Immaculate Conception Church, Lihue Safe Environment Program October 1, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians.

Greetings of Peace!

The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People issued by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops requires dioceses and schools to provide education and training for children, youth, parents, ministers, educators, volunteers and others about ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children and young people.

The children's education program consists of age-appropriate lessons built upon the Church's teaching that "the human body shares in the dignity of the image of God" (CCC364). That dignity leads us to foster in every person the belief and awareness that as a person of God, they are deserving of love and respect. Because dignity is a gift given by God at birth, abuse of all kind is harmful to that dignity.

Your Child(ren) are not required to attend but they and you parents should understand the importance of this program as part of their education about boundaries, appropriate interactions between adults and minors and related personal safety issues. This should not be considered an optional program; students that cannot attend should have a valid reason for their absence.

Thus, consistent with diocesan policy, Immaculate Conception Church, Lihue- will conduct safe environment training as part of the religious education curriculum to be held at their class on:

OCTOBER 19, 2020	Monday	1st grade	IC School	
OCTOBER 20, 2020	Tuesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> grade	IC School	
OCTOBER 21, 2020	Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup> grade	IC School	
OCTOBER 22, 2020	Thursday	4th grade	IC School	
OCTOBER 23, 2020	Friday	5 <sup>th</sup> grade	IC School	
OCTOBER 25, 2020	SUNDAY	6th Grade to Eig	ht Grade (EDGE)	9th to 12th (LIFETEEN) CHURCH

The CoVid -19 updated protocols have restricted us from gathering for a parent meeting to review the modules. Instead, please read the safe environment materials "Circles of Care" developed by the <u>Diocese of Manchester</u> (and reviewed on March 20, 2020 by the Diocese of Honolulu) at <a href="https://www.catholichawaii.org/diocesan-offices/safe-environment-child-and-youth-protection/education-children-and-youth/">https://www.catholichawaii.org/diocesan-offices/safe-environment-child-and-youth-protection/education-children-and-youth/</a>.

Mahalo.

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