RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

109 North Main Street, Box 48, Glandorf, OH 45848

TO: **Parents of CCD Students**

FROM: **St. John's Religious Education Department**

SUBJECT: **Opportunity to "opt your child out" of the *Protecting God's Children, Teaching Safety* Program**

Under the directive of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), the Diocese of Toledo, has given us a sexual abuse prevention program, the *Teaching Safety* program, that we are to teach to our students. These lessons will be taught to grades K-8 during CCD in January.

The creators of the *Protecting God's Children*™ program developed the *Teaching Safety* program. This program is provided to us by the Diocese of Toledo, and is a part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to help protect all children from sexual abuse.

As a parent, you have the right to choose whether your child(ren) participate(s). We encourage you to read two documents, "Protecting God's Children: A Guide for Parents" and "Teaching Boundaries and Safety Guide". These resources can be accessed on St. John's website, stjohnglandorf.org, under the Parish Forms tab. These resources will help you be aware of the nature of the *Teaching Safety* program. If you have questions about the program or the lessons, please contact the Religious Education Department at the numbers listed below. If you determine that you DO NOT want your child(ren) to participate, please complete the "opt-out" form at the bottom of this page, and return it to your child's religion teacher.

Coordinator of Grades K-4:   419-538-6335
Coordinator of Grades 5-8:   419-538-6897

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

Opt-out form for use with the Touching Safety program:

St. John's Religious Education Program <u>does not</u> have my permission to present the *Teaching Safety* program, to my child(ren) whose name(s) is/are

Child _____ in grade _____

Child _____ in grade _____

Child _____ in grade _____

Child _____ in grade _____

Child _____ in grade _____

Parent's name (printed): _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Date _____