



VERY IMPORTANT INFO FOR all parish and school volunteers & coaches...

In order to volunteer with any activity involving youth at St. Angela Merici School or Parish, one must be fully compliant with volunteer standards, as required by the Diocese of Cleveland. This includes attending one Virtus training session, having fingerprints on file at the parish and completing a volunteer packet. Many of you are aware requirement to attend a Virtus training session, but don't realize you also must have the signed documents as well as the fingerprint record on file. ***This applies to all parish and school staff, all school volunteers, all CYO coaches, all Scouting leaders and all YOSA volunteers.***

If you have previously attended a Virtus training session, you should register online at www.virtus.org. You may or may not have completed this online registration at the time of your training session. Once you have attended the live training session and registered online, you will receive monthly articles about keeping our children safe, and the website tracks how many you have read or not! Reading these updates *is considered part of the Virtus training requirements—it is an ongoing responsibility, not an option!*

I find these articles to be very informative and address current issues that the training session did not cover. Recent topics have included: digital camera and camcorders, cell phone use (and abuses), internet safety and bullying, etc. These are some of the most pressing issues for parents today and the Virtus website gives great advice on these topics and others in very short, easy-to-read, articles.

In the next few weeks, this column will walk you through the process of registering online and continue to encourage you to make use of these valuable resources. If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please contact me at the parish center office.