

CIRCLE OF GRACE
Safe Environment Program
St JPII Mission Field
St Patrick and St Luke Parishes
“Respecting All God’s People”

Our safe environment program is designed to help our young people understand their own (and other’s) dignity in mind, body, and spirit. As part of our safe environment program, our mission field uses parts of the **Circle of Grace** Curriculum. This curriculum is being used throughout the Diocese of Duluth. But, the majority of safe environment training is really the responsibility of parents ... as I’m sure you agree. Public schools also have their role.

What is a Circle of Grace?

The Catholic Church teaches that God has created each of us as unique and special. The bible explains 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 everyone else as persons created in the image of God and loved by God.

Adults, and especially parents, assist their children and young people 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* as a virtual area around your body ... maybe a sphere or circle. This area ...circle ... , holds who you are in your body and through your senses. It holds your very essence in mind, heart, soul, and sexuality.

Each child should be bringing home some sheet or sheets ... activities ... that you can cover with them. We expect that you are already teaching much of these concepts at home and so we are briefly covering the topics here. If you need or want access to more COG materials, feel free to contact the pastor or DRE.