

For Parish Bulletin 1-3-16

VIRTUS Update

Information from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati
and Ginny Rush, your All Saints Safe Environment Coordinator (SEC)

We have received new information from the Archdiocese concerning VIRTUS:

1. *The VIRTUS monthly bulletin will be available on the first Sunday of the month.*
2. *Any person missing 2 or more bulletins should read their bulletins as soon as possible.*
3. *Any person who has 3 or more missed bulletins is not to have contact with children.*

Information/ helpful tips from Ginny:

1. Log into your VIRTUS account to read your bulletin. It is on the front page (Training tab), in a green box on the right "Training Bulletin Report". Click here to see what bulletins you must read. Do not wait for an email reminder- sometimes they are not sent.
2. When a person is behind 2 or more readings, he/she is at risk of losing approved status. It is the responsibility of the person to read his/her bulletins regularly, and I suggest a reminder in your phone, or read every month when you pay your bills. All Saint now has over 600 people who are approved, so I cannot notify people when they are at risk.
3. A VIRTUS trained person will have his/her account inactivated at 3 missing bulletins. The cutoff is 3, meaning **at 3 unread bulletins, your account will be inactivated and you may not have further contact with children until you are in compliance** (caught up with reading). You will be notified of this change in your status- and the fact that you may no longer be in contact with children. Your name will be taken off the subsequent Approved List (posted online), unless you catch up before that time.
4. **If you catch up with reading within two weeks of notification, I can re-activate you. It is your responsibility to let me know you are caught up on reading, so that I can re- activate you.** Your name will be added back to the next Approved List.
5. **Individuals whose accounts are inactive for a period exceeding 18 months will be required to obtain re-training** in accordance with a manner approved by the Chancellor (such as taking the VIRTUS training again.)
6. How do you know your status? Log into your VIRTUS account. If you can get into your account, you are active. If you cannot, you may possibly have "inactive" status. In this case, contact Ginny Rush. If you forgot your User ID or Password, there is an option to retrieve/reset these via your email.

These changes are set in motion by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati. The purpose is to help our volunteers stay informed and current, and to clean up VIRTUS accounts which have been non-compliant/ inactive. This is done in the spirit of taking steps to insure that our precious children are safe.

Thank you to all 600 VIRTUS approved people. I try to post a new Approved List on our All Saints webpage every 8- 10 weeks. Be aware that the list changes constantly, and that the list is a snapshot of approved volunteers on the date it was posted on the webpage. In the meantime, people may come off the list or be added (as people get behind on reading or become approved). If you have any question about your VIRTUS status, please contact me.

Any person on the approved list posted on the All Saints webpage may volunteer. This is a convenient way for people to check status of volunteers. If there is any question, always check with me and err on the side of safety. Occasionally, the background check (which is run every 12 weeks) reveals a charge or a questionable “red flag” against a person who is on the approved list. In such a case, I will immediately contact Dan Stringer and the coordinator who is in charge of the programs the person is potentially volunteering for, as stated in his/her profile. I will also notify the person that he/she may no longer be in contact with children. This person will be removed from the next Approved List posted, unless the person is cleared before posting.

If a person believes he/she should be on the list but is not, please contact me. I will send an email to the volunteer coordinator stating your status, in cases where a person wishes to volunteer.

If you have any questions, please contact me, Ginny Rush, Safe Environment Coordinator, grush@allsaints.cc, 792-4603.

Have a safe and blessed New Year!