

Billerica Catholic Religious Education
Personal Safety & Abuse Prevention Lessons for Gr. 3,4,5
(adapted from *The Stay Safe Program* curriculum, Archdiocese of Boston, January 2008)

Greetings Parents and Guardians,

The attached Safety Lesson packet is for **you to teach your Gr. 3,4,5 child(ren) at home** over the next few months. Please complete, sign and return the attached **Signature Form** to the BCRE Office **by May 1st**.

The US Catholic Bishops, and the Archdiocese of Boston, require all Religious Education programs in the Archdiocese to provide such curriculum to our students and families. The materials used for our Gr. 3,4,5 families are based on “The Stay Safe Program” curriculum, which is approved by the Archdiocesan Office for Child Advocacy. This attached lesson plan has been adapted for your use at home by the BCRE Gr.3,4,5 Coordinator.

Safe Environment training is essential to the foundation of our Catholic faith: it is based on our belief that human beings are created by God, in His own image, and that we are responsible for protecting the dignity of each person. This program is meant to teach children basic skills that can help keep them safe from dangerous situations. Despite good intentions to provide a safe environment for children, adults cannot always be there to protect them. The skills presented in these lessons teach children rules, information, encouragement and practices that they can use to help protect themselves.

The lesson topics vary by age group and have received favorable reviews for their age-appropriateness, appropriate level of depth, and reliance on talking with parents and guardians. The curriculum used includes practical exercises and situations relevant to today’s youth. The original curriculum materials are available at the BCRE Office. You are welcome to preview them; please call the office at 978-667-3733 to make an appointment.

*If you do not plan to use the attached Program with your Gr. 3,4,5 child(ren), **we are required to have this in writing.** Please complete, sign, and return the attached **Signature Form** to the BCRE Office **by May 1st**.*

Feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns, or if I can be of any assistance.

Keeping you and your family in prayer as you **Choose Jesus Everyday!**
Peace in Christ,

Debra Fergus
Gr. 3,4,5 Coordinator
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