



DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON

Office of the Bishop

200 North Glebe Road, Suite 914 • Arlington, Virginia 22203 • Office (703) 841-2511 • Fax (703) 524-5028

September 2, 2021

Dear Brother Priests,

As part of its faithful implementation of the 2002 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, the Diocese of Arlington currently uses the *VIRTUS: Protecting God's Children* version 3.0 as its adult safe environment training. *VIRTUS* has updated its training in the 4.0 version by streamlining its messaging, adding more than 250 new videos and visuals and designing it to be more trauma-informed. This new design also makes it easier for victims or survivors to watch and to engage in discussion. Also survivor stories were replaced so as not to have multiple clergy cases, which more accurately convey the low prevalence of clergy abuse.

By this letter, I hereby affirm the *VIRTUS: Protecting God's Children* version 4.0 for use as our diocesan mandated training for adults. More information may be found on our diocesan website: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/child-protection/virtus/>.

May Our Lord Jesus continue to watch over and guide us in our efforts to bring the youth of our diocese ever closer to Him. Through the intercession of Mary our Mother and Saint Joseph, may Our Lord Jesus bless you and all those you serve.

Fraternally in Christ,

Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge  
Bishop of Arlington