



+April 8, 2025

To the Clergy, Pastoral Leaders, and People of the Archdiocese of Seattle:

The Archdiocese of Seattle has a long commitment to the protection of children, youth and vulnerable adults. For years, we've taken steps to ensure the safety of those who serve and are served in our parishes, schools and agencies. I thank all of you for your diligent efforts in this area. Yet we know that we must constantly renew our vigilance and resolve to prevent abuse in the future.

For this purpose, we periodically review and update our Safe Environment policies.

As Archbishop of Seattle, I hereby approve and promulgate the following Safe Environment Policy updates, effective immediately:

- *Policy for the Prevention of and Response to Sexual Abuse, Sexual Misconduct and Sexual Harassment* (updated March 2025)
- *Code of Professional Conduct for Church Personnel* (updated March 2025)
- *Reporting Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Minors and Vulnerable Adults* (updated March 2025)

In addition, I hereby approve and promulgate the training programs that we use to educate adults and children and declare them to be in full agreement with the moral principles and teachings of our Catholic faith:

- VIRTUS® *Protecting God's Children for Adults*
- Children's Teaching Safety *Circle of Grace*© curriculum

Together, let us continue to guard and protect our children and the most vulnerable among us. May the Lord bless each one of you!

In the Heart of Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul D. Etienne".

Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Seattle