



DIOCESE OF MARQUETTE

1004 Harbor Hills Drive
Marquette, Michigan 49855
www.dioceseofmarquette.org

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP
(906) 227-9115
fax (906) 225-0437

May 6, 2016

In 2002, the U.S. Bishops established the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People* which mandated education and training in ways to maintain a safe environment with respect to sexual abuse. Since its implementation of the Charter, the Catholic Church in the United States has trained 98% of our two million volunteers, employees, educators, clergy, and candidates for ordination in how to create safe environments and prevent child sexual abuse.

To provide this training, the Diocese of Marquette uses the program *Protecting God's Children* created by VIRTUS®. Training is provided to all those who have regular contact with children or are in a position to observe those who do. Protecting God's Children training is offered by live sessions, conducted by trained facilitators, or through an on-line module, using questions to verify participation.

These programs are part of our continued efforts to protect the children in our care, renew confidence, and restore trust of parents.

Leadership and oversight for these programs is provided by the Office of Ministry Personnel. If you have questions, contact Marti Tomasi at 800.562.9745 ext. 155, 906.227.9155 or email at: mtomasi@dioceseofmarquette.org

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend John F. Doerfler, STD, JCL
Bishop of Marquette