



Safe Church / Safe Communities

“Risk Management”

The Episcopal Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast is committed to providing a healthy, safe, and nurturing environment where the full work of the Church can be carried out. Sexual misconduct on the part of any clergy person, employee, or volunteer of any congregation, institution, organization, school or agency within the diocese violates the mission of the Church, is prohibited, and will not be tolerated.

To ensure all our churches have been trained about sexual abuse and harassment, The Episcopal Church has contracted with Praesidium to offer on-line training courses. Originally known as Safeguarding God’s Children and Safeguarding God’s People, these courses are now called “Safe Church / Safe Communities”. These and additional on-line courses are available at no cost.

Who needs to complete this training?

- Training is required to be taken by all clergy, employees, and most volunteers. This includes all paid employees, youth group directors, Sunday school directors, choir directors, acolyte leaders, lay eucharistic visitors, vestry members, worship leaders, or anyone going into someone’s home in any role related to the church.

A few things to keep in mind:

- Modules to be taken to satisfy requirements are based on your role in the church. See the chart of “Safe Church / Safe Communities: Who Should Take What”
- Note, if you work with or around youth/children, there are additional key module(s) that you may need to complete
- Courses vary in time lengths (20 to 45 minutes) and are dependent on the module selected
- Re-certification is required at least every 5 years.

Below you will find instructions for enrolling and logging in to training. If church administrators have any questions along the way, contact Mary Poss in the Diocesan Office.



Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast

Background:

Recently, our Safeguarding system has migrated to a new platform. The name of this program changed from the "Armatus" to "**Praesidium Academy.**" Anyone who has taken modules on the previous system with an active email should have received an email directly from Praesidium Academy with login information. However, if coursework was over 4 years old, it was considered dated/expired and may not have been moved over into the new system. Regardless, there are some new administrative changes that churches will need to take note of.

Each church will need to identify an Administrator(s). Initially, the Diocese will request names from each church identifying who will be assigned the Administrator's role. The Diocese will send invitations requests to these individuals. These church Administrators will then be responsible for managing your church reports, add new learners, and update/print records.

Steps to follow if you wish to complete your Safeguarding Online Training on the Praesidium Academy Website.

1. E-mail the Safeguarding Online Administrator assigned to your parish.
2. Your designated Administrator will facilitate your access to the Praesidium Academy online training web-platform by generating an "invitation e-mail" which will be sent to you from donotreply@praesidiuminc.com.
3. Fill in the required information (including your desired password).
4. Click Accept Invite.
5. You will be redirected to the login screen - please log in with your e-mail address and the password you just created.
6. You can now proceed to find and complete the required modules.

Steps to follow if you have forgotten your password for the Praesidium Academy Website.

1. Click <https://www.praesidiumacademy.com/learn>
2. Click on forgot password?
3. Enter in the e-mail address associated with your Academy account.
4. Click the blue Reset Password button.
5. Check your e-mail.
6. Click the link inside of your e-mail to set a new password for your Academy account.