

## VIRTUS FAQs

### **What is the 3 hour VIRTUS Protecting God's Children for Adults training?**

**Protecting God's Children® for Adults** is training conducted by VIRTUS® certified facilitators on the prevention of child sexual abuse. The training makes participants aware of the signs of child sexual abuse, the methods and means by which offenders commit abuse, and five easy steps one can use to prevent child sexual abuse

### **Who is required to take VIRTUS classes?**

Any parent that wishes to volunteer or chaperone that has direct contact with students. It is not required to participate in our weekend bake sales or Fiesta.

### **How can I complete this training?**

You must sign up for a live class. Classes offered at our parish will be announced as they become available. You can also check for upcoming sessions at neighboring parishes at <https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/> under their FAQs

Once you have completed the class, please be sure to submit your VIRTUS certificate to the office and keep a copy for your own records.

### **How long is my VIRTUS certificate good for?**

It is valid for 4 years from the date taken. It is your responsibility to make note of when it expires.

### **What are monthly bulletins?**

Once you have completed the VIRTUS training session, you are required to complete monthly bulletins. A Monthly Bulletin is a brief article and contains a multiple-choice question. You are required to read the article and answer the multiple choice question at the bottom of the page

### **Do I need a background check?**

Yes! Any parent that wishes to volunteer or chaperone and has direct contact with students is required to be fingerprinted.

Live scan fingerprinting for the ADLA (Archdiocese of Los Angeles) is required and only needs to be done once in your lifetime. Parents should submit a copy of their Live scan paperwork to the office after they complete the fingerprinting process. Please be aware that the school regularly receives updates from the DOJ and will be notified if there is ever an infraction.

For more information about fingerprinting including a schedule and list of locations please visit: <http://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/hr/Pages/fingerprinting.aspx>

### **My VIRTUS certificate is about to expire. What are my options?**

All clergy, staff, and volunteers who previously participated in the VIRTUS® Protecting God's Children for Adults program are required to be VIRTUS® recertified every four years. Recertification takes place on or

before the expiration date of the last certificate.

Recertification options include:

- Attending the one-and-a-half-hour VIRTUS® Keeping the Promise Alive recertification program
- Repeating the three-hour VIRTUS® Protecting God's Children for Adults program
- Qualifying for an Option #3 Recertification by reading 48 VIRTUS® online bulletins over the four-year period

Please contact Annette Vichot at [avichot@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:avichot@la-archdiocese.org) to request on option #3 certificate.

*Sources: [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org), <https://www.la-archdiocese.org/org/protecting/safeguard/Pages/education.aspx>, <http://handbook.la-archdiocese.org/chapter-9/section-9-5>*