DIOCESE OF MONTEREY
Office of the Safe Environment Coordinator
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TO: Parents

FROM: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church (Parish)

SUBJECT: Opportunity to "Opt Your Child In or Out" of the *Empowering God's Children* Program

DATE: 9-27-2026

The Diocese of Monterey takes seriously the protection of our youth and vulnerable adults. As part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for youth, the Diocese of Monterey utilizes the Virtus Online Training platform to provide training for employees, volunteers and youth in our diocese. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (parish) will present *Empowering God's Children* to all our students on the following date October 4, 2026.

As a parent, you have the right to choose whether or not your child participates. We encourage you to read the attached overview so you'll be aware of the nature of the *Empowering God's Children* program. If you have questions about the program or the lesson, please contact Heather Hurley at (805)235-8803.

Please complete the "opt-in/out" form at the bottom of this page, and return it to Heather Hurley no later than October 4, 2026. If you decide to opt out, we will provide you a copy of the lesson plan so you can teach your child(ren) the material at home, if you choose to do so.

If you would like to review the complete *Empowering God's Children* lesson plan, it is available in the parish religious education office. For more information on the program, visit the VIRTUS Online™ website at www.virtus.org.

Opt-In/Out Form for use with the Empowering God's Children Program

Parent's Name (Printed): _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Child's name: _____

Parish: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

- ❑ **HAS** my permission to present the *Empowering God's Children* program to my child

/// **OR** ///

- ❑ **does NOT have** my permission to present the *Empowering God's Children* program to my child