



## Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Office for the Protection of Youth

### *Safe Environment News*

I wish to extend my appreciation to all who participated in the Safe Environment Program during this catechetical year.

Effective immediately our policy for background clearance renewal is changed to a 5-year cycle to correspond with the Pennsylvania regulation.

In 2016 we instituted a 5-year renewal for Safe Environment Training and so far we have been able to re-train 96% of the Archeparchy's clergy, employees and volunteers. It is my goal to get that number to 100% by the end of the audit year June 30, 2017. In September we will undergo an on-site audit as mandated by the USCCB to determine the Archeparchy's compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. I sincerely ask those of you who have not renewed your training to do so today.

Your cooperation and support give witness to the Archeparchy's commitment to the *Charter* and for that I am truly grateful.

- *Cynthia Corbett, Safe Environment Coordinator*

#### ***SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICIES OF THE ARCHEPARCHY:***

- \* Prior to active employment or participation in parish/archieparchial activities, all employees and volunteers must complete the following:
  - Criminal Background Clearance
  - Child Abuse History Certification
  - Accept the Code of Conduct
  - Safe Environment Training
  
- \* These policies apply to all personnel (clergy, employees and volunteers), whether or not they have direct contact with children
- \* Background Clearances must be renewed every five (5) years
- \* Safe Environment Training must be renewed every five (5) years
- \* ECF Teachers must offer a Safe Environment lesson to their students each year during the month of October. Documentation forms must be mailed to the Chancery before November 1<sup>st</sup>