

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

All employees and volunteers who have contact with minors (under age 18) must meet the requirements of the Protecting God's Children Program as set forth by the Archdiocese of Chicago.

These requirements are below:

1. Individual must register for a Criminal Background Check at www.archchicago.org. Click on "Child Protection". Go to "Compliance Resources" and click on Compliance for Clergy, Employees and Volunteers in the drop down box. Click on "e-Apps Online Criminal Background Check". Click on "First Time Users are asked to click here to register". Click on "Open the site search and type in the word "george". Select St. George-175TH if you are involved in a parish group. Only select St. George School site if you directly volunteer in the school, belong to Athletics, Extended Day, PTL or Band Boosters. ***There is an access word required and that word is "protection".*** Next it says: "Please select one". ***Select "Archdiocese of Chicago".*** Do NOT select "Religious Community Member". The rest of the process is pretty self explanatory. You do need to assign yourself a "User ID" and a "Password".
2. Background check through the Child Abuse Tracking System of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (completion of the CANTS form). This form must be completed each year and can be printed from the www.archchicago.org website by clicking on "CANTS form". ***The form must be returned to the rectory office. Do NOT mail to the Department of Children and Family Services.*** The parish will mail the form to the Department of Children and Family Services. We need to keep a copy.
3. Individual must attend a Protecting God's Children Workshop. A listing of these workshops can be found at www.virtus.org. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS NECESSARY** for these workshops and this can be done also at www.virtus.org. Click on "Registration" at the Virtus website and the process is self explanatory. You will also need to assign a "User ID" and a "Password" for this process. If you attend a workshop at a location **OTHER THAN ST. GEORGE**, you must leave a copy of your Certificate of Attendance at the rectory office to the attention of Mary Hagan

After your registration and attendance at the workshop, you will need to access your Virtus account at least once a month for online training. Bulletins will be assigned monthly for the first year, every other month for the 2nd year and quarterly for the third year and beyond. It will be necessary for you to read the bulletin and answer a question at the end. This process keeps your account active. If this monthly access is not done, your account will go into an "inactive" status. Also you may get a re-certification message when accessing your account. If you receive this message you will have to proceed thru the re-certification process as the Virtus system directs you.
4. Receipt of a Code of Conduct form and within that form is an acknowledgement which must be signed and returned to the rectory office to the attention of Mary Hagan. This form can be printed from the www.archchicago.org website by clicking on Code of Conduct form. The acknowledgement form is the last page and simply acknowledges that you have received and read the Code of Conduct.

If anyone has any questions, needs help registering for either the criminal background check or the workshop, needs forms or any other assistance, please contact Mary Hagan at mhagan@stgeorge60477.org or at 708-429-6043.

Without our volunteers, we would be unable to provide many opportunities for our children. Thank you for your participation in the program so we can continue to provide a wealth of experiences for the children of St. George.