

OVERVIEW OF THE CHILD LURES PREVENTION PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 1-9 OF THE ST. MARGARET MARY PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Catholic Church is dedicated to providing the safest environment possible to all children entrusted to our care, in parochial schools and in parish religious education and sacramental preparation programs. As you may well be aware, the Archdiocese of Hartford requires a background check and attendance at Safe Environment training for all adults who have regular contact with children and vulnerable adults.

In addition, we provide a program that will help teach your children about safety and how to avoid situations that have potential for harm. The program is named Child Lures. It has been successfully used in school and parish programs across the country. Child Lures is a powerful resource, one that can help protect the safety and well-being of your children.

Please be assured Child Lures is not a sex education program. Rather, it deals with teaching children about the dignity of all people and dangers that are contrary to that central Catholic belief. Your catechetical leader has been trained on how to implement Child Lures. Mr. Anton Miranda, the St. Margaret Mary Parish Catechetical Leader will offer an introductory level lesson to grade one students. Mrs. Louise Bridge, the parish Faith Formation Coordinator will teach a more comprehensive lesson to fifth graders. Volunteer religious education teachers will provide a supplemental lesson to students in grades 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 using the Child Lures program materials. Parents and guardians who registered to teach children at home in grades 3 or 4 will also receive lesson guides.

The Elementary Lesson Plan for grade one focuses on the concept of human dignity. It fosters self-esteem and the care of all people. The notion of luring is introduced. Laws are discussed. Recognizing and following safety instincts is emphasized. One basic lure or scheme to attract a child into a potentially harmful situation is shown on a video and discussed.

In grade 5, students receive a review of the elementary lesson. Additional lures are watched and discussed.

In all other grades, one or more lures are presented by the teacher following the Instruction Guide for the Child Lures Program and discussed with students. A video is not shown. The list of lures highlighted is as follows:

Grade 2	The Name Recognition Lure
Grade 3	The Assistance Lure
Grade 4	The Emergency Lure
Grade 6	The Computer/Online Lure
Grade 7	The Bribery Lure and The Ego/Fame Lure
Grade 8	The Authority, Hero, and Drug Lures. Review of Computer/Online Lure
Grade 9	The Threats and Weapons, Pornography, Job and Affection/Date Rape Lures

A booklet entitled, [Think First & Stay Safe Parent Guide](#), is available through the Child Lures Prevention Program. It is provided free of charge to each family with children registered in the St. Margaret Mary Religious Education Program and sent home to the oldest child when he or she first enters. Please keep it on hand for all other children in your family. It details the information about concepts and lures presented in each lesson and may be used to talk about them at home.

Parents and Guardians are encouraged to take an active role in the Child Lures Prevention Program. You are welcome to observe the class lesson. Please contact the religious education office or your child's teacher for the date it will be offered. If you do not want your child to be included in the class lesson, you may sign an "Opt Out" form provided by the Archdiocese of Hartford Office of Safe Environment. Contact the St. Margaret Mary Religious Education Office for it. Please discuss the basic ideas included in the program with your child yourself.