



**Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Providence
One Cathedral Square
Providence, RI 02903
Phone: (401) 278-4546**

January 2014

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our children and young people are among society's most vulnerable, and the Church takes seriously the legal and moral obligations she has to protect them. The most recent on-site audit once again found the Diocese of Providence to be compliant with all audited Articles within the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The Diocese of Providence requires all adults who work with children and youth – whether in our schools, parishes, or diocesan programs – to complete special training about child abuse awareness, prevention and reporting.

The Diocese of Providence uses the following safe-environment training: *Protecting Our Children* to train all clergy, religious, employees, and lay volunteers who regularly work with minors; and, *Circle of Grace* to educate children and youth. I hereby declare these safe-environment training programs to be in accord with Catholic moral principles, and I am happy to approve them for continued use.

We have made great strides to ensure the safety and well-being of the children entrusted to our care. Much remains to be done. May God bless and inspire our ongoing efforts in this sacred duty. Grateful for your help, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Thomas J. Tobin'.

Thomas J. Tobin
Bishop of Providence