

St. Vincent de Paul Church
6441 Seneca Street
Spring Brook, NY 14140
652-7242
stvincentccd@gmail.com

June, 2017

Dear Parents,

The Diocese of Buffalo is working to fully comply with all the directives of the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People implemented by the U.S. Catholic Bishops in 2002. In addition to training all adult staff and volunteers who work with children, the Diocese of Buffalo is also training children in sexual abuse awareness.

Sexual abuse awareness training, mandated by the Diocese of Buffalo, will be conducted at our parish Sunday, *October 29th during the Traditional Religious Education and Edge*. The training is a way for your child to learn to recognize and respond appropriately and assertively to issues such as improper touch, tricks used by sexual predators, and internet safety.

Your child will not be exposed to specific sexual language or depictions of graphic situations. In order to save postage, a link to the approved Diocesan lesson plan for your child's age group is provided on the Diocesan website for your review: **www.buffalodiocese.org**. Follow the following links: **Education**, then **Office Of Lifelong Faith Formation**, then **curriculum guides**; look for the **Sexual Abuse Awareness Training**, there you will find a link to the age appropriate lesson plans from the Diocese. Parents are invited to discuss the content of this lesson plan prior to the abuse awareness training.

The awareness training will last approximately 15 minutes. If you do not wish for your child to attend the Abuse Awareness Teaching, please sign the release below, detach it, and return it to us *before* the date of the anticipated instruction.

Sincerely,

Father Karl Loeb
Pastor

Mrs. Lisa Benzer
Director of Religious Education

I ask that my child/children _____ be excused from attending the Sexual Abuse Awareness lesson at St. Vincent de Paul Parish Religious Education on October 29, 2017. I understand that it is my right and responsibility as a parent under guidelines of the Catholic Church, to do any such instruction myself. I also understand that my child will be brought to the Religious Education Office for an alternate activity during the time of the Abuse Awareness Training in their classroom.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date