Date

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Our Catholic tradition has always taught that the human body is sacred, and that all people are made in the image and likeness of God. The formation your children receive at our parish reflects these teachings.

Because we know that our work with your children is a sacred trust, we have fully implemented *The Charter and Norms for the Protection of Children and Young People* by conducting background checks on all Church employees and volunteers who work with children, youth or vulnerable adults.  A particularly heinous form of abuse is that of sexual abuse. The training embedded into the Family Faith Formation we offer focuses on the holiness of the body, mind and spirit, and complements the New York State sexual abuse awareness mandate that provides for public schools to educate children about sexual abuse.

Our goal is to help children become more aware of situations, people or circumstances that may threaten their safety while, at the same time, reminding them that they are precious in the eyes of God.

Bishop Matano is fully committed to this education of children. In our parish, we use the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies, which address abuse awareness within the curriculum. If your child is enrolled in Family Faith Formation, then additional abuse prevention awareness training is not required.

If you have not enrolled your child(ren) in Family Faith Formation, we highly encourage you to do so.

In order to be in compliance with diocesan directives regarding this education, please use the document found on [this page](https://ourladyofthelakescc.org/stewardship/interested-in-helping/) to discuss ways to recognize and prevent abuse. If you choose not to do this, please return this letter with your signature below.

We look forward to working with you to help your child(ren) grow according to God’s plans and provide the safest possible environment for our children.

Sincerely,

Fr. Leo Reinhardt, Pastor Patty Larzelere, Religious Education and Safe Environment Coordinator

Today’s Date:

Dear Fr. Leo and Patty Larzelere,

While appreciating that this parish is offering abuse prevention training, which is meant to educate and protect people of all ages, we choose not to participate in this annual endeavor.

Yours in Christ,

Parent/Guardian signature