**Safe Environment Grade 7 and 8 (Even numbered year)**

Faith Focus:

1. Each human being is created in the image and likeness of God, our bodies is sacred and Holy.
2. We must differentiate between safe, unsafe, and unwanted touch.
3. When we feel in danger of unwanted/unsafe touch, there are three precautions we can take.

Materials: Notecards, large butcher paper, markers, Bible for leader

Centering:

1. Take Attendance.
2. Open by reading Genesis 1:26-27
   1. Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.
3. Tell students tonight we will be focusing on how we are made in the image and likeness of God and the ways in which we can keep ourselves safe spiritually, physically and emotionally.

Sharing

1. Before you begin the discussion of sexuality with your class it is important to set guidelines for the discussion and to have them posted on the board and /or a piece of chart paper.
2. Ask students to make a list of guidelines for discussing human sexuality. If they do not include the following, be sure that you include them on the list.
   1. What is said in class stays in class unless it puts you or someone else in danger.
   2. There are no dumb questions.
   3. Respect others
   4. It is ok to feel embarrassed.
   5. When people feel embarrassed they sometimes laugh or make jokes, but it is important to stay serious to respect the ideas of others.
   6. You may not ask the catechist personal questions.
3. Students will have an extensive background on safe, unsafe, and unwanted touch. Briefly list these on the board and the differences among them.
4. Ask students what they should do when they experience unsafe/unwanted touch
   1. Stay stop
   2. Get away
   3. Tell a trusted adult
5. Next **say**; Because God created us, our bodies are a sacrament and deserve to be protected
6. Hand out notecards. **Ask** what do you think it means to be human?
7. Instruct students to write their answers on their notecards and after 2 minutes to show their cards to the class
8. Write their answers on the board.
9. Read the scripture passage Jeramiah 1:5

* **Say**; In the Bible God says, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I set you apart;” Jeramiah 1:5
* Reread Genesis chapter 1: 27 “God created man in his image, in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.”

8. Share, we are all created by God in his image and likeness! So we are an image of God, an outward sign of his love.

9. **Ask** “What are some ways you are made in the image and likeness of God?” Write student responses on the board.

**Acting**

1. Split the class into two groups.
2. Ask for two volunteer’s one from each group. Have each of the two volunteers stand in front of the large poster paper attached to the wall.
3. Instruct their team to draw an outline around their classmate on the paper.
4. Ask each person on the team to write on the outline one way they are made in the image and likeness of God.
5. Give the group about 5 minutes for everyone to write down their ideas.
6. Have each group share what they have written.
7. Reiterate our bodies are sacred and that no one has a right to violate them.

Close with prayer