

**ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES RE-CERTIFICATION POLICY**

**REVISED 1/2017**

**(Replaces 9/2009, 10/2011 and 8/2012 copies in Article 12 of *Safeguard the Children Parish Audit Manual*)**

All clergy, staff and volunteers who previously participated in the VIRTUS® Protecting God’s Children are required to be VIRTUS® re-certified every four years. **Recertification must take place on/or before the expiration date on the participant’s last certificate. If a participant has gone more than 30 days from their expiration date, he/she does not qualify for the 1 ½ hr. “Keeping the Promise Alive” but is required to retake the 3 hr. “Protecting God’s Children.”** Please address any questions to Joan Vienna: [jvienna@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:jvienna@la-archdiocese.org) (213) 637-7227.

<u>Original VIRTUS® Training</u>	<u>1<sup>st</sup> Re-Certification Year</u>	<u>2<sup>nd</sup> Re-Certification Year</u>
2009	2013	2017
2010	2014	2018
2011	2015	2019
2012	2016	2020
2013	2017	2021

**Options for Re-Certification:**

**Option #1: VIRTUS® “Keeping the Promise Alive”**

Most participants qualify to attend the 1 ½ hour VIRTUS® "Keeping the Promise Alive" Re-Certification. This session reviews the “Five Steps” for protecting children and young people from child sexual abuse and helps participants to explore ways that their parish/school/community has become a safer place because these steps have been implemented. The program also presents new ideas of how we can work together to continue to keep our children and youth safe in the future.

**Option #2: “VIRTUS® Protecting God’s Children”**

This session is for participants whose certificate has expired! However, any participant who wishes may repeat the original 3-hour VIRTUS® “Protecting God’s Children” for Re-Certification.

**Option #3: Reading VIRTUS® “Protecting God’s Children for Adults” Online Training Bulletins**

Participants who registered on VIRTUS® Online immediately following their VIRTUS® “Protecting God’s Children” session and have read at least 48 “Protecting God’s Children for Adults” training bulletins during the 4 years since their last VIRTUS® Training, qualify for an Option #3 Re-Certification. If a participant thinks he or she qualifies, please email Annette Vichot at [avichot@la-archdiocese.org](mailto:avichot@la-archdiocese.org) with his or her name, address, parish, region and phone number and note **“Option #3 Re-Certification”** on the subject line.

**Important Notice**

Participants need to keep the original VIRTUS® Certificate(s). This is proof of training. Please give a copy of the certificate(s) to the parish or school office where you work or volunteer as proof of certification.