



**Saints Francis & Clare of Assisi**  
Roman Catholic Church

September 3, 2019

Dear Saints Francis and Clare of Assisi Parents,

Several years ago we implemented a program for the safe environment education of children and young people supported and mandated by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. This program is offered in response to the US Conference of Catholic Bishops *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, and was updated in 2018.

The Archdiocese of Indianapolis is pleased to offer the Circle of Grace Program to all of our children in faith formation and in our schools. Numerous programs were researched to find one that would supplement the excellent programs already in place. Safe and Sacred assists the adults in our parishes and schools who work with our children to be mindful of boundaries and has provided education on situations that could present an unsafe environment for children. Circle of Grace assists our young people with education and guidance on appropriate boundaries, self-respect, and respect for others. The program encourages healthy relationships and teaches our children that God is always present with us. Circle of Grace is grounded in the richness of our faith.

Age appropriate Circle of Grace lessons will be taught annually at each grade level from kindergarten to grade twelve in our RE/YM and School Ministries. Each year's lessons build upon what has already been taught. The number of lessons varies among grade level, and are as few as one and as many as four. Most lessons average about forty minutes. Religious Education lessons for children in Kindergarten – Grade 3 will be taught Oct. 20, Nov. 3, and Dec. 8. Dates for grades four and five, Youth Ministry and our School Ministry will be shared with you by each Ministry or teacher as they are determined for the 2019-2020 program year.

A comprehensive flyer with a detailed explanation of the Circle of Grace program and common parent questions are available on our parish website [www.ss-fc.org](http://www.ss-fc.org). We welcome you to contact any of us if you have questions about Circle of Grace.

God bless you and your family,

Patricia McGill  
Coordinator of RE

Betty Popp  
Principal

Monica Robinson  
Youth Ministry Coordinator