



**Reflection by Rev. Kesner Joseph**  
**The Little Children and Jesus (Luke 18, 15-17)**

**15 People were also bringing babies to Jesus for him to place his hands on them. When the disciples saw this, they rebuked them. 16 But Jesus called the children to him and said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 17 Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.”**

**Children occupy the first place in the heart of Jesus and in the kingdom of God. Jesus loves them and makes them an example for everyone who desires to have a place in the kingdom of God. Throughout His life on earth Jesus makes us aware of the importance of children and how precious they are. Jesus said, “Let the children come to me and do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”**

**It is the obligation of all adults to take care of children, protect them and respect them through all dimensions of their life until their last day on earth according to the will of God. All children have the right to life and deserve protection and happiness. I call on everyone to put their strength and determination together to make this dream a reality.**

**A child is the future of a country and of a society. A country that does not have children, does not have future either. If it has children and does not take care of them, it does not take care for the future of the country or society either.  
Children are our future.**

**May God bless you and keep you safe. AMEN!**

**This reflection was written in observance of Child Abuse Prevention Month, by  
Rev. Kesner Joseph, Parochial Vicar of St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church.**

**We are grateful to Fr. Joseph for this reflection and hope it will be a blessing for you today.**

**Office of Safe Environment  
Catholic Diocese of Richmond**