

What should you do if you are aware of an allegation of sexual misconduct?

Report all allegations to the bishop by calling the Moderator of the Curia or the Chancellor. Either one can be contacted at the Curia, 517-342-2450, between 8:00am - 4:30pm weekdays, or at St. Mary Cathedral, 517-484-5331 or 517-484-5332, after 4:30pm or during weekends. Voice mail allows you to leave a message if you cannot reach either individual. Within 72 hours of making an oral report the allegation must also be put in writing (the envelope marked "Confidential") and sent to either the Moderator of the Curia or the Chancellor. The address is: Chancery, 300 West Ottawa, Lansing, Michigan, 48933-1577.

The Moderator of the Curia or the Chancellor will inform the person making the allegation of the diocesan policies and procedures to be followed. On behalf of the bishop, the Moderator of the Curia or the Chancellor will convene the members of the Diocesan Review Board appropriate for this particular situation.

All allegations of sexual abuse of a minor **must** be reported immediately to the **State of Michigan Family Independence Agency** (contact numbers for each county appear on the back of this flyer). **Within 72 hours there is also an obligation to put the allegation in writing.**

Remember: by reporting the behavior you can help both yourself and others.

To report an allegation of sexual abuse of a minor, contact the Family Independence Agency in your county:

Clinton County: **989-224-5500**

Eaton County: **517-543-0860**

Genesee County: **810-760-2222**

Hillsdale County: **517-439-2200**

Ingham County: **517-887-9450**

Jackson County: **517-780-7600**

Lenawee County: **517-264-6464**

Livingston County: **517-546-8668**

Shiawassee County: **989-725-3200**

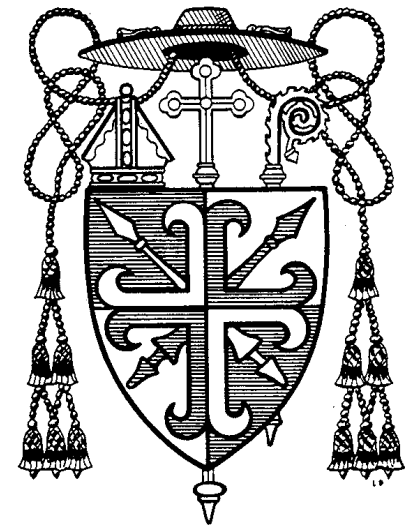
Washtenaw County: **734-481-9110**

For a copy of the Diocese of Lansing Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures please write:

Director of Communications
Diocese of Lansing
300 West Ottawa
Lansing, MI 48933-1577

or you may download the policy at:
<http://www.DioceseofLansing.org>

Roman Catholic Diocese of Lansing



Protecting God's Children

Protecting God's Children

In June, 2002, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) promulgated the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People.

In the Diocese of Lansing, we have taken the following steps to ensure that the goals of "The Charter" will be met:

To Promote the Healing and Reconciliation of Victims/Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse of Minors the Diocese of Lansing:

Has developed an outreach to all victims of sexual abuse of minors by anyone acting in the name of the Church. An ongoing series of retreats offered at the St. Francis retreat Center, DeWitt is offered for those who have been victims of sexual abuse by someone acting in the name of the Church. Through this outreach and retreat experience we will listen with patience and compassion to their experiences;

Will respond promptly to any allegation where there is reason to believe that sexual abuse of a minor has occurred;

Has designated a Victim's Assistance Coordinator to coordinate assistance for the immediate pastoral care of persons who claim to have been sexually abused as minors by clergy or other church personnel;

Has appointed a Review Board to advise the bishop in his assessment of allegations of sexual abuse of minors and in his determination of suitability for ministry;

Will not enter into confidentiality agreements except for grave reasons brought forward by the victim/survivor.

To Guarantee an Effective Response to Allegations of Sexual Abuse of Minors the Diocese of Lansing:

Will report any allegation of sexual abuse of a minor to the public authorities and cooperate with their investigation;

Will cooperate with public authorities about reporting in cases when the person is no longer a minor;

Will advise victims of their right to make a report to public authorities and support this right;

Will permanently remove from ministry a priest or deacon if sexual abuse of a minor is admitted or is established, after an appropriate process in accord with canon law;

Will do everything possible to restore the cleric's good name when the accusation has proved to be unfounded;

Has promulgated clear and well-publicized standards of ministerial behavior;

Has developed a communications policy that reflects a commitment to transparency and openness.

To Protect the Faithful in the Future, the Diocese of Lansing:

Through the "Virtus" program, has established "safe environment" programs to provide education and training for youth and adults in ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children;

Will evaluate the background of diocesan and parish personnel with regular contact with minors, and employ adequate screening and evaluative techniques to decide fitness of candidates for ordination;

Will not transfer any priest or deacon who has committed an act of sexual abuse of a minor for ministerial assignment in another diocese;

Before transferring a priest or deacon to another diocese, will make full disclosure to that bishop (or religious superior) with any information about any act of sexual abuse of a minor;

Will meet with superiors of religious communities to communicate about allegations made against a cleric member of a religious institute ministering in a diocese/eparchy.