



**Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon**  
**OFFICE OF THE BISHOP**

123 Nelson Rd  
Saskatoon SK S7S 1H1  
[www.rcdos.ca](http://www.rcdos.ca)

Phone: 306-242-1500  
Fax: 306-244-6010  
Toll free: 877-661-5005



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**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**


In March 2020, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon provided a safeguarding action plan, titled *Safer Church, Stronger Communities*. The key goal of our plan was that our diocese and our churches be places of profound respect and safety for all peoples – especially the young and vulnerable.

Following upon the commitments made in March of last year, an Historical Case Review Process was launched. I am now providing a report that is the result of the work done by the Historical Case Review Committee, and I am also updating the *Safer Church, Stronger Communities* safeguarding action plan, as a result of the work and recommendations of the Policy and Operations Review Committee. These committees worked very hard over the last many months and featured the generous offering of expertise and time by lay professionals who represent various proficiencies and experiences required for the review processes. They also worked independently of my office, in order to provide an objective and unbiased review and set of recommendations. On behalf of the Diocese of Saskatoon, I express my tremendous gratitude and appreciation for their work.

This work is extremely important and valued. Although we have come a long way in our efforts, there is much more to do. I am grateful for the very focussed and specific guidance related to our 20 commitments that fall under our four pillars: Outreach and Healing; Process of Reporting and Addressing Allegations; Policies and Training; and Expanding Safeguarding Culture.

I am also grateful for the report of the Historical Case Review Committee, which examined historical cases involving serious misconduct reported over the years in the diocese of Saskatoon. The committee found nine cases involving serious misconduct by persons in the service of the church within the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saskatoon. In addition, the report references two “non-historical” cases that are still under review.

To any person in our diocese or beyond who has experienced abuse by clergy or anyone else in the Church, I again express my profound sorrow and I apologize for what you have suffered, and for the betrayal, violation, and abandonment you have experienced.

 In all things we are *rooted in Christ*,  
in His desire to bring God's love to all peoples.

I also apologize to all of our church whose faith and trust has been damaged because of the sinful actions of those who abused the innocent, and those who covered up such abuse. I recognize that both individual and institutional change must happen in our Church to move forward.

Words must be accompanied by substantial actions, and trust must be earned, not merely granted. It is my earnest commitment that this stage of developing our safeguarding action plan demonstrates that we are holding the bar very high in assuring that all our churches are safe and respectful communities.

I conclude by asking you to join me in praying that the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph will be our guide and encouragement as we continue to strive for holiness and build a culture that assures respect, safety, and support for all our people, especially the young and all vulnerable persons.

Yours in Christ,



✠ Most Rev. Mark A. Hagemoen