

To Protect and to Heal Safe Environment for Grades 7 and 8

We are created in the image of God.

Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains for ever in a special relationship with the Creator, who is its sole end. CCC 2258

Each person has dignity and must be treated with respect. We show respect for each other in our language, behavior, and interactions with each other. Our respect includes the right to privacy for our own bodies.

Make a list of ways we show respect for each other in our families and in school.



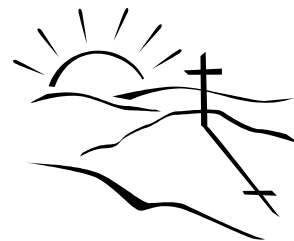
The Archdiocese of New Orleans will ensure that children and youth who worship, study, and participate in activities sponsored by the Archdiocese can do so in the safest and most secure setting possible.

What constitutes child abuse, including sexual abuse?

Sexual Abuse: includes sexual molestation or sexual exploitation of a minor and other behavior by which an adult uses a minor as an object of sexual gratification.

Other Physical Abuse: the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury or, as a result of inadequate supervision, the allowance of physical injury to a minor.

Neglect: The refusal or willful failure by a caretaker to provide for a minor the proper or necessary medical care, nutrition, or other care necessary for a minor's well-being.



Girls are four times more likely than boys to experience sexual abuse.

If I am afraid of someone,
I will run and get help.



Sexual abuse usually takes place in secret and is kept secret because the abuser fears discovery. Sexual abuse is often more difficult for a child to acknowledge than physical or emotional abuse, and the sexually abused child may feel more isolated. Children often blame themselves for the abuse; therefore, it is important to reassure the child that he or she is not responsible. The adult, not the child, is responsible for violating boundaries that the child could not maintain alone. (Walking in the Light: A Pastoral Response to Child Sexual Abuse)

How can I protect myself?

- Trust my own feelings
- Know what my values are, what my goals are
- Be assertive
- Leave a situation if I am uncomfortable
- Don't walk alone, especially at night
- Avoid a situation if it appears it may be dangerous

A child who is abused
it not responsible for
the abuse.

What should I do if I or someone I know has been abused?

- Talk about it with a trusted adult
- Get professional help if you need it
- If a friend says he/she has been abused, don't promise not to tell anyone

WHO ARE THREE ADULTS I CAN GO TO IF SOMETHING IS WRONG? I CAN TALK TO THEM AND THEY ARE HERE TO HELP ME WITH ANYTHING, WHENEVER I NEED THEM.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Using CCC 2258, write a prayer asking God to keep you and all students safe from child abuse and neglect.

