



Office of the Bishop

Diocese of Reno

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August 18, 2018

To the Faithful of the Diocese of Reno

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The release this week of the report of the Grand Jury investigating clergy sex abuse of minors in six dioceses in Pennsylvania was extremely painful for me to hear. I am filled with deep shame and disgust to hear and read about the terrible injury inflicted on so many innocent children and young people by priests and how church authorities handled these incidents.

The report impels me to review our commitment as a diocese to safeguard all minors and vulnerable adults in our church. We have in place protocols for reporting abuse to law enforcement, background checks for any adult working with youth, ongoing training in awareness and prevention of abuse, and policies to ensure appropriate interactions with youth and adults in all our programs. Now I want a full review of all our protocols, practices and policies to determine how effective they've been and how to improve our commitment. I also want a review of the mechanisms of accountability of anyone who holds a position of authority and responsibility in the diocese, and this will include me the bishop. I will be asking our Diocesan Review Board, comprised of lay women and men of diverse expertise, to lead this review. It will be a concerted effort that will involve all the institutions of our diocese. At the conclusion of this review, a report will be published.

Finally, let us turn to the Lord in prayer for all who have suffered the terrible devastation of sexual abuse by the church's ministers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Randolph R. Calvo
Bishop of Reno