

St. Joseph - Verona ~ Safe Environment

825 Second Street ~ Verona, PA 15147

(412) 828-9287 ~ StJoVeSafe@gmail.com

Fran Morrow ~ Safe Environment Coordinator



Overview: Safe Environment Certification Process for Volunteers

Excerpt from a recent letter from the Very Reverend Lawrence A. DiNardo VG/GS:

"We follow a Savior whose love for children was so great that he called all of us to care for them. This is why for many years the Diocese of Pittsburgh has exceeded all child protection requirements of both civil law and the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. We are dedicated to doing our utmost to ensure that children and youth in the care of the Church come to no harm of any kind.

Parish Mission Statement: St. Joseph Parish is a faith community, rich in history and strong in its Catholic traditions since 1866. Through the grace of the Eucharist and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to building up the Body of Christ through a strong spiritual life, education in the faith and service to our parish and community.

If it is your desire to become a volunteer for the parish or school, please also be willing to commit to the protection of children and youth by completing each of the following requirements before entering into service.

To obtain instructions on HOW to complete each of the requirements, contact the Safe Environment Coordinator (SEC – Fran Morrow) at StJoVeSafe@gmail.com or by calling (412) 828-9287.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ ALL VOLUNTEERS must complete steps #1 - #4.
 1. Register in the Diocesan Database – Note: A State Police Criminal Record Check is automatically initiated when this application is submitted.
 2. Pennsylvania Child Abuse History Check
 3. FBI Federal Criminal History Check: Individuals who HAVE LIVED in Pennsylvania continuously for the past 10 years you are eligible to sign a Disclosure Form. Individuals who HAVE NOT LIVED in Pennsylvania continuously for the past 10 years must obtain a FBI Criminal Record Check (fingerprints).
 4. Protecting God's Children Workshop
- ❖ Volunteers who will work with children in the School, Religious Education program or Parish must also complete step #5.
 5. Training for Mandated Reporters of Child Abuse

Additional Information

- ❖ Compliance in the Safe Environment Program is a requirement for all volunteers before volunteer services begin.
- ❖ The process can take as long as 6 weeks or as short as 1 week to complete. Most compliances can be completed on-line.
- ❖ Compliance in the Safe Environment Program is valid for all Parishes and Schools in the Diocese of Pittsburgh. One Parish/School is designated as the Primary Site, all others are listed as a Secondary Site.
- ❖ For more information: Policy: Safe Environment for Children can be accessed through: diopitt.org > Protection of Children and Youth – Essential Documents.