



## CIRCLE OF GRACE

In 2010 the Diocese of Providence mandated the "Circle of Grace" curriculum to be presented to all children enrolled in religious education programs throughout the Diocese. The "Circle of Grace" curriculum teaches children and youth about relevant issues such as, all human persons are sacred and deserving of respect and dignity and the importance of

establishing healthy and safe personal boundaries. It introduces important vocabulary so your child can effectively and confidently express their concerns or violations of their personal safety.

### **Circle of Grace Philosophy**

Genesis 1:27 tells us that we are created "male and female in God's image" and that God saw this as "very good". In that goodness we are meant to respect ourselves and others everyone else as persons created and loved by God.

**Adults assist children to recognize God's love by helping them to understand that each of us lives and moves in a Circle of Grace. You can imagine your own Circle of Grace by putting your arms above your head then circle down in front of the body, including side to side. This circle, front to back, holes who you are in your body and through your senses.**

### **Why is it important to help children understand the Circle of Grace?**

God intends our relationships in life to be experiences of divine love. Respectful, nurturing, loving relationships increase our understanding of our own value and help us to love others. It is never too early to help children understand how very special they are in her relationships in life I called to be secret. Understanding this can help them to protect the special person they are and to be respectful of others. Adults as they strive to provide safe and protected environment, hold the responsibility to help children understand respect their own dignity and thought about this. I truly safe and protected environment is one with the children recognize when they are safe for us even know how to bring their concerns and fears and uncertainties to the trusted adults in their lives.

## **Goal of the Circle of Grace program grades K through 12**

The goal of the Circle of Grace program is to educate and empower children and young people to actively participate in the safe environment for themselves and others.

### **Objectives**

- Children will understand they are created by God and live in the love of the father son and Holy Spirit
- Children will be able to describe the circle of grace which God gives each of us (see above)
- Children will be able to identify and maintain appropriate boundaries
- Children can identify all types of boundary violations
- Children will demonstrate how to take action of boundary is threatened or violated