

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH

921 N. MERRIWETHER ST.

CLOVIS, NM 88101

(575) 763-6947

May 2016

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you about a special class we will be teaching as part of your child's regular religious education. This class aims to teach children how to be safe, protect themselves, and communicate any potential danger.

In the Church's desire to help you keep your children safe, the Archdiocese requires that all children and young people participating in religious education in any parish or Catholic school in the Archdiocese, receive instruction in protecting themselves and communication potential danger to a parent or other responsible adult.

The document titles *Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal, Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, written by the Catholic Bishops of the United States, contains the following instruction: Dioceses will establish safe environment programs that will "provide education and training for children, youth, parents, ministers, educators, and others about ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children." The Archdiocese of Santa Fe, in order to comply with this instruction, has mandated that programs to educate children on how to be safe, protect themselves, and communicate any potential danger, be offered annually to children of all grades in Catholic schools and parish religious education and youth programs.

The instruction at Sacred Heart will take place **during the regular Religious Education class time.** **Grades K-2** is scheduled for **September 21, 2016**, **grades 3-5, RCIC, & SPED** is scheduled for **September 28, 2016**, **grades 6-12/Youth** is scheduled for **September 25, 2016**. If you would like to view the materials that will be used for this instruction or if you have questions or any other concerns, you call contact Lora Rodriguez at 575-309-8130.

If for any reason you do not want your child/children to participate in this class, please sign the form below and return it to the parish office. We will honor your request.

Sincerely,

Lora Rodriguez
Religious Education Director

My child _____ **MAY/MAY NOT (please circle one)**
participate in the session for learning how to stay safe and protect himself/herself from potential abuse.

Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian

Date