

Our Lady's Policy on Protection of Children

Our Lady's values the welfare of each and every child within our parishes. We take seriously our commitment to ensure that every child is safely supervised, protected, and cared for in an open and respectful manner whenever they are involved in any event sponsored by our parish. For this reason, we have put into practice the following Policy Statement.

1. All staff and volunteers involved in teaching or ministering to children, youth, or elderly are to be interviewed by the supervisor of that program.
2. All volunteers will complete a CORI check.
3. All volunteers working with children will complete the Virtus Protecting God's Children training that the parish provides.
4. A copy of Our Lady's Policy Statement will be given to all volunteers at their interview.
5. Volunteers will not give rides home to children or youths unless permission has been obtained by the parent.
6. No new programs are to be started without the approval of the Pastoral Staff.
7. All parents are welcome and encouraged to participate in any activity with their children. Parents have access to all areas in which children are participating in programs.
8. All programs and field trips run by the parish will be closely monitored and supervised. Each parent needs to sign a diocesan permission slip for their children to participate in any activity off church property. All chaperones must have completed a CORI Form.
9. Parents need to caution their children about going off in secluded areas. We encourage parents to make sure that their child is with a representative of the parish before leaving them to participate in any church activity.

As Church, all of us need to assist in making our parish a safe place. If you see any behavior that seems inappropriate, you need to report this to a member of the Parish Staff or any other appropriate agency; DSS or the police department.