## SAFE ENVIRONMENT NEWS

As of October 1, 2017, the Diocese of Stockton has implemented a new online training for its "Safe Environment" program. The new training company is called <u>Virtus</u>. The program is "Protecting God's Children". All employees or **volunteers** must complete the program, as well as those who have previously completed the Shield the Vulnerable program. Everyone will be required to take a "refresher" every 3 years from the date of their training, thereafter.

**Before** completing **Protecting God's Children** training online, all participants <u>must</u> first register with **VIRTUS Online.** To access the VIRTUS Registration page, go to:

## www.virtusonline.org

You will then need to select the <u>PRIMARY</u> location where you work or volunteer by clicking the downward arrow and highlighting the location, **Stockton Diocese.** Next you will have to pick from the dropdown screen **Sacred Heart Turlock Elementary**. Once the application is complete you may begin the training. The training takes about an hour. You may stop the program at any time and resume when you are ready.

When your training is complete, please print the Certificate of Completion and turn it in to the school office.

Again, all volunteers and employees, and those who have previously completed Shield the Vulnerable, must complete this program before they are allowed to work with children. You will not be allowed in the classrooms or on <u>field trips</u> if this program, along with fingerprints, has not been completed!

If you have any questions, please contact Annette Menezes, Safe Environment Coordinator, at (209) 634-7787 or shschoolscrip@yahoo.com.