

TO: Parents

FROM: **St. Mary Help of Christians Parish Youth Ministries, Grades 6-12**

SUBJECT: Prevention Education Notice / Opt-Out Form

Date: Sept. 28, 2021

St. Mary Help of Christians Morning and Evening Youth Ministries will present a sexual abuse prevention program, Empowering God’s Children – Teaching Safety, to our students on **Oct. 17, 2021** , with a make-up date of **October 18, 2021** . This program is provided to us by the Diocese of Charleston and is a part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain safe environments for all children and youth in our care.

The scheduled lesson is being offered to all students at **St. Mary Help of Christians Morning and Evening Youth Ministries** As parents, you have the right to choose whether your student participates in the program. We encourage you to read the “overview” and “lesson plan” assigned to your child’s age group to understand exactly what your child will be taught.

It is important to note, this is basic prevention education and is in no way to be considered sex education or education on private body parts. Neither of these components fall within our educational mandate to provide your child with the information needed to keep them safe from those who would do them harm.

If you wish to “opt” your child out of the prevention education session, please complete the “opt-out” form at the bottom of this page and return it to your child’s teacher no later than **October 17, 2021**.

Opt-out form for use with Empowering God’s Children – Teaching Safety program:

St. Mary Help of Christians Morning and Evening Youth Ministries does not have my permission to present the Empowering God’s Children – Teaching Safety, to my child/children:

- 1. _____ 2. _____
- 3. _____ 4. _____

Parent’s Name (printed) _____

Parent’s Signature _____

Date: _____