**Introduction to the VIRTUS Safe Environment Platform**

**(for employees/volunteers who already created a profile in previously used software)**

Beginning July 1, 2021, the Archdiocese of New Orleans has implemented the VIRTUS® Programs as its new comprehensive safe environment training platform for adults and children.

In summary, the Protecting God’s Children® Program will be the official training for employees and volunteers.

* The corresponding VIRTUS Online database is an online portal that provides access to your safe environment account.
* All archdiocesan users will have access to their previous training records within the database.
* When it is time for you to complete a training document, to obtain recertification training or conduct a background check, you will receive automatic email notification from the VIRTUS website to access your account. The system will refer all users to the background check portal as necessary.

**All staff and volunteers must log-in to the new system to verify your information is correct and to review and acknowledge the updated policies for the protection of children, youth and vulnerable adults.**

* To access your created VIRTUS account, please go to <https://www.virtus.org> and log in as an existing user with your user ID in this format FirstnameLastname-nola
* A second email will follow with your system-generated password, which can be updated when logged into your account and clicking on Update My Account (in the upper right corner).
* If during this process you have difficulty accessing your account or resetting your password, please contact the VIRTUS Helpdesk at helpdesk@virtus.org or at 888-847-8870.

Thank you for sharing your time and talent with the local church and thank you for your diligence in making our churches, schools, and ultimately our communities a safer place for all of God’s children.

Office of Child and Youth Protection

Archdiocese of New Orleans