

TO: Parents
FROM: *St. Joseph's Catholic Community Church*
SUBJECT: Opportunity to "Opt Your Child Out" of the *Touching Safety* Program
DATE: September 2018

St. Joseph's Catholic Community Church will present a sexual abuse prevention program, called *Touching Safety*, to our students on a class date in the Fall and Spring. The creators of the *Protecting God's Children TM* program developed the *Touching Safety* program. This program is provided to us by the Diocese of Monterey and is part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to protect all children from sexual abuse.

The scheduled lessons are being offered to all students at *St. Joseph's Catholic Community Church*. As a parent, you have the right to choose whether your child participates. We encourage you to read the attached overview, so you'll be aware of the nature of the *Touching Safety* program. If you have questions about the program or the lesson, please contact *Shauna Scott* at (831) 475-8211 x32 or shauna@stjoscap.org. If you determine that you DO NOT want your child to participate, please complete the "opt-out" form at the bottom of this page and return it to your child's teacher no later than *October 28, 2018*. If you decide to opt out, we will provide you a copy of the lesson plan, so you can teach your child the material at home if you choose to do so.

If you would like to review the complete *Touching Safety* lesson plan, it is available in the parish religious education office. For more information on the program, visit the VIRTUS Online™ website at www.virtus.org.

Opt-Out Form for Use with the Teaching Safety Program

St. Joseph's Catholic Community Church does NOT have my permission to present the *Touching Safety* program to my child, whose name is: _____

Parent's Name (Printed): _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date: _____