



DIOCESE OF SAGINAW

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Decree of Promulgation The Diocese of Saginaw Temporary Exception to Policy for the PROTECTION of CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, & VULNERABLE ADULTS

Following consultation with the Diocese of Saginaw Review Board, I have approved a temporary exception to ¶4.1 of the **Policy for the Protection of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults**, which requires in-person safe environment training at least every 6 years.

The Exception provides for an alternative means of completing safe environment training, which shall include:

1. Completion of the *Protecting God's Children* online education training through VIRTUS, consisting of a series of 13 vignettes/scenarios with multiple-choice questions and video explanations of the key elements and steps in identifying and preventing child abuse.
2. Completion of a virtual meeting for on-line training with a facilitator
3. Completion of an evaluation

If individuals do not have access to computers with cameras and audio capabilities, host parishes, schools, and other agencies will provide a setting (with social distancing & the requirement of masks) for individuals to attend the training.

With this decree, in accord with canon 29 of the Code of Canon Law, I officially promulgate this temporary **Exception to the Diocese of Saginaw Policy for the Protection of Children, Young People, & Vulnerable Adults**. This Exception to the Policy shall obtain force on September 1, 2020, and shall bind as particular law of the Diocese of Saginaw until revoked by me at a time in which in-person safe environment training may occur.

+ Robert D. Gruss

Most Reverend Robert D. Gruss
Diocese of Saginaw

Given at Offices of the Diocese of Saginaw
This the 1st day of September 2020

Sister Mary Judith O'Brien, R.S.M.
Sister Mary Judith O'Brien, R.S.M.
Chancellor