



Bishop of Gary

May 29, 2024

Dear Pastors and Administrators,

During the Safe Environment Conference held at Our Lady of Consolation on April 11, 2024, your parish's representative was given the materials needed to complete the annual Safe Environment Audit. The purpose of the audit is to verify that the Diocese of Gary is in complete compliance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "*Promise to Protect, Pledge to Heal.*"

As part of the audit process requirements, every parish and school must complete the audit report which can be accessed through the Virtus database at <https://virtusonline.org/virtus/>. Please ensure that you or your delegate work in collaboration with your Director of Religious Education, Youth Minister, School Principal, and others to complete the report.

Thank you for supporting the bishops' Charter and your cooperation with the Safe Environment Office at the Pastoral Center. If you or your local Safe Environment Coordinator have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kathy Lafakis by email at klafakis@dcgary.org or call the Pastoral Center at 219-769-9292, x280. The deadline to email your completed audit report to Kathy Lafakis is Thursday, June 20, 2024.

Asking God's blessing upon you and with a promise of prayers, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Robert J. McClory
Bishop of Gary