

PLEASE REPLY BY SEPTEMBER 27, 2007!

Dear Parent,

After participating in *Protecting God's Children*, many of you requested that we follow up with a children's program. Therefore, the Diocese of Joliet embarked on a search for suitable materials. We have designed a safe environment curriculum that includes a safety program entitled, *Talking About Touching*. This program is being used throughout the Diocese, in addition, the program will answer the continuing response to the 2002 *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*.

The *Talking About Touching* program, is a way for your child to learn to recognize and respond appropriately and assertively to improper (sexual) touch. The videos help students understand that they can say no and tell a trusted adult. The instruction is gentle and will help your child learn about these unpleasant realities in a positive way.

Your child will not be exposed to specific sexual language or depictions of graphic situations or to anatomically correct language regarding private body parts. Dates for the children's instruction will be **Tuesday, April 1, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.**, this is a special evening specifically for this subject. Children will be instructed as follows:

- Grade 1-3 will be instructed using *Sam's Story*
- Grades 4-8 will view and discuss the Emmy-award-winning video *Yes You Can Say No*
- Grades 9-12 will view and discuss *Katie's Secret*/ will use *Creating Safe and Sacred Places*

Parents are invited to view and discuss the Emmy Award winning video *What Do I Say Now?* which gives great tips on how to listen to your child and how to talk to your child about awkward topics, specifically those relating to sexuality and touching safety during office hours, just contact 815-469-3750, ext 142 to set a time.

If you do NOT wish for your child to participate, please sign the release below, detach it and return to the school before September 27, 2007.

**I ask that my child/children _____
be excused from attending instruction at St. Anthony Catholic Community using the safe
environment curriculum on April 1, 2008. I acknowledge that I received a copy of the Parent Guide,
Understanding and Preventing Child Sexual Abuse. I understand my child/children receive similar
instructions in the public school system and it is my right and responsibility as a parent under
guidelines of the Catholic Church to do this instruction myself.**

Signature of parent/guardian _____
Date

Please print family name: _____

Please print phone number: _____

- () My child **WILL** attend the program on Tuesday, April 1, 2008
- () My child **WILL NOT** attend the program on Tuesday, April 1, 2008