



Diocese of La Crosse

SAFE ENVIRONMENT STUDENT TRAINING DECLINATION

The Diocese of La Crosse provides Safe Environment training **from the Catholic perspective** to participating individuals in its programs.

The substance and focus of Safe Environment Training is as follows:

Kindergarten-Second Grade: Students will learn about their **dignity** (their incredible worth) as **children of God** and the respect that each person deserves as a child of God. Students will learn about safety, safe environment and the care that is to surround them, the difference between appropriate, kind actions and behavior that makes them feel safe, secure and loved, and inappropriate, harmful actions and behaviors that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

Grade Three-Five: Students will learn about the virtue of **respect**, which is based upon the **dignity of each human person**. Students will learn the importance of saying “no” to inappropriate, harmful actions, behavior and touch that makes them feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Children will be encouraged to tell immediately a trusted adult when these situations arise and will learn about the buddy system.

Grades Six-Eight: Students will learn about how each person, including themselves, must be treated with **respect**. Students will learn about, and seek to develop or further develop, the virtue of **prudence**-making good decisions. Students will learn practical tips for keeping themselves safe and will discuss defensive and assertive body language to protect themselves.

High School: Students will understand virtue, which are **good moral habits**, and vice, which are bad moral habits. Students will discuss the virtue of **chastity** and **modesty**; learn practical steps for protecting themselves and others from sexual abuse, including the ability to recognize warning signs and how to react to abuse and the possible threat of abuse.

- I acknowledge that the Diocese of La Crosse has offered my child Safe Environment education by the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People and by the Safe Environment Program of the Diocese of La Crosse.
- I am declining the training and do not want my student(s) to participate in the Safe Environment Program.

My reasons for opting out are: _____

Parent Name (printed): _____ Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Children(s) Name(s): _____

School/Parish: _____

System/City: _____