



## Archdiocese of Louisville

100 EAST LEBLANC STREET • P.O. BOX 100 • LOUISVILLE, KY 40201  
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July 22, 2002

Dear Father:

The issue of sexual abuse of children by clergy has affected all of us who serve as ministers to God's people. In response to this crisis facing the Church, the Conference of Catholic Bishops has approved the document CHARTER FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE. Since we are responsible for the spiritual welfare of the faithful, we bishops committed ourselves to the immediate implementation of the Charter.

In accord with the Charter, particular penalties follow the admission or substantiation of any instance of sexual abuse of a minor. This letter now provides you with formal notification of particular restrictions on you as a priest:

- 1) You are removed from ministry and are no longer able to be assigned to any ministry position.
- 2) So long as you remain a priest you are to lead a life of prayer and penance. You are not permitted to celebrate Mass publicly, to wear clerical garb, or present yourself as a priest.

You remain a priest of the Archdiocese of Louisville and, we will continue to provide you with appropriate retirement compensation and support. Furthermore, we will provide you with counseling support for your own healing and well being.

The Holy See has been informed of the Charter and the issues related to its implementation. Should the Holy See offer insights, recommendations, or make other provision applicable to your particular situation, I will inform you at once.

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I invite you to join me in prayer for victims of abuse and their families and for the accused. I believe we are taking the right steps to effect a just resolution to this crisis. My fervent hope is that all might find healing and hope in Christ.

With prayerful best wishes,

Devotedly yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RJD' or similar initials.

Archbishop of Louisville

The Reverend Robert J. Dollinger  
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