

Protecting God's Children Workshops

August 2018

Dear Parents,

In response to the recent allegations of sexual misconduct, the Columbus Diocese of the Catholic Church has mandated that every staff member, teacher, coach, parent volunteer, field trip driver, cafeteria worker, principal, priest, director of religious education, etc. attend a program called "Protecting God's Children."

This program must be completed in order to volunteer at the school. The approximately three-hour educational session will enable you to identify any inappropriate activity that may put you or your child at risk. The entire diocese of Columbus is participating and complying with this mandate, as are other Dioceses around the world. You will not be allowed to volunteer at St. Vincent de Paul unless you attend this program.

These measures are not intended to violate your privacy or load more requirements upon you. They were established to ensure that every child is surrounded by individuals who will not harm them; instead children will be surrounded by those who are able to identify and intervene if any unsafe activity should arise.

After attending a session, you will be given a certificate of participation that will be on file. Fingerprints must also be submitted as a part of this and the state of Ohio's effort to have a safe environment for every school child. The workshop is free, but there is a charge for the fingerprint report by BCI/FBI.

Respectfully,

Martha Downs, Principal

You must register for your session ahead of time at www.virtusonline.org.

Upcoming "Protecting God's Children" Workshop

Wednesday, August 22, 2018 St. Vincent de Paul School 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 22, 2018 St. Vincent de Paul School 9 a.m. – noon

If you are unable to attend this session, please go to the Virtus website, click on registration, and there will be an option to look at upcoming sessions. New sessions are added frequently.

You must register for your session ahead of time at www.virtusonline.org.

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INSTRUCTIONS – CIVILIAN BACKGROUND CHECKS

Every volunteer and staff member who has contact with children and youth is required to undergo a criminal history check. For this purpose, the services of the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation (BCI) or when applicable, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) are utilized. You may do so at either of these locations:

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

Knox County Educational Service Center
308 Martinsburg Road (behind KC Career Center)
Mount Vernon OH 43050
740-393-6767

Or APPOINTMENTS ONLY:

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00-11:00 a.m. and 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Knox County Sheriff's Office
11540 Upper Gilchrist Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-3333

PLEASE TELL THEM TO SEND THE REPORT DIRECTLY TO:

DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS
ATTN: REGINA QUINN
197 E. GAY STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43215.

BRING YOUR RECEIPT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE SO WE CAN REQUEST A COPY OF THE REPORT.