



ROMAN CATHOLIC

**DIOCESE of SPRINGFIELD-CAPE GIRARDEAU**

*Office of Child and Youth Protection*

## **Annual Safe Environment bulletin/newsletter announcement**

### **Reporting Procedures of Known or Suspected Abuse and Misconduct**

- Any known or suspected abuse or neglect of a minor must first be immediately reported to the **Missouri Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 800-392-3738.**
- Any known or suspected abuse or neglect of an adult must first be immediately reported to the **Missouri Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 800-392-0210.**
- In situations of immediate danger, call **911.**

Known or suspected abuse may also be reported to law enforcement in addition to making a report to the MO Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline or to the MO Adult Abuse and Neglect Hotline. Concerns and violations of The Code of Conduct should also be reported to the Office of Child and Youth Protection at (417) 866-0841; by Email at: **childandyouthprotection@dioscg.org** or through the TIPS Online reporting system available on the diocesan Website at: **www.dioscg.org.**

Violations involving the Bishop should also be reported to the **Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service** at 800-276-1562 or **<https://www.reportbishopabuse.org/>**

The Safe Environment Policy and Procedures, the Code of Conduct for Clergy, Employees and Adult Volunteers and other important information, including a link to the USCCB "Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People," are available on the Webpage at: **<https://dioscg.org/child-youth-protection/>.**

### **Safe Environment Requirements for all diocesan personnel—clergy, employees, and adult volunteers**

The mission and ministry of creating a safe environment for all to flourish and thrive is a responsibility we each share. **Before** regularly working or volunteering with minors or vulnerable adults, **all** diocesan personnel (clergy, employees and adult volunteers) are required to first complete:

- the Safe Environment Training;
- a Background Screening; and,
- a current, signed Code of Conduct.

The Safe Environment training is available Online after creating an account in the VIRTUS system, through the VIRTUS Website: **<https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/>.**

The *Code of Conduct* is **required annually** and is made available at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, and expires December 31 the following year.

The Background Screening Application is now accessed through the VIRTUS account. These forms and the Safe Environment Policies are available on the diocesan Website, under the Office of Child and Youth Protection at **<https://dioscg.org/child-youth-protection/>.** Questions about these requirements may be directed to the Office of Child and Youth Protection at (417) 866-0841 or by Email: **childandyouthprotection@dioscg.org.**