



St Michael the Archangel Parish
Family Faith Formation
807 Chestnut Street
Emlenton, Pa. 16373
www.stmichaelrcchurch.org

Dear Parents/ Guardians:

The bishops of the United States, in *The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* promulgated in 2003 and revised in 2018 mandate that all children enrolled in Catholic schools and religious education/formation programs receive Safe Environment training.

*Diocese/eparchies will maintain “safe environment” programs. They are to be conducted cooperatively with parents, civil authorities, educators, and community organizations to provide education and training for **children, youth, parents, ministers, educators, and others** about ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children.*

Article 12

The safe environment training of youth is a matter taken very seriously by the Diocese of Erie, especially in this unprecedented time in our history. The diocese, through your parish, is supplying families whose child/children are in remote/online programs with specific online videos so the training can be accomplished at home. The video(s) and instructions are attached to this email with specific details outlined below. They are also available to view directly on our website at [www. http://stmichaelrcchurch.org/child-protection-remote-learning-material/](http://stmichaelrcchurch.org/child-protection-remote-learning-material/)

Also attached is a form to document that the safe environment training was completed. Parents maintain the right to refuse this training. **Please fill out, sign, and return the Completion of Training form to St. Michael’s in a timely manner, as it is required for parish and diocesan records. This form is also available to print from our website listed above.**

We strongly urge you to talk to your child/youth about the importance of personal safety, especially online safety. The Diocese of Erie, our parishes and schools, take their responsibility to educate every child very seriously and are doing all that is possible to ensure that your child is educated in the reporting and prevention of abuse.

We appreciate your efforts in helping to create safe environments for your children -and for all of God’s children!

In Christ’s peace,

Elisa M. Cirell
Coordinator of Faith Formation