

# Volunteer Requirements

## Protecting God's Children™ Information for Volunteers Serving the Youth of Gesu Parish 2015 – 2016

In 2004 the Diocese of Cleveland began implementing Protecting God's Children™, also known as Virtus, a program aimed at the prevention of child sexual abuse. This program seeks to safeguard our children by educating school and parish staff, volunteers, and parents about ways to prevent sexual abuse, methods of properly reporting suspicions of abuse, and the proper way to respond to allegations of abuse.

In order to do all we can to keep children safe Gesu Parish and School complies with the requirements of the Virtus Program.

Thank you for your generous service to the families of Gesu.

*The Gesu Parish Staff*

For the purposes of Protecting God's Children, a volunteer is anyone who interacts with youth more than once a month and/or more than four hours a month.

- Examples include (but are not limited to): Cafeteria Aides, Playground Monitors, those who routinely assist in the Library, Art Room or Technology Lab, Coaches, Team Managers, Scout leaders, Children's Liturgy volunteers, Bookstore volunteers, Great Books leaders, Club moderators.

<b><u>Volunteer Requirements</u></b>	
The following information must be submitted to and approved by the Gesu Parish Business Manager or Gesu Principal before an individual can be allowed to serve in parish/school activities involving minors:	
1.	<a href="#">Volunteer Application Form</a> . Submit completed application to parish business manager, athletic director, or principal.
2.	Personal References – All volunteers must provide contact information for 3 personal references on the Volunteer Application. The parish will contact your references.

<p>3.</p>	<p>Virtus Training Certification – verification of your attendance is sent directly to Gesu after you have completed this three hour training.</p> <p>For information about where Virtus training sessions will be held and to register, <a href="#">click here</a>.</p> <p>Once you have completed the Virtus Training, you will receive periodic email lessons which you will need to read. These are very brief articles which require answering only one question. A record of your ongoing progress will be kept with your files.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>For completing the requirements for your fingerprinting and criminal background check, please call Matthew Goffos at 216-397-2277 to make an appointment. You can also contact him at <a href="mailto:mgoffos.jcu.edu">mgoffos.jcu.edu</a>.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Acknowledgement Forms – Return forms to parish business manager, athletic director, or principal to acknowledge that you have read the three required policy booklets.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Diocese of Cleveland</i>  <b>Policy for the Safety of Children in Matters of Sexual Abuse</b>  published November, 2007</p> <p>When you have completed your online reading, please print out a copy of the Acknowledgement Form (found on page 66 of the booklet)  sign it and return it to Gesu.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Gesu Parish</i>  <b>Guidelines for Adults Working with Youth of Gesu Parish</b>  published September, 2004</p> <p>You will find the Acknowledgement Form at the end of the document. Print that page and return.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Diocese of Cleveland</i>  <b>Standards of Conduct for Ministry</b>  published July 1, 2005</p> <p>You will find the Acknowledgement Form at the end of the document. Print that page and return.</p>