



DIOCESE OF RALEIGH

Office of the Bishop

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April 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,


Every April, our nation celebrates Prevent Child Abuse Month. We appreciate the dedicated service of parish safe environment teams who work together with clergy, volunteers and staff to remain diligent in their efforts to give children and teens safe places to encounter the Gospel of Jesus.

The Office of Child and Youth Protection supports the efforts of parishes and schools as they train and screen those entrusted to lead ministry with minors. Last year in the Diocese of Raleigh, 2,230 people were trained in how to recognize and report child abuse and neglect. We have much to celebrate.

I encourage parishes and schools to use the updated materials to provide training for adults entrusted with leading our children and teens. I have reviewed these resources and I have confidence that they will provide timely and useful information.

Please pray for our priests, the members of our local Safe Environment Teams, and all those who minister to children and teens in the Diocese of Raleigh. Together let us all seek to walk hand in hand with Jesus through the Holy Scriptures, the Sacraments, and in the fellowship of our communities. I also ask your continued prayers for those who have been injured by child abuse and for all who aid in healing these injuries.

In Christ,

  
† Luis Rafael Zarama, J.C.L.  
Bishop of Raleigh