makes the same points as above.

Young people in grades six, seven and eight will receive lessons on developing good boundaries for life as God designed. The subjects covered in these lessons include:

- Grade 6 -- Discovering God's Purpose for Relationships
- Grade 7 -- Boundaries for Good Relationships in God's Plan
- Grade 7 -- Rules for Good Boundaries
- Grade 8 -- How People Violate Boundaries
- Grade 8 -- Grooming & Tactics
- Grade 8 -- Friendships for Life

If you would like to review any of these materials or have any questions, please contact: