



Diocese of Joliet

## Safe Environment for Children Touching Safety Instruction

### GRADE 1 & 2, Using *Catie the Caterpillar*

#### **INTRODUCTION (Before the story):**

Hello, children. Today we are going to read a story together about Catie the Caterpillar. I hope that you will like Catie and that what you learn from Catie's story will help you stay safe.

Before we hear about Catie, let us hear and think about what God says:

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah:

*(read aloud from a Bible – Isaiah 43:1)*

Let us pray.... (short silence)

Dear God,

You made each one of us, and we know that you love us.

Each of us can truly say:

"I am special. God has called me by name and I belong to God."

Help us learn today how to keep ourselves safe.

We ask this in Jesus' name, Amen.

#### **AFTER THE STORY:**

*Use some of the discussion questions at the end of the book, depending on students' level of understanding. We recommend not using the first one (as it may "prompt" a disclosure). The most appropriate questions are the following:*

- *How can Catie know whom she can trust?*
- *What if she tells her parent and the parent does nothing, who else can she tell?*
- *Is it OK for Catie to be angry with Uncle Cad?*
- *How can Catie stop thinking about the secret and stop feeling bad?*
- *When is it OK to say no to an adult?*
- *Where can Catie go for more help?*

You may want to add:

- Was it OK for Catie to skip school because she was sad? Why not?

#### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

Dear Jesus,

When you were here on earth, you were a little child too.

Your parents, Mary and Joseph, helped keep you safe and helped you grow up strong.

Please help us grow up safe and strong.

Protect us from anything that might hurt or frighten us.

We know you are always there.

Thank you, Jesus, for loving all children.

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me.

Amen.