



## DIOCESE OF ORANGE

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Nothing is more important than protecting our children and youth. Since 2002 we have focused our efforts to better achieve that sacred duty. In response to the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, our schools and parishes have incorporated child abuse prevention training for children and adults. This training coupled with background screening of all adults working with children and youth has proven a powerful tool against sexual abuse of our most precious members, the children and youth of our diocese.

With this letter I hereby promulgate the *Circle of Grace* curriculum for grades K-8 to be used in all our parish religious education programs. I have reviewed and approve this curriculum and have found it to be an excellent program which contributes to the protection of our young children and affirms them as beloved children of God. I am happy that our parishes will be benefiting from this new, sound and up to date Safe Environment curriculum.

I pray for the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe as we continue to work together for the protection of all of God's children and youth.

I remain yours in the Lord,

Most Reverend Kevin W. Vann, J.C.D., D.D.  
Bishop of Orange