



Catholic Diocese of Victoria *Office of the Bishop*

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May 4, 2016

Dear People of God,

The *Responsible Ministry and Safe Environment Policy* in the Diocese of Victoria is a vital component for proclaiming the Gospel of Joy in our society. Taking care of the people, especially the children and the vulnerable adults, is at the heart of Jesus's mission, "I have come to bring good news to the poor."

Trust and confidence are essential elements that must not be broken or weakened by the actions of a few, and therefore this Policy is critical and must be implemented in every aspect of pastoral care, education, outreach and service in our Diocese. Responsible Ministry means that everyone has a responsibility to ensure an environment of transparency, trust and security for one and all. Our Responsible Ministry and Safe Environment Policy has been in effect since 2011 and has created a greater awareness and sensitivity to the many aspects of responsible ministry and safe environments for children and vulnerable adults.

Our ministry of proclaiming the Gospel and taking care of the people is the heart of our mission as Disciples of Christ. Guided by our Responsible Ministry and Safe Environment Coordinator and the Advisory Board, the attached Policy will help to ensure that we will continue to grow in effectiveness, transparency and care in building God's kingdom of justice, truth and love.

In Communion,

Most Reverend Gary Gordon
Bishop of Victoria

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www.rcdvictoria.org/responsible-ministry-safe-environment.php