



St. Albert the Great Church Religious Education 4855 Parker Dearborn Heights, MI 48124 313/292-9370

Dear Parents,

St. Albert the Great Religious Education continues to support the mandated program "Circle of Grace" through the Archdiocese of Detroit.

The program was created in the Archdiocese of Omaha and has been implemented not only in the Archdiocese of Detroit, but also throughout the Christian community as a way of helping children understand the importance of an area of grace that surrounds them and that it should be treated with respect as should everyone's "Circle of Grace".

The essence of the program helps promote the understanding that personal space is to be respected and if they feel their personal space has not been treated with respect to listen to those feelings and to report them to an agreed-upon trusted adult.

The program at varying levels basically:

1. Helps children identify their "Circle of Grace" (an area within arms reach around, above, and to the floor).
2. Helps children to respect their "Circle of Grace" and those of others.
3. Fortifies the position that if something is within their "Circle of Grace" that is uncomfortable to them (including secrets and issues from their friends or other individuals), these things should immediately be shared with a trusted adult.
4. Older grades are also advised about information sharing and the internet

Many parents throughout the years have asked if the program is similar to the "Stranger-Danger" programs in many schools. The "Circle of Grace" program more specifically deals with the concept of personal and mutual grace and respect and the knowledge that if something seems wrong, to advise a trusted adult right away.

We strongly recommend building on these concepts with your children as they look to you as their example before anyone else.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Archdiocese of Detroit, or you may contact the Religious Education office if you would like to review the materials and information provided through the Archdiocese for this program.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dana Scobey".

Dana Scobey, DRE