

TO PROTECT AND HEAL

Child Protection & the Catholic Church in Maryland

Zero tolerance for abuse. Compassionate care for survivors.



69,000+

clergy, teachers, employees,
volunteers and seminarians
background checked and trained



Survivor Care

payment for **counseling**, plus
financial support, pastoral
and spiritual care, and more



96,000+

children and youth receive
safe environment education
annually

Our commitment. Our policy. Our practice.

Prevention

- Background checks, training and mandated reporting for clergy, teachers, employees, volunteers and seminarians
- Background checks, psychological evaluations and multi-year formation for applicants to priesthood
- Safe environment education for children and adults

Outreach and Support for Survivors

- Support, such as payment for counseling for survivors and family members; an apology, and outreach that includes pastoral care, retreats and other resources
- Financial support for survivors

Accountability

- Written policies covering bishops, clergy, lay people
- Zero tolerance for abuse
- Immediate reporting to and cooperation with civil authorities
- Permanent removal from ministry of credibly accused – even if there is no criminal prosecution
- Names published of credibly accused clergy
- Independent Review Boards of child protection experts
- Annual independent compliance audits plus parish/school compliance audits

*Data is for the three Catholic (arch)dioceses that serve Maryland:
Archdiocese of Baltimore, Archdiocese of Washington, and Diocese of Wilmington. Figures are diocesan-wide, 2004-2018*

