

Safe and Sacred

Major changes have been instituted into the child protection program for the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. Some highlights include:

- In January 2014, the contract with VIRTUS expired and the Archdiocese chose to replace it with an online training program called "Safe and Sacred".
- "Safe and Sacred" training program is completely conducted online and includes processing of a background check and Code of Conduct.
- Follow up bulletins (online) should be read once per quarter.
- The program includes information on child physical abuse, neglect, and emotional abuse, as well as sexual abuse.

The initial training takes about 45 minutes to complete online. Follow up bulletins take less time to read.

All employees and all volunteers dealing with children must complete all three sections BEFORE starting any position. [Click HERE to go directly to the Safe and Sacred site.](#)

Purpose of New Program

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis has chosen the “Safe and Sacred” program for several reasons. It provides easier access to child protection training for clergy, employees, and volunteers. It allows us to broaden the focus of the training to increase awareness of all forms of child abuse. Safe and Sacred includes an assessment that must be taken and passed to ensure that training content is learned and can be applied. We believe these are important new features for this program.

Who is Required to Sign Up for this Program?

Teachers, staff, and all volunteers who minister to or work with minor children must meet all the requirements of this program. If you are 18 years of age or older and you volunteer with one of the following ministries at Holy Rosary, you must comply with all the requirements.

Holy Rosary is requiring the following parish ministries to meet the program requirements:

Adult Altar Servers	
Confirmation	
Family Formation Catechists	
Festival	
Pro-Life Committee	
Mom’s Group	
Music Ministry	
Sacramental Prep	

Sacristans	
Youth Ministry	

If you are unclear of your need to meet Safe and Sacred requirements, please contact Teresa Gorsage, Volunteer Coordinator, at 636-4478 or teresa@holyrosaryindy.org.

Access

[Click here to go to the home page where you will register](#) by providing your email address and choosing a password. You will then be able to view the website and complete the training.

Since this new program was launched, we have received great feedback on the convenience and education it provides our employees and volunteers. We are pleased to have this new resource for our continued commitment to the care and protection of our community.

Safe and Sacred Requirements

We are still requiring the three parts of the program as listed below:

- **Training**
 - Safe and Sacred training (replaces VIRTUS)
 - This program is designed to increase one's awareness of and recognition of the signs of child physical abuse, child sexual abuse, child emotional abuse, and child neglect. It also provides information on reporting procedures and requirements.
- **Background Check**
 - This is required to screen sex offenders from participating in ministries with children.
 - There is **no cost** to our parishioners for this background check.
- **Code of Conduct Form**
 - This form describes the conduct required of all people working with children, both employees and volunteers.

Please note that all three aspects of this program must be completed! Access to all three is provided on the Safe and Sacred link.

Procedural Requirements

To fulfill program requirements, please follow these steps:

1. Go to the Holy Rosary website and click on the Safe and Sacred icon or [go directly to the Safe and Sacred link at https://safeandsacred-archindy.org/login/index.php](https://safeandsacred-archindy.org/login/index.php)

2. You will be asked to create an id and password to get onto the site. Please remember both!
3. **When training is completed, the program will ask where to send your completion report. Please input Teresa Gorsage at teresa@holynosaryindy.org.**