

Creating a Safe Environment: DOR Lesson Requirements

Per the Diocese of Rochester Department of Evangelization and Catechesis, *Creating a Safe Environment: Sexual Abuse Awareness - Educational Resource Material For Parish Catechetical Programs*

- “The Diocese of Rochester requires all Parish Catechetical Programs will offer a minimum of 3 hours of Sexual Abuse Awareness education on an annual basis at each age/grade level.”
- “Each lesson plan provides an age- appropriate objective around sexual abuse awareness. These lesson plans are not designed to provide all education about these topics or answer all questions. These lessons will complement what children and youth learn in New York State public schools about the topics of preventing child / teen abuse and child / teen abduction.”

2025-2026 CASE Lessons

Sessions

- September 29th
 - Human Dignity, Grades K-3
 - Boundaries and Respect, Grades 4-7
- March 16th
 - Speaking Up (when you are hurting or have a need), Grades K-3
 - Helping Others Feel Safe (Corporal Works of Mercy), Grades 4-7
- Classroom/Family Sessions with CASE will NOT directly address sexual abuse.
- A Safe Environment home lesson will be emailed to you in the spring. This lesson WILL directly address the topic of sexual abuse. Please complete it by the end of the program.

Record-Keeping + Opting Out

- The diocese requires all churches to keep attendance and opt out records for all enrolled children.
- You will receive a sample lesson plan a week in advance of each lesson to help you decide if it is appropriate for your family.
- Opting Out
 - You may always choose to opt out of having your child(ren) participate.
 - We will ask for written notice that you are opting out.
 - If you choose to opt out, please do NOT bring your children to attend in person on September 29th and March 16th.