



Office of the Bishop

*Diocese of Erie
P. O. Box 10397
Erie, Pennsylvania 16514-0397*

November 2011

Dear Pastors,

I am writing to you today regarding a matter of importance in relation to the Protection of Children policy.

In 2009-10, our diocese conducted Self Audits in preparation for an onsite audit in 2010 by our auditors. We are once again engaging in this process to prepare for an onsite Child Protection audit in 2013. We are anticipating that this process will be less cumbersome than the previous self audit since parishes have completed this process once before and documentation should be in order.

With this letter you will find the audit instrument to be used to conduct your parish self audit, and instructions for completion of the form.

This self audit is to be completed by March 30, 2012. If you have any questions about any of the compliance issues, please contact Mrs. Karen Streett at 814-824-1222 or kstreett@eriercd.org

I am asking for your transparency regarding these questions on the self audit; our diocesan Office for Protection of Children and Youth will be happy to assist you with any issues of non-compliance. After the completion of the self audits, on-site parish visits will again be made in preparation for our diocesan audit by the auditors. You will be contacted at a later date about this.

I am confident that all of our parishes will be in compliance at this writing or will take the necessary steps to assure compliance as the self audit is conducted. As always, I am grateful to you and your staffs for your efforts to keep our children and youth safe and secure.

Please be aware that this self audit is a different process and form than the *Annual Parish Report for Child Protection Compliance*, which will be forwarded to you in late spring of 2012.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman, STD, SSL
Bishop of Erie

Signature is on file at the Chancery