

**Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend**

**Safe Environment Program**

**POLICY FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

It is the policy of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend that all diocesan priests, deacons and other personnel, lay and religious, paid and volunteer, must adhere to the diocese's ***Practical Guidelines for Conduct When Interacting With a Child or Young Person***. All must report any suspected incident of the physical, mental, or sexual abuse or neglect of a child or young person to appropriate civil and diocesan authorities consistent with the ***Diocesan Guidelines on Reporting Incidents of Child Abuse or Neglect***. All priests, deacons and other personnel, employee and volunteer, are subject to and obligated by this policy.

*Policy located in the Employee and Volunteer manuals*