

Protecting God's Children **Requirements of the Diocese of Paterson**

In their commitment to protecting children, the Diocese has instituted the following requirements for all staff and volunteers who work with children in the parish.

Requirements:

1. **Sterling Background Check.** Background checks are required for all staff and volunteers who work with children in the parish. Print out the "disclosure form" found on the parish website, complete*, and return it to the parish office for processing. ***Please note that a background check must be completed and cleared prior to working with children in the parish. Please allow the office at least one week to process.***

* We do ***not*** conduct a consumer report. Please disregard that section on the form.

2. **Code of Pastoral Conduct: Living and Working with Integrity.** Staff and volunteers are required to review the Diocesan Code of Pastoral Conduct and sign the agreement found at the end of the document. The Code of Pastoral Conduct can be found on the parish website. Print out and sign the agreement found on page 12, and return it to the parish office.
3. **Virtus Training.** All staff and volunteers working with children are required to attend a *Virtus* "Protecting God's Children" training class. This class is offered at various locations and times throughout the year, but must be completed within 90 days of beginning work in the parish. Upon completion, return a copy of the certificate issued to the parish office. A link to the Virtus registration site is found on the parish website, or at www.virtusonline.org.

Visit the St. Catherine of Siena website www.stcatherine-ml.org to download required forms or to register for a Virtus class.