SAFE ENVIRONMENTS:
Volunteer Requirements Update

The Archdiocese of Detroit, in compliance with the USCCB Charter for Protection of Youth and Young People, **requires any and all parish and school volunteers to complete Protecting God's Children training and maintain a current background check, regardless of whether they are interfacing with children or vulnerable adults.** Please review the steps below to ensure you are in full compliance.

Create and/or login to VIRTUS Account

VIRTUS is the Church's online system for Protecting God's Children training and volunteer safety compliance. All information shared within VIRTUS is secure and encrypted for online security. *Please visit* **VIRTUS.org** *to get started.*

New users: Create an account.

Returning users: Log in with your current credentials to access courses, authorize background checks, recertify or update your information.

Quick tip: Keep your login handy for future training updates or renewals.

Authorize Background Check

Upon registering with VIRTUS, **new users** will provide their date of birth, gender, race, and confirm Michigan residency for the past 7 years, followed by signing and authorizing the check. Your VIRTUS account will show the check as cleared once it has been completed by our on-staff VIRTUS coordinator in strict confidentiality.

Remember: AOD and USCCB mandate biennial background checks for all volunteers. **Returning users** will receive an email 15 days before their biennial renewal to sign off.

Review & Sign Volunteer Code of Conduct

All volunteers are required to read and sign the Volunteer Code of Conduct. This can be completed by logging into your VIRTUS account.

If needed, a paper copy may also be reviewed and signed; completion will be recorded in your VIRTUS account under the "Required Documents" tab.

Sign up & Attend Protecting God's Children Training

Protecting God's Children (PGC) is a 3-hour awareness session that educates adults on how to recognize inappropriate or predatory behavior, take steps to prevent abuse, and report concerns responsibly.

First-time participants must attend an in-person *Protecting God's Children 4.0* session, while **anyone who completed PGC in 2022 or earlier** may complete a recertification online through the VIRTUS web training module (*Protecting God's Children 4.0* and *Vulnerable Adults 2.0*).

Upcoming In-Person PGC Sessions at Divine Child: For your convenience we will be hosting two in-person sessions here at Divine Child in the Bernardine Franciscan Learning Center (High School Library): **9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Sept. 27** and **6-9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 23**. Light refreshments will be served.

How to Register
All registration is completed online through your VIRTUS account. If neither of our dates work with our schedule, VIRTUS offers additional sessions across metro Detroit (see database in your account).

DEADLINES

New volunteers are expected to complete all four steps prior to volunteering. **For current volunteers**, the expectations are as follows:

- **October 1, 2025** - Complete Background Check Authorization
- **November 1, 2025** - Complete Protecting God's Children Training Session(s)
- **January 1, 2026** - Meet all compliance guidelines or pause volunteering until complete

Questions? If you need assistance with registering for or completing your volunteer requirements, or if you have a general question, call the parish office at 313-277-3110.