

Most Reverend Louis Tylka
Diocese of Peoria
Office of the Bishop

October 28, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As disciples of the Lord Jesus, we are called to respect the dignity of all human life. The Church has a particular duty to protect the most vulnerable, especially children. Jesus said, "Whatever you do for one of these least brothers of mine, you do for me" (Matt. 25:40). Our faith in Christ compels us to work together to foster safe environments in our churches, schools, and other ministries.

Since the adoption of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops in 2002, the Diocese has worked diligently to break the silence about abuse and put programs in place to provide safe environment education for both children and adults.

As Bishop of Peoria, I remain committed to promoting the safe environment programs we have in place to provide a safe haven for children and young people. I hereby approve and promulgate the following for use in this diocese:

- **Safe Haven It's Up to You** training through CMG Connect for all clergy, religious, and employees, as well as volunteers who work with children.
- **Sexual Harassment & the Church** training through CMG Connect for all clergy, religious, and employees.
- **Circle of Grace** safe environment curriculum for children in all Catholic schools and parish religious education programs in the diocese.
- **DCFS CANTS** background check for all clergy, religious, and employees, as well as volunteers who work with children.
- **Digital Fingerprints** with both FBI and Illinois State Police results for all clergy, religious, and school employees.

Phone
309 671-1550

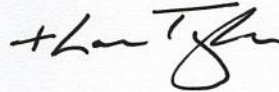
Address
419 N.E. Madison Avenue,
Peoria, Illinois 61603

Website
cdop.org

- **Electronic Criminal Background** check through Selection.com for parish employees and all volunteers who work with children.

I would like to thank all who promote safe environments in our parishes, schools, and other ministries throughout the Diocese of Peoria. Let us renew our commitment to protecting the children and young people entrusted to our care. I ask for your ongoing prayers as we continue to work together to safeguard all of God's people, especially those who are most vulnerable.

Peace and Prayers,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis Tylka". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "L" and a long, sweeping tail.

✚ Most Reverend Louis Tylka
Bishop of Peoria