January 13, 2014

Dear Co-Workers in Ministry,

I wish you many blessings in the New Year! Thank you for all that you do to serve the Church in central and southern Indiana, and please be assured of my ongoing prayers for you.

As part of our commitment to the safety of children, we initiated a new child protection program in 2013 called Safe and Sacred. It provides online training in both English and Spanish that is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The course can be completed in about 45 minutes and includes information on the prevention and recognition of sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse, and neglect. As of December 31, 2013, over 7,000 people in the Archdiocese had completed the Safe and Sacred program.

Every priest, deacon, and employee who has not already taken the Safe and Sacred program is requested to complete it prior to February 28, 2014. Volunteers who have contact with children are asked to complete the training in March or April 2014.

Our Archdiocesan Code of Conduct and a background check form are included in the Safe and Sacred program. A background check will be processed if it has been over 5 years since the last check has been done.

You can access the Safe and Sacred program at www.safeandsacred-archindy.org. If you have any questions, please contact the Human Resources Office at (317) 236-1594, (800) 382-9836, ext. 1594, or hr@archindy.org. I appreciate your involvement in and support of this important program.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Indianapolis