

Parish: _____

Date: _____

Permission Slip to Attend Virtus Program

The Diocese of Rockville Centre requires all employees and volunteers, ages 18 years and older to attend a Safe Environment Program, distributed through Catholic Risk Management Services, entitled:

Protecting God's Children.

The purpose of this three hour class is to provide information on the signs/symptoms of child abuse, child sexual abuse, internet safety and the necessary requirements of a safe environment for children. This program answers the question: "What should I do if I become aware of a potentially abusive situation?" While the content of this program is not graphic or explicit; the stories are based on real life events, and as such, contain important safety information relevant to all teens. We are offering the ***Protecting God's Children*** program to teens in "volunteer roles" so that they have a clear understanding of appropriate and acceptable behaviors when in the presence of younger children. **As your child is under the age of 18, your permission is required for their participation in this program.**

If it is your wish that your child opt-out of the ***Protecting God's Children*** program, please indicate your preference below. An opt-out will not interfere with your child's ability to provide volunteer services.

I, _____, parent of _____,
give my son/daughter permission to attend/participate in the Virtus, Protecting God's Children program to be held at the Parish of _____
on _____

I agree not to hold the Diocese of Rockville Centre, the Parish of _____
_____, or any of their respective employees
or the facilitator, _____ of this Virtus session responsible
for any emotional upset participation in this class may cause. Additionally, I agree to be available to discuss the content of this program with my son/daughter following their attendance in this class.

I refuse permission for my child: _____
to attend the Virtus program offered at _____.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

- While parents are not required to attend the Protecting God's Children program, you are strongly encouraged to attend a Protecting God's Children class at our parish or any neighboring parishes. Please feel free to contact the Office for the Protection of Children, Diocese of Rockville Centre with any questions: 516-678-5800 x. 573