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Dear Parents/Guardians:

Our Catholic tradition has always affirmed the dignity of the human person created in the image and likeness of God. Every person we come in contact with deserves to be seen by us with the eyes of God. We know that that ministry with children and youth, in particular, is a sacred trust. All of us at St. Paul's are committed to preserve, at all times and in all places, this sacred trust which is rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ.

In 2002, the United States Bishops approved The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in an effort to protect children and youth from sexual abuse at all levels of church life, and to restore trust in a Church scarred by the scandal of clergy sexual abuse. Article 12 of the Charter directs all dioceses to create programs and processes to teach children and youth about sexual abuse and its prevention. In our Parish, this training will take place during regular class time.

**On Monday, September 26 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** Tim Bates, Commander of Detective Division of the Rome, New York Police Department will be with us for an **adult presentation on Internet safety** for parents, guardians and other interested adults. Because this topic is so important, we would like all of our parents and catechists to attend this session, we are **cancelling class for students on Monday, September 26. Please see attached flyer and article from Detective Bates.**

On Monday, October 3, Detective Bates will present Internet Safety for students in Grades 5, 6 & 7 and on Monday, October 17, the presentation will be for students in Grades 8, through 12

We look forward to giving all of our children the safest possible environment to grow in faith, both in our church and in our homes.

Sincerely in Christ,

Kathy Sledziona, D.R.E.

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