



DIOCESE of TULSA
and Eastern Oklahoma

TOGETHER, OUR FAITH GOES FURTHER.

According to the *2021 Annual Report- Findings and Recommendations*, issued in May 2022 by the USCCB,

“It is the responsibility of the diocese to work with parishes to ensure the training program for children/youth is working effectively.”

Training for Catechists

VIRTUS- Children's Programs Lesson Leader Orientation and Certification Training.

Please contact me if you are interested in this formation for your ministers and catechists. This brief program is designed to provide important insight that will foster confidence in lesson leaders delivering the yearly Empowering God's Children training to our youth. Formation is available online and in-person.

All parishes and schools will provide safe environment training as promulgated by Bishop Konderla. This year the following lessons are approved for use and meet the criteria for compliance with the USCCB Charter and Diocese of Tulsa & Eastern Oklahoma policies. Education will be addressed equally by all locations with uniform topics taught throughout the diocese each year.

Lessons can be found on the Educator Tab in VIRTUS.
www.virtusonline.org



Empowering God's Children **Fall Semester Lesson 5**

Being a Safe Friend

Children must know that being a friend means that we “do the right thing” when it comes to healthy friendships with their peers: meaning we recognize unsafe situations, intervene (when possible) and get the information to a safe adult.

Spring Semester Lesson 6

Boundaries: Feelings and Facts

Children should be taught tools to recognize what it feels like when adults or other children do not uphold healthy boundaries. Children need to understand objective and subjective signs of boundary infringement, how it physically and emotionally might feel and what to do about it.



“The Church loves all her children like a loving mother, but cares for all and protects with a special affection those who are smallest and defenseless.” – Pope Francis



Safe environment education is conducted twice a year and training data must be entered each semester in VIRTUS by November 15th and May 15th respectively.

Regarding OPT-OUTS—

“Every training counts.”

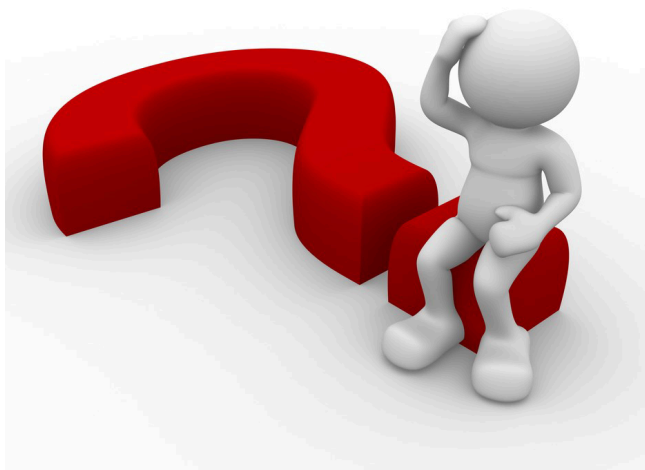
Each family that “opts out is one less individual who can effectively detect or respond to abuse.” Opt-out forms should be the exception, not the rule, and are to be given to parents upon request.

Forms can be found on the Educator Tab in VIRTUS.
www.virtusonline.org

Parents who Opt-Out

Locations who do not meet face-to-face for catechesis, whose parents opt out children, or whose Religious Education model is exclusively family catechesis should contact the OCYP for lesson plans to be sent home with families. These are the only plans available for home use with parents to deliver to their children.

Although we may not count these students in our annual trained count, the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* expects us to furnish education for parents to use.



A PRAYER FOR HEALING VICTIMS OF ABUSE

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his blood on the cross.



Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace,
join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt
in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.



Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters
who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.
Soothe their restless hearts with hope,
steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause,
enlightened by your truth.



Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into wholeness.
Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Copyright © 2014, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. To order publication no. 7-495, visit uscbbpublishing.org or call 877-978-0757.

Who do I contact for help with CYP Education for Children?

Donna Eurich
 Director
 Office of Child & Youth Protection
 Email: donna.eurich@dioceseoftulsa.org
 Phone: 918.307.4919