



The Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.S.R.
Archdiocese of Indianapolis

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May 25, 2016

Dear Parish, School, and Agency Leaders:

As a Church, we cherish life and seek to protect the most vulnerable among us from harm. One of the most important ways we demonstrate this commitment is through educational programs designed to keep children safe from all forms of abuse.

In 2013, we initiated the Safe and Sacred Program to train adults on how to recognize and report child abuse. In the past 3 years, over 30,000 employees, volunteers, priests, and deacons have completed this training, acknowledged that they will comply with our code of conduct, and consented to background checks. Thank you for your involvement in and support of this important effort to safeguard the children in our care.

In June, we are introducing some significant improvements to the Safe and Sacred program:

- Training content will be expanded to include more information on maintaining appropriate boundaries in relationships with children. The new course will be called Protecting Children in the 21st Century.
- Each training certificate will bear a 3-year expiration date. Every 3 years, individuals will receive e-mail notification to re-take the course in order to provide a refresher on what they learned as well as additional information on how to keep children safe.
- Criminal history re-checks will also be processed every 3 years with course completion.

This ongoing cycle of training, code of conduct reminders, and background re-checks will bolster awareness, enhance knowledge, and more fully demonstrate our commitment to the well-being of every child served by the ministries of our parishes, schools, and agencies.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in implementing this important program to protect children. I am grateful for your leadership and commitment. Please contact the Human Resources Office at (317) 236-1594, (800) 382-9836, ext. 1594, or humanresources@archindy.org with any questions or suggestions.

Sincerely yours in Christ the Redeemer,

Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.S.S.R.
Archbishop of Indianapolis