

***St. Raphael's Parish***  
***Policies Regarding the Protection of Children and Teens***  
***July 14, 2009***

St. Raphael's Parish is committed to promoting and ensuring the protection of our children and teens. We strive to do all in our power to create a safe environment for them, to prevent their abuse or neglect, and to be messengers of healing in a broken world.

By implementing a variety of concrete, consistent, and enforceable policies and procedures we seek to:

- Ensure a safe environment for all who participate in parish ministries and activities
- Help the parish community feel confident in our ability to protect children and teens from harm
- Reduce the chance that employees, volunteers, and clergy might face false accusations

The St. Raphael's Parish mission statement invites us to be stewards of the Gospel and companions on our common journey to God. Like our patron St. Raphael, we will be companions to the children and teens in our community and messengers of healing to them and to their families.