

SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE
PREVENTION MONTH

2023

“KEEP KIDS SAFE”
Pinwheel Resource Booklet



**CELEBRATING
2023 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH & KEEPING KIDS SAFE**

As people of God, we in the Safeguard the Children Office of the Archdioceses of Los Angeles celebrate April 2023 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Our celebration includes the renew of our ongoing commitment to protecting our children and young people from child sexual abuse.

A gift box will be shipped out to each parish and school, and will include:



- 5 “Keeping Kids Safe” Pinwheel Samples
- (100) Pinwheel Stickers
- 2023 – 2024 Working Together to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse Brochures
- 2023 *National Child Abuse Prevention Month & Keeping Kids Safe Pinwheel Resource Booklet*

Table of Contents

2023 New “Keeping Kids Safe” Pinwheel Garden/Wall Sample.....	1
2023 New “Keeping Kids Safe” Pinwheels, Poster, and Sticker Order Form.....	2
2023 – 2024 “Working Together to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse” Brochures Order Form.....	3
April “Did You Know?” Bulletin inserts.....	4-6
Child Abuse Month Petitions (English & Spanish)	7-8
Commitment to Support Victim-Survivors & Abuse Prevention.....	9-10
“Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse”	11
ADLA Infographic 2023 (English & Spanish)	12-13

Join the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Livestream “United Together in Prayer” Novena starting on Saturday, April 22, and ending Sunday, April 30, 2023, *in collaboration with the Victims Assistance Ministry*. For further information, go to: <https://lacatholics.org/united-together/>

Keeping Kids Safe

Child Abuse Prevention Month Pinwheel Garden or Classroom Wall

In 2008 Prevent Child Abuse America introduced the Pinwheels for Prevention® campaign. Pinwheels represent childlike whimsy and lightheartedness and our vision for a world where all children grow up happy, healthy, safe, and prepared to succeed in supportive families and communities.

The Safeguard the Children Office of the Archdioceses of Los Angeles encourages parishes and schools to use the Pinwheel to:

- Remind children that God created them to be happy, healthy, and safe.
- Let children know that if anyone makes them feel scared, uncomfortable, or confused, they have the right to Say No, Get Away or Tell A Trusted Adult, and It Is Never Their Fault!
- Tell children to create a Pinwheel Garden or wall to display in April.
- Invite the children to place a pinwheel in their yard at home.

(Sample – Child Abuse Prevention Pinwheel Garden or Wall)



Keeping Kids Safe

2023 CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH NEW “KEEPING KIDS SAFE” PINWHEEL, POSTER, & STICKER ORDER FORM



New “Keeping Kids Safe Pinwheel

New “Keeping Kids Safe Poster”

Pinwheel Sticker

To Order email: bmelendez@la-archdiocese.org
or fax to: (213) 637-6681

Date: _____

Ordered By: _____ Phone: _____

Parish/School: _____

Street Address: _____

City / Zip Code: _____

Region: _____

**NEW “KEEPING KIDS SAFE”
PINWHEEL
(Pinwheels @ 0.75¢ each)**

QUANTITY:

**NEW “KEEPING KIDS SAFE”
POSTER
(FIRST TWO ARE FREE – Additional Posters @ \$1.00 each)**

QUANTITY:

**PINWHEEL STICKER
“Keeping Kids Safe Sticker”
(Must be ordered by roll @ \$5.00 per roll of 100)**

QUANTITY:

(Office of Safeguard the Children Use Only. Do not fill in this section.)

Date Shipped: _____
(For more information, call the Office of Safeguard the Children (213) 637-7508)

Take Home Handout

Keeping



Kids Safe

Body Safety Rules

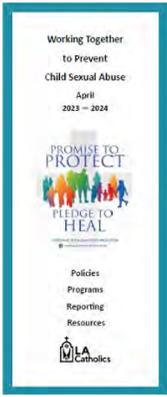
SAY NO

GET AWAY

TELL A TRUSTED ADULT

IT'S NEVER YOUR FAULT!

ORDER FORM



2023 -2024 “Working Together to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse” Brochure

Available for Free in English and Spanish

The new 2023 - 2024 “Working Together to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse” Brochure contains an introductory letter from Archbishop José H. Gomez and current information about the Safe Environment Offices, Programs, Resources, Policies, and Procedures. This new brochure should be distributed to all parish/school staff, parishioners, parents, volunteers, etc., during the Month of April. Copies should also be available in the vestibule of each church.

Please discard all 2022 – 2023 brochures immediately.

Order Form

To order email to: Brenda bmelendez@la-archdiocese.org
or Fax to: (213) 637-6681

Ordered By: _____

Date: _____ Phone: _____

Parish/School: _____

Street Address: _____

City / Zip Code: _____

Region: _____

Working Together to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse (English) Quantity: _____

Trabajando Juntos Para Prevenir el Abuso Sexual (Spanish) Cantidad: _____

(Office of Safeguard the Children Use Only. Do not fill in this section.)

Date Shipped: _____

(For more information, call the Office of Safeguard the Children (213) 637-7508)

“DID YOU KNOW?” FOR APRIL 2023
ANUNCIOS “¿SABÍA USTED?” PARA EL BOLETÍN DE ABRIL 2023

April 1-2

DID YOU KNOW?

“Keep Kids Safe” Pinwheel Resource Booklet

In recognition of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month, the Office of Safeguard the Children has created the 2023 “Keep Kids Safe” Pinwheel Resource Booklet. This useful Resource Booklet will help parishes and schools plan and prepare for Child Abuse Prevention Month. It is also available to individuals who wish to know more about Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Resource Booklet includes order forms for the colorful “Keep Kids Safe” pinwheels and stickers and the 2023 Working Together to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse Brochure, as well as prayers, petitions, and homily helps. For more information, go to: <https://lacatholics.org/child-abuse-prevention-month/>.

¿SABÍA USTED?

Folleto de recursos “Mantenga a los niños seguros” con molinillo incluido

En reconocimiento de abril como el Mes de la Prevención del Abuso Infantil, la Oficina de Protección de los Niños ha creado el Folleto de recursos “Mantenga a los niños seguros” de 2023, con molinillo incluido. Este útil folleto de recursos ayudará a las parroquias y escuelas a planificar y prepararse para el Mes de la Prevención del Abuso Infantil. También está disponible para las personas que deseen saber más sobre el Mes de la Prevención del Abuso Infantil. El folleto de recursos incluye formularios de pedido para los coloridos molinillos y calcomanías “Keep Kids Safe” (Mantenga a los niños seguros) y el folleto Trabajando juntos para prevenir el abuso sexual infantil del 2023, así como oraciones, peticiones y ayuda para la homilía. Para obtener más información, visite, <https://lacatholics.org/child-abuse-prevention-month/>.

April 8-9

DID YOU KNOW?

The Archdiocese continues helping survivors of sexual abuse and their families

During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and on behalf of Archbishop José H. Gomez, we affirm our continued commitment to [report](#) allegations of sexual misconduct to law enforcement, [support](#) victim-survivors in their healing journey, and [protect](#) children and the vulnerable. The Archdiocese created a website, <https://lacatholics.org/protect/> that serves as a comprehensive tool containing resources, programs and services for protecting children and reporting abuse. If you, or someone you know, is a victim of sexual misconduct by someone affiliated with our Church, please contact law enforcement and the Archdiocese’s Victims Assistance Coordinator at (213) 637-7650 or visit <https://lacatholics.org/reporting-child-abuse/> for help and support.

¿SABÍA USTED?

La Arquidiócesis continúa ayudando a sobrevivientes de abuso sexual y a sus familias

Durante el Mes Nacional de Prevención del Abuso Infantil, y en nombre del Arzobispo José H. Gomez, afirmamos nuestro compromiso continuo de informar sobre alegaciones de conducta sexual inapropiada a las autoridades policiales, apoyar a las víctimas-sobrevivientes en su jornada de sanación y proteger a los niños y a las demás personas vulnerables. Para ello, la Arquidiócesis creó un sitio web, <https://lacatholics.org/protect/> que sirve como una herramienta integral que contiene recursos, programas y servicios para proteger a los niños y denunciar el abuso. Si usted o alguien que conoce es víctima de conducta sexual inapropiada por parte de alguien afiliado a nuestra Iglesia, contacte a las autoridades policiales y llame a la Coordinadora de Asistencia a Víctimas de la Arquidiócesis al (213) 637-7650 o visite <https://lacatholics.org/reporting-child-abuse/> para ayuda y apoyo.

April 15-16

DID YOU KNOW?

“United Together in Prayer”

This year marks the 21st Anniversary of the USCCB Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. We, as the People of God, continue our commitment to Promise to Protect and Pledge to Heal, we ask you to unite in a special prayer for victims of child sexual abuse.

“A Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse”

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people’s wounds and transform brokenness into wholeness.

Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace, to act with justice.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labors.

Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace and justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

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¿SABÍA USTED?

“Unidos en Oración”

Este año marca el 21 aniversario de la Carta de la USCCB para la Protección de Niños y Jóvenes. Nosotros, como Pueblo de Dios, continuamos con nuestro compromiso de Prometer Proteger y Compromiso de Sanar, les pedimos que se unan en una oración especial por las víctimas de abuso sexual infantil.

“Oración por la sanación de las víctimas de abuso”

Espíritu Santo, consolador de corazones, sana las heridas de tu pueblo y transforma su fragilidad en integridad.

Concedéndonos el valor y la sabiduría, la humildad y la gracia para actuar con justicia.

Infunde sabiduría en nuestras oraciones y acciones.

Permite que todos los que han sido lastimados por el abuso encuentren la paz en la justicia.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo, nuestro Señor.

Amén.

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April 22-23

DID YOU KNOW?

Together we prevent abuse and protect children & young people

National Child Abuse Prevention Month (April) is a good time to review the ways in which we work together as a community of faith to prevent abuse and protect children and young people. The Archdiocese of Los Angeles stands resolute in its commitment to [report](#) allegations of sexual misconduct to law enforcement, [support](#) victim-survivors and [protect](#) minors and the vulnerable. An updated flyer which summarizes the efforts of the Archdiocese to ensure that our parishes, schools and ministries are safe places for children and young people is available at <https://lacatholics.org/protect/protect-resources/>.

¿SABÍA USTED?

Juntos prevenimos el abuso y protegemos a los niños y jóvenes

El Mes Nacional de Prevención del Abuso Infantil (abril) es un buen momento para revisar las formas en que trabajamos juntos como comunidad de fe para prevenir el abuso y proteger a los niños y jóvenes. La Arquidiócesis de Los Ángeles se mantiene firme en su compromiso de [reportar](#) alegaciones de conducta sexual inapropiada a las autoridades policiales, [apoyar](#) a las víctimas-sobrevivientes y [proteger](#) a los menores y a las demás personas vulnerables. Un folleto actualizado que resume los esfuerzos de la Arquidiócesis para garantizar que nuestras parroquias, escuelas y ministerios sean lugares seguros para niños y jóvenes está disponible en <https://lacatholics.org/protect/protect-resources/>.

April 29-30

DID YOU KNOW?

Understanding the VIRTUS® Protecting God’s Children program

As a way to commemorate April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month, please take time to learn about, update or sign up for the VIRTUS® Protecting God’s Children Program. VIRTUS® teaches that through early identification, awareness, and education, adults can be “proactive” in protecting minors and vulnerable adults from sexual abuse. Since the program began nearly 20 years ago, more than 405,000 adults have been trained in abuse prevention. Additionally, more than 165,000 Catholic school and religious education students are trained annually with an age-appropriate curriculum on boundary awareness and how to communicate if violations of those safe boundaries occur. For more information, visit <https://lacatholics.org/education-and-training/>.

¿SABÍA USTED?

Entendiendo el programa VIRTUS® Protegiendo a los Niños de Dios

Como una forma de conmemorar abril como el Mes Nacional de Prevención del Abuso Infantil, por favor tómese el tiempo para conocer, actualizar o inscribirse en el Programa VIRTUS® Protecting God's Children (Protegiendo a los Niños de Dios). VIRTUS® enseña que a través de la identificación temprana, la concientización y la educación, los adultos pueden ser “proactivos” para proteger a los menores y adultos vulnerables del abuso sexual. Desde que comenzó el programa hace casi 20 años, más de 405,000 adultos han sido capacitados en la prevención del abuso. Además, más de 165,000 estudiantes de escuelas católicas y de educación religiosa reciben capacitación anualmente con un plan de estudios apropiado para su edad sobre el conocimiento de los límites y cómo comunicarse si se producen violaciones de esos límites seguros. Para obtener más información, visite <https://lacatholics.org/education-and-training/>.



CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH PETITIONS
ENGLISH

- **As we celebrate National Child Abuse Prevention Month, may our commitment to protecting our children and young people from child sexual abuse grow stronger in our churches, homes, communities, and the world, we pray to the Lord...**
- **We pray for all victims of abuse around the world, within the Church and beyond, that the healing Spirit of God will move among them and within them. And that the Church – the People of God – will be filled with the healing spirit, we pray to the Lord...**
- **May all who work with children and young people be vigilant in protecting them from harm, we pray to the Lord...**
- **For families who are the first to show God's love, that they may have the necessary support to provide safe and nurturing environments for children and young people, we pray to the Lord...**
- **For those who have suffered abuse, that they may experience God's profound love for them and God's healing powers, we pray to the Lord...**
- **For those affected by abuse in any way, that they may have the courage to tell their story, to reach for healing, we pray to the Lord...**
- **For those affected by abuse, in all of its forms, that they may find the courage and strength and continue to grow and trust in the love of our Lord, we pray to the Lord...**
- **For survivors of abuse and for their families and friends who support them, that God's providence will lead them to peace and wholeness, we pray to the Lord...**
- **We pray that all parish communities affected by abuse find healing and reconciliation through the Blessed Virgin Mary, we pray to the Lord...**



PETICIONES DEL MES DE LA PREVENCIÓN DEL ABUSO INFANTIL

- **Al celebrar el día Nacional de la prevención del Abuso de Niños, nosotros como el Pueblo de Dios podemos renovar nuestro compromiso de proteger a nuestros niños y jóvenes de todas las formas de abuso, oremos al Señor...**
- **Oremos por todas las víctimas de abuso en todo el mundo, en la Iglesia y en todo lugar, para que el Espíritu sanador de Dios se mueva entre ellas y dentro de ellas. Y para que la Iglesia – el pueblo de Dios – se llene del espíritu de sanación, oremos al Señor...**
- **Oremos para que todas las comunidades parroquiales afectadas por el abuso encuentren sanación y reconciliación a través de la Santísima Virgen María, oremos al Señor...**
- **Que todos los que trabajan con niños y jóvenes estén atentos para protegerlos de cualquier daño, oremos al Señor...**
- **Para las familias que son los primeros en mostrar el amor de Dios, para que tengan el apoyo necesario para proporcionar ambientes seguros y llenos de apoyo para los niños y jóvenes, oremos al Señor...**
- **Para aquellos que han sufrido abuso, para que experimenten el profundo amor de Dios por ellos y el poder sanador de Dios, oremos al Señor...**
- **Para los afectados por el abuso en cualquier forma, para que tengan el valor de contar su historia, para alcanzar la sanación, oremos al Señor...**
- **Para cualquier niño que pueda estar sufriendo de abuso, para que encuentren y fortaleza y seguir creciendo y confiando en el amor de Dios, oremos al Señor...**
- **Para los sobrevivientes de abuso para sus familias y amigos que los apoyan, que la providencia de Dios los conduzca hacia la paz y a la plenitud, oremos al Señor...**



A STEADFAST COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT VICTIM-SURVIVORS & ABUSE PREVENTION

As we commemorate Abuse Prevention Month in the Archdiocese, it is important to ensure that our communities are aware of the steadfast commitment in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles to help victim-survivors, our efforts to protect minors and vulnerable adults, and our strict protocols and policies for abuse prevention. One of the ways to show our care and concern during this month is by having a member of your Safeguard parish committee, a Virtus facilitator, or someone who has undertaken the Virtus training to speak about their personal experience taking part in the Archdiocese's Safeguard programs. Following please find some suggested talking points for a brief testimony at the end of Mass or at a parish gathering.

Suggested talking points for remarks for Abuse Prevention Month:

- Introduce yourself and briefly share your personal experience taking part in the Safeguard abuse prevention programs.
- Share why it was/is important for you to be a part of these efforts, and/or what have you learned from taking part and participating in the Safeguard programs.
 - Highlight how far we have come to prevent abuse over the past 20 years because of the commitment of so many people in our parishes, schools and ministries (use the attached Protect Flier to highlight all that has been done to ensure that our local Church is safe for all):

***Since 2002, more than 400,000 adults** have been trained in abuse awareness and prevention; **more than 250,000 adults have been fingerprinted** as part of a program of background checks for Church and school personnel and volunteers; and **yearly about 165,000 students in Catholic elementary and high schools, religious education, confirmation, and youth ministry programs in the Archdiocese receive age-appropriate child abuse prevention training.**

*Allegations of misconduct involving a minor, whether by clergy or lay person are taken very seriously. Allegations involving a minor are reported to law enforcement, and if the person is found to have harmed a child, they are permanently removed from serving in any capacity in the Archdiocese.

*It is important for all of us to do our part to prevent abuse by remaining vigilant and reporting any abuse.

- Invite those in your parish community to learn more about the Archdiocese's abuse prevention efforts and the resources available to help victim-survivors.
 - The **Protect** webpage on the Archdiocesan website provides important information on the Archdiocese's on-going efforts to continue to support victim-survivors through the Victims Assistance Ministry Office, reporting suspected misconduct to the appropriate authorities, the Safeguard the Children trainings for adults and minors on abuse prevention, and the commitment to transparency on how these matters are handled: LACatholics.org/protect.
- Close by thanking everyone for helping to stop abuse in our communities, remind them of the Protect fliers and resources available to take home and online, and invite them to join in a prayer for victim-survivors of abuse include in this packet. Together we can ensure that our parishes, schools and ministries remain safe places for all.

Prayer for Healing Victims of Abuse

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform brokenness into
wholeness.

Grant us the courage and wisdom,
humility and grace, to act with justice.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers and
labors.

Grant that all harmed by abuse may find
peace in justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Oración para la Sanación de las Víctimas de Abuso

Espíritu Santo, alentador de
corazones, sana las heridas de tus
hijas e hijos y transforma su
fragilidad en integridad.

Concédenos el valor y la sabiduría,
la humildad y la gracia para actuar
con justicia.

Infunde tu sabiduría en nuestras
oraciones y acciones.

Permite que todos los que han sido
lastimados por el abuso encuentren
la paz en la justicia.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo, nuestro
Señor.

Amén.

REPORT • SUPPORT • PROTECT

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles and our community of faith stand resolute in our commitment to report allegations to law enforcement, support victim-survivors of sexual misconduct, and protect children and the vulnerable.

Please help **stop sexual misconduct** in our communities by reporting to **law enforcement** and the **Office of Victims Assistance** of the Archdiocese at (800) 355-2545.

TOGETHER WE WORK TO PROTECT AND REPORT...

...through our **Safeguard the Children Programs** on prevention and reporting, fingerprinting and background checks, which are led by lay staff and volunteers.

IN THE PAST 20 YEARS

OVER 405,000

Adults trained in abuse prevention and reporting

165,000 ANNUALLY

Catholic school and religious education students are taught boundary awareness and how to tell a trusted adult

OVER 245,000

Adults fingerprinted and background checked

WE TAKE ACTION

Strict protocols for addressing allegations by current minors

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Allegations of sexual misconduct reported to **law enforcement** and fully cooperate in investigation

REMOVAL & INVESTIGATION

All accused **removed** pending investigation; Clergy allegations reviewed by **independent Clergy Misconduct Oversight Board**

TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION

Announcements made in parishes or schools where the accused individual served

WE SUPPORT VICTIM-SURVIVORS

The **Office of Victims Assistance Ministry** advocates for victim-survivors in the Archdiocese. This ministry provides support for victim-survivors and their families, and ensures reporting of sexual misconduct to law enforcement.

WE VET CLERGY

Clergy and Seminarians comply with Safe Environment requirements and all visiting priests and deacons must present a **Statement of Suitability**.

ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

Clergy or lay persons, if found to have abused a minor, are **permanently removed** from any capacity.



Information updated as of 2023. For more information visit lacatholics.org/protect.

DENUNCIAR • APOYAR • PROTEGER

La Arquidiócesis de Los Ángeles y nuestra comunidad de fe se mantienen firmes en su compromiso de denunciar las alegaciones a las autoridades correspondientes, apoyar a las víctimas-sobrevivientes de conducta sexual indebida y proteger a los niños y a los más vulnerables.

Por favor, ayúdenos a **terminar con la conducta sexual indebida** en nuestras comunidades, haciendo un reporte a las **autoridades correspondientes** y a la **Oficina del Ministerio de Asistencia a Víctimas** de la Arquidiócesis al (800) 355-2545.

TRABAJAMOS JUNTOS PARA PROTEGER Y DENUNCIAR...

...a través de nuestros **Programas de Protección a los Niños**, ayudamos con prevención y denuncia, proceso de huellas dactilares, verificación de antecedentes y programas de formación del clero, que son conducidos por personal de la Arquidiócesis y voluntarios.

EN LOS ÚLTIMOS 20 AÑOS

MÁS DE 405,000

Adultos han sido capacitados en la prevención de abusos y cómo denunciar los casos

165,000 ANUALMENTE

A estudiantes de escuelas católicas y de educación religiosa se les enseñó cómo estar conscientes de los límites y decirle a un adulto de confianza.

MÁS DE 245,000

Adultos han pasado por el proceso de huellas dactilares y verificación de antecedentes

TOMAMOS ACCIÓN

Protocolos estrictos de alegaciones por parte de menores
AUTORIDADES POLICIALES

Las denuncias de conducta sexual indebidas son reportadas a las autoridades y cooperamos en el proceso de la investigación

REMOCIÓN E INVESTIGACIÓN

Todos los acusados son removidos del ministerio pendientes de una investigación; las alegaciones contra miembros del clero son revisadas por el **Comité Independiente Supervisión de Mala Conducta del Clero**

COMUNICACIÓN TRANSPARENTE

Anuncios en parroquias y escuelas donde sirvió la persona acusada

APOYAMOS A LAS VÍCTIMAS-SOBREVIVIENTES

La **Oficina del Ministerio de Asistencia a Víctimas** de la Arquidiócesis apoya a las víctimas-sobrevivientes y a sus familias, y se asegura de denunciar la conducta sexual indebida a las autoridades correspondientes.

VETAMOS AL CLERO

El clero y los seminaristas cumplen con requisitos para proporcionar un Ambiente Seguro, y todos los sacerdotes y diáconos visitantes deben presentar una **Declaración de Idoneidad**.

POLÍTICA DE CERO TOLERANCIA

Clérigos o laicos que se encuentren culpables de abuso a menores son **permanentemente removidos** de cualquier ministerio.



Información actualizada a partir del año 2023. Para más información visite: lacatholics.org/protect.