



Catholic Diocese of Peoria

Communication Policy

It is the policy of the Catholic Diocese of Peoria to maintain an atmosphere of trust, openness and cooperation with the members of our Diocese regarding any matter involving the Sexual Abuse Policy. Furthermore, it is the goal of the Diocese to be continually committed to promoting a safe environment in all Catholic institutions and organizations throughout the 26 counties.

1. All information regarding the Diocesan Sexual Abuse Policy, procedures, safe environment programs, civil and diocesan authorities will be posted on the diocesan website: www.cdop.org.
2. The safe environment program will be advertised and promoted through the diocesan monthly mailings, parish bulletin announcements and brochures to be made available in every parish in the Diocese. Contact information will include the Victim's Advocate, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and will be made available in all brochures.
3. The Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Peoria will issue an official statement in the event that a new program is developed related to the Sexual Abuse Policy.
4. A press release will be distributed to the secular and Diocesan media when a priest, religious or lay employee of the Diocese has been removed because of credible allegations of sexual abuse of a minor.
5. At the end of the investigation, the Diocese will release its findings and status of the person(s) involved.
6. The person(s), parish and/or school involved will be offered appropriate counseling from a behavioral health provider.