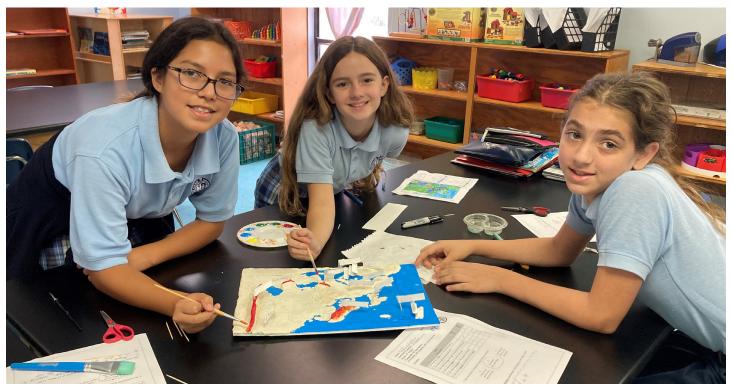


## MINISTRIES IN ACTION

DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG | CATHOLIC MINISTRY appea



## OUR RESPONSIBILITY: Protecting our children

Protecting our children is vital to our Catholic schools. We are entrusted with their safety, and we take that responsibility very seriously. And all I can say is "Thank you, Jesus for our diocesan Safe Environment Program!"

The Safe Environment staff has saved our school the expense of operating the program and countless hours of extra work, while also alleviating an enormous amount of stress for our

The Safe Environment Program averages



fingerprint screenings &

front office and administrative staff. The centralized fingerprinting service covers the cost of fingerprinting machines (which are anywhere from \$18,000 - \$20,000). All the records for fingerprinting are stored for 5 years in the Safe Environment office, not at the school, which saves us uncounted hours in paperwork and accountability issues with the state. We save money by not having to pay the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) fee of \$6 per print to retain fingerprints on our site. Last, but by no means least, our school is saved from the anguish and stress of a surprise audit by the FDLE and/or FBI which happen every few years!

I pray we, as individual schools, NEVER have to take over this very serious responsibility. ""

- Mrs. Florence Ann Buono, Principal Notre Dame Catholic School, Spring Hill

## ACCOMPANYING our MISSIONARY DISCIPLES

The Safe Environment Program

is one of 12 diocesan ministries that serve our clergy and lay leaders in their pastoral journey so they may continue offering our people the formation and foundation needed to bring God's message, mission and ministry to our faith communities and world. Through the Catholic Ministry Appeal,

this group of ministries will receive \$1.9 million of the total \$7.1 million appeal qoal to carry out their good works.



**SCAN TO LEARN MORE** about these ministries!

