



St. Joseph Church | 5050 St. Joseph's Road, Coopersburg, PA 18036 | 610.965.2877 | www.stjoescoopersburg.org

Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

April 2021

Dear Families of St. Joseph Church PREP,

Each year, Catholic Schools and Parish Religious Education Programs in the Diocese of Allentown teach the Child Protection Catechesis Curriculum mandated by the Charter for the Protection for Children and Young People passed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2002. **Due to the unique set-up of this school year's PREP classes, we are asking that each family complete the Child Protection Catechesis Curriculum at home.** You as a parent are the primary educator of your child, and you may find that the lessons encompassed in this program are ones you have already discussed. The material has been prepared in light of our faith and in accordance with the moral teachings of the Catholic Church. The purpose of the program is to help children improve self-reliance, raise self-esteem and master personal safety skills – all while reassuring them that most people are kind, safe and committed to their well-being.

You can find the curriculum on our parish website under the PREP News tab, Child Protection Catechesis <https://www.stjoescoopersburg.org/prep-news/child-protection-catechesis/>

Each grade has a specific curriculum. We request that you complete the program by April 25, 2021. The PREP teachers will not be reviewing the material in class. **If, after viewing the materials, any parent does NOT want their child(ren) to learn the Child Protection Catechesis, please sign and return the bottom of this form to the Rectory no later than April 25, 2021.** Completed forms may be placed in the collection basket at any Mass (folded and marked PREP); emailed to the Rectory at the address above; or, PDF versions may be emailed to Mrs. O'Donnell at the email listed below (PDFs MUST contain a signature). The parent opt-out is required to be reported to the Diocese of Allentown.

We thank you for continuing to place your trust in us as we work with you and your child in partnership. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the email listed below.

God Bless,
Janessa O'Donnell
Parish Safe Environment Coordinator
janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org

We do NOT want our child(ren) to participate in the Child Protection Catechesis Program.

Name of Family: _____

Name of Child(ren) & Grade: _____

Parent Signature: _____