



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF JACKSON

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The Diocese of Jackson is committed to being a community that cares for children. I sincerely appreciate the care and love you give our children and youth and all that you give of yourself to the Protection of Children program. Through your support our children and youth will become the leaders upon which our Church will rely in the future.

The Praesidium, Called to Protect training program for children and youth has been distributed (in English and Spanish) to all parishes and schools. The program summarizes the major points that children and youth should know in order to prevent physical, verbal and sexual abuse from occurring, and to respond appropriately if it does occur. The training program teaches age-appropriate concepts, consistent with what child development experts say children and youth can understand, learn and use. The program includes a wide range of activities for children and youth of different age groups and detailed instructions for educators and parents.

The Called to Protect program is consistent with Catholic teachings and is extensively field-tested in the Catholic community based on Gospel values. The curriculum introduces to children and youth the basic concept of body safety and self-protection skills, but it is only a source of information. Parents, teachers and volunteers must help children and youth feel they can speak openly and honestly about their concerns and make time to keep the dialogue open about this important topic.

If you have questions about the Called to Protect program, please contact Vickie Carollo at 601/960-8471 or by email at vickie.carollo@jacksondiocese.org.

May God bless you as we all work together to keep children safe from harm.

Sincerely in the Lord,

Joseph N. Latino
Bishop of Jackson