

THE SHEPHERD

"I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD, AND I KNOW MINE AND MINE KNOW ME, JUST AS THE FATHER KNOWS ME AND I KNOW THE FATHER; AND I WILL LAY DOWN MY LIFE FOR THE SHEEP"

~JOHN 10: 14-15

The Catholic Church is absolutely committed to the safety of children. Together we can make a Promise to Protect, and Pledge to Heal.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month



National Child Abuse Prevention Month recognizes the importance of communities working together to help families thrive and prevent child abuse. During the month of April and throughout the year, schools, parishes, and communities are encouraged to increase awareness about child and family well-being and work together to implement effective strategies that support families and prevent child abuse and neglect.

Families are central to child safety, permanency, and wellbeing, and ALL families need support.

For families with limited resources or those facing additional challenges, the need for assistance is even greater.

We are part of a culture that is called to protect and heal. We value the prevention of abuse and the support of those who have been abused.

Each one of us must continue to play a role in strengthening this culture within families. We must continue to be vigilant by making sure abuse is taken seriously and reported. We must be aware of inappropriate behaviors and report concerns through proper channels. We must advocate for the victims by listening and believing their story. Let us pray for all victims of abuse, for those who provide help for the abused, and for teachers and mentors who work with children. And finally, let us pray for all families who are the first to show God's love, that they can provide safe and nurturing environments for their own children.

Let us continue to help children thrive by supporting families BEFORE they reach a crisis.

**Our voices are more powerful together.
Spread the Word About Child Abuse Prevention!**



Any allegation of the abuse of a minor, may be reported to the
Kansas Protection Report Center
800.922.5330
KBI Crime Hotline
800.572.7463
or
ClergyAbuse@kbi.ks.gov
The Diocese of Salina fully participates in all criminal investigations related to abuse perpetrated by a member of the clergy or other church official.

For the safety of children and healing of those who have suffered abuse, the Diocese of Salina provides

Hotline: 866.752.8855 #1067

Website: www.reportandprotect.com

Email: reportabuse@salinadiocese.org

Reports will be responded to promptly by the Victim Assistance Coordinator.

*"Rescue me, Lord, from my foes,
for I seek refuge in you."*

- Psalm 143:9



Safe Environment Office
Diocese of Salina

To report an incident of sexual abuse and related misconduct by a Bishop or Religious Superior currently or in the past, the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Services provides
Hotline: 800.276.1562
Website: reportbishopabuse.org

All reports are confidential with the exception of those involving the abuse of minors which will be immediately reported by the Diocese to the proper authorities, as required by Kansas State Law and Diocesan Policy.

Let us look to our own families and communities and try to strengthen all families as we continue our efforts in protecting children and maintaining safe environments so our children can learn, pray and grow. It is our intent to strengthen children and families by advocating, educating, and supporting **ALL** families. Each of us has a stake in protecting children. By increasing family stability, enhancing child development, and raising awareness of prevention efforts, it is our hope that we truly can help stop child abuse and neglect before it ever occurs.

Healthy ways to strengthen family relationships:

- Show your love to your children.
- Set boundaries.
- Listen and empathize.
- Share your thoughts and feelings.
- Spend time together as a family.
- Pray together.

Continue reading [here](#) for more information and other ways to support and strengthen family relationships.



*Holy Family of Nazareth,
make us more mindful of
the sacredness of the family
and its beauty in God's plan.*

*Pray with us that our
families will be places
of communion and prayer, and
authentic schools of the gospel.
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
graciously hear our prayer.*

As we continue in this year of St. Joseph, let us continue to pray and dedicate our work as Safety Coordinators through the intercession of St. Joseph.

Let us entrust this journey with families all over the world, to the Holy Family of Nazareth, in particular to St. Joseph, devoted spouse and father.

Live as the holy family, a model in which all families of the world can find inspiration.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S LIFE.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SAFE ENVIRONMENT TRAINING PROGRAM,
PLEASE CALL THE SAFE ENVIRONMENT OFFICE -785-827-8746 #24

PROMISE
To Protect



Pledge
To HEAL

Wendy Backes
Safe Environment
Program Coordinator
785.827.8746 #24
wendy.backes@salinadiocese.org

Maria Cheney
Victim Assistance
Coordinator
866.752.8855 #1067
reportabuse@salinadiocese.org

Kim Hoelting
Human Resources
Director
785.827.8746 #28
kim.hoelting@salinadiocese.org



CATHOLIC DIOCESE
of SALINA