

If you suspect that a child may be at risk of being harmed, please contact one of the numbers below that is in your area. These calls can be made anonymously.

Child Abuse Hotline Telephone Numbers

State of Alaska (800) 478-4444

State of Arizona (888) 767-2445

State of California (800) 422-4453

State of Colorado (303) 866-3003

State of Idaho (800) 422-4453

State of Nevada (800) 992-5757

State of New Mexico (800) 797-3260

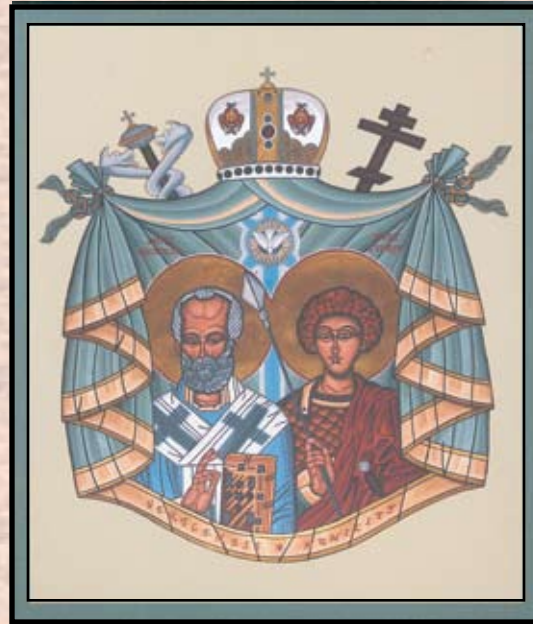
State of Oregon (800) 854-3508

State of Washington (800) 562-5624

To report an allegation about someone in Church ministry, the Victims Assistance Coordinator, Rosemarie Ludwig, is available to assist you and can provide information concerning the necessary steps to be taken. Her number is (602) 997-1550.



Icon of Jesus and the Children used with permission from GOD WITH US PUBLICATIONS.



Eparchy of Van Nuys

8105 North 16th Street

Phoenix, AZ 85020

The Policy can be found on the Eparchy of Van Nuys web page www.eparchy-of-van-nuys.org

Victims Assistance Coordinator

Rosemarie Ludwig, PhD

PO Box 83474

Phoenix, AZ 85071

(602) 997-1550

rstussy@cox.net

Safe/Faith Environment Coordinator

Sister Jean Marie Cihota, OSBM

8105 N. 16th Street

Phoenix, AZ 85020

602-861-9778

evnoffice@qwest.net

**"Promise to Protect
Pledge to Heal."**



*"Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
(Matthew 19:14)*

*The Safe/Faith Environment
Program for the
Eparchy of Van Nuys
is committed to implementing
the “Charter for the
Protection of
Children and Young People”
as proposed by the
Bishops of the United States.*



**GUIDELINES FOR A SAFE/FAITH
CHURCH ENVIRONMENT**

A faith-based community lives a God centered, prayerful and virtuous lifestyle which assures a loving, serving environment.

Open Communication provides a protective presence that welcomes a safe space of trust and concern.

Safe Space is a warm, open and visual territory that allows accountability of all activities to the public.

Education is an ongoing learning, which eliminates ignorance, arrogance, pride and inflated power.

**WHOLESOME BOUNDARIES
WHERE TO DRAW THE LINE**

- * Relational boundaries define the limits of appropriate interaction with others.
- * Boundaries bring order to our lives.
- * Boundaries empower us to determine how we will be treated by others.
- * We have emotional, spiritual, sexual and relational boundaries.
- * With good boundaries, we can have the wonderful assurance that comes from knowing that we can and will protect ourselves from the ignorance or thoughtlessness of others.

**INAPPROPRIATE PHYSICAL
AND VERBAL INTERACTIONS**

Tells dirty jokes, uses sexually explicit language or exposes minors to pornography.

Initiates giving gifts to and/or doing favors for minors without parental consent.

Shows affection in isolated areas, i.e., lingering embraces, petting, frontal hugs.

Allows minors to have access to alcohol and/or drugs

Allows minors to have access to websites, DVDs, music, etc. that have pornographic content or sexual overtones.

Touches, pulls, pushes or strikes a child in anger.

Sends personal emails, text messages that are seductive or sexual in content.

**STEPPING STONES
FOR PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN**

All Church personnel who work with children are screened through background checks and participate in Safe Environment sessions.

All Church personnel, while working in the scope of ministry, are not permitted to be alone with a minor without another responsible adult present.

Training sessions for parishioners are available raising awareness of Safe Environment.

Lesson plans on Safe Environment are provided in the GOD WITH US Catechetical series. These personal safety guidelines are taught by the Catechists during the Eastern Christian Formation classes.

**SIGNALS OF CAUTION
SIGNS OF A TRAUMATIZED CHILD**

- * Change of personality
- * Social isolation
- * Aggressive behavior
- * Frequent crying
- * Poor academic performance
- * Nightmares
- * Loss of interest
- * Unfounded fears
- * Loss of appetite
- * Stomachaches
- * Mood swings
- * Bedwetting
- * Headaches
- * Clinginess

