TO: **Parents and Guardians**

FROM: **Safe Environment Coordinator at the Church of Holy Redeemer, in Marshall, MN**

SUBJECT: **Opt-Out** form with attached Overview and

              Teaching Touching Safety Quick Reference Guide

DATE: **October 2, 2020**

The Church of Holy Redeemer will present a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Touching Safety* program, to students this Fall. The creators of the *Protecting God's Children* program developed the *Touching Safety* program. This program is provided by the Diocese and is a part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to protect all children from sexual abuse. It is not sex education.

The scheduled lessons are being offered to all students in our parish/school. I encourage you to read the attached "Overview" and "Teaching Touching Safety Quick Reference Guide" 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 me directly. If you determine that you do not want your child to participate, please complete the "Opt-Out" information at the bottom of this page, and return the entire page to your child's teacher by Tuesday, October 6th.

For more information on the *Touching Safety* program, visit the VIRTUS *Online*™ website at www.virtus.org.

The Diocese of New Ulm does not have my permission to present the *Touching Safety*

program to my child, whose name is _____,

attending Holy Redeemer School, grade _____, in Marshall, Minnesota.

I acknowledge that I have been provided with the *Overview* and *Teaching Touching Safety Quick Reference Guide*, and I take responsibility to instruct my child on the concepts contained in these documents. I will use the age appropriate *Lessons 5 and 6* to train my child on personal safety/safe environment provided to me by the parish upon receipt of this signed opt out form.

_____
Parent/Guardian Name (printed)

_____   _____
Parent/Guardian Signature   Date