



April 2009

Dear Friends in Service to Christ,

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. As always, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee strives to continue to provide children and youth with safe environments within which they can continue to grow and flourish. As we move forward, working to increase awareness and prevent the abuse of God's precious gifts, our children, we continually revise and adjust our practices and procedures.

One recommendation that came from the 2008 USCCB Office for Child and Youth Protection Charter Audit of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is that any new employees must complete their safe environment education prior to beginning their employment. That is, no employee, especially ones who work directly with children, may do so without attending a Safe Environment Education session. The Office of Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response Services along with the Diocesan Review Board reviewed this recommendation; as a result I have endorsed the recommended changes of the policy regarding required training for new employees.

New hires will need to complete the required Safe Environment Education prior to their employment. If this completion is impossible in a given case, please contact the Safe Environment Coordinator at the Archdiocese for assistance and guidance.

Thank you for all you do to contribute to the safety and welfare of our children and young people.

With the prayerful best wishes of Easter, I am,

Faithfully in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Timothy M. Dolan" with a cross symbol to the left.

Most Reverend Timothy M. Dolan
Archbishop of Milwaukee