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To: All New School Parents  
From: Pat Kalahar and Paula Ryan  
Date: August 2022  
Re: *Protecting God's Children: Teaching Touching Safety Program*

Holy Spirit School will participate in the *Protecting God's Children: Teaching Touching Safety* program as directed by the Diocese of Grand Rapids. Two age-appropriate lessons will be taught at each grade level (Young 5's – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade) during the school year. This program is part of an on-going effort by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to protect all children from abuse.

The *Protecting God's Children: Teaching Touching Safety* Program covers the topics of:

- Private body parts and personal boundaries
- How to identify Safe Friends and Safe Adults
- The difference between safe and unsafe touches
- What to do if they are touched in an unsafe manner.

You may access more information regarding the Touching Safety program by visiting the VIRTUS Online website at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org). If you would like to view the lesson that will be presented to your child, please contact your child's teacher.