



THE DIOCESE OF ST. THOMAS IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
SAFE ENVIRONMENT OFFICE

UPCOMING ONLINE VIRTUS TRAINING

Protecting God's Children Version 4.0

Year 2022

Did you know that all diocesan clergy, religious, staff and all volunteers aged 18 and older in our parishes, schools, agencies and organizations, are required to attend a “VIRTUS: Protecting God’s Children for Adults” session?

Some examples of volunteers who need to attend a VIRTUS*Online* Training session are:

- parish staff and volunteers (including office staff, musicians, choir members, ushers, lectors, etc.)
- adults volunteering or working in our parish schools, lay members of Parish associations, etc.
- catechists, CCD Instructors,
- youth group leaders,
- sport coaches, etc.

The **3-hour VIRTUS session** consists of a presentation of printed materials, videos, and group discussion. Among other things, VIRTUS attendees will learn:

- to recognize the signs and symptoms that indicate a child is being abused or exploited in some way,
- environmental factors to be aware of in the physical space of the parish or school,
- how abusers operate (on-site and via the internet...)
- easy steps one can use to help prevent child sexual abuse.

To register for an upcoming Zoom Session, please do the following:

- Step One:** Go to www.virtus.org
- Step Two:** Click on First Time Registrant and follow the instructions.
- Step Three:** Select your organization (U.S. Virgin Island)
- Step Four:** Create an ID and choose a Password
- Step Five:** Provide your contact information as required. It is very important that you include your mailing address, your email address and a daytime phone number (cellular preferably).
- Step Six:** Provide the information regarding the primary location where you work or Volunteer and your occupation (teacher, CCD Instructor, etc.)
- Step Seven:** Register for one of the Scheduled Training Session.

Even if you have already attended a VIRTUS session, you are welcome to register for a *Protecting God’s Children* recertification, doing the following:

- 1) Login, using your ID and Password. (Ask for a Password Reset if necessary, by clicking on “I NEED LOGIN HELP”)
- 2) Go to LIVE TRAINING
- 3) Choose the Training Session you want to attend.

It is very important that you PRE-REGISTER as soon as possible to ensure you receive the appropriate links and materials and that your attendance is counted. The day of the meeting, please join 15 minutes before the time scheduled for the beginning of the session. Once the webinar is on the way, no one will be allowed in the meeting room. For more information or for help registering for this PGC 4.0 Zoom Session, please contact your Parish or the Diocesan Organization where you work or volunteer. You can also call the *Safe Environment Office* at (340) 774-3166 Ext 107.

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“The Catholic Church is absolutely committed to the Safety of Children”