



Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Saint Cloud

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September 3, 2019

Dear Pastors, Principals and Site Administrators,

One of my responsibilities as Bishop is to ensure that all our parishes and schools are in compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. We want to provide safe and loving places for our children, youth and vulnerable adults to grow in their faith.

This is our second year using the CMGconnect Platform from Catholic Mutual. I am impressed with the training they provide and the documentation of background checks that the Diocese is able to track.

Please be sure all adults working regularly with children, youth and vulnerable adults have an up-to-date background check. **No person should work or volunteer until a background check has been cleared.**

There will be a lesson for all children and youth to complete annually. This information is available on the diocesan website. I ask that you complete the student training where it best fits in the catechetical year, but please do not wait until spring. Remember, parents may opt out, but they must complete a declination form, which can be found at <http://stcdio.org/safeenvironmentinstructions>.

If you have questions, please contact Linda Kaiser (lkaiser@gw.stcdio.org or 320-251-0111).

I am most grateful to all who work diligently to protect all children, youth and vulnerable adults. May God keep us safe as we journey together to be followers of Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Donald J. Kettler

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Bishop of Saint Cloud