



Anybody who has attended a live Virtus training session should now be registered online, right?!?! This is the 6th and last article in a series about registering online with the Virtus: Protecting God's Children website, checking your own compliance and printing a certificate of your attendance. These six articles will soon be posted on our parish website for anybody who may have missed reading them or would like to go back to them at a later time.

As we have previously established, the Virtus website provides a wealth of information about keeping our children safe, but also in general about creating safe environments in all of the communities we are a part of. There are many current features that deal with newer forms of technology, including cell phone use and social networking websites. Here are some of the other features the Virtus website has to offer...

- In your internet browser's address bar, type www.virtus.org, and press enter.

Before you even log in, there are some useful tools along the left side of the page...

- Click on "Preview the Protecting God's Children Program." There is a short summary of the *Protecting God's Children* initiative as well as an 11 minute video that previews the entire program and why this is important.
- Click on "Parent's Handbook on Preventing Sexual Abuse." There is a nice three-page adobe pdf file with great resources and tips about age-appropriate discussions to have with children regarding sexuality and how to create a safe environment for your children.
- Click on "Acronyms and Other Internet Shorthand" for a comprehensive list of acronyms used when communicating via text message, twitter, facebook and instant messaging -- LOL ☺
- Click on "Ministry of Service and Stewardship." This is a training module on the idea of stewardship—sharing your time, talent and treasures with the community. An excellent training tool for those engaged in the work of service in the broader community.
- Click on "Contact Information" to contact the National Catholic Risk Retention Group if you have any comments, questions or concerns about the Virtus training program or the website.

Once you have logged in to the Virtus website, there are many more valuable resources including self assessment quizzes to see how well versed you are in areas of protecting your family and those with whom you minister.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding volunteer compliance at St. Angela Merici Parish or School, please call Michael at the Parish Center or email yosa@samparish.org.