

Committee for Education and Action on Sexual Abuse
Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church
2174 Meadow Drive
Appomattox, Virginia 24522

February 1, 2022

Bishop Barry C. Knestout
Bishop of Richmond
7800 Carousel Lane
Richmond, Virginia 23294

Dear Bishop Knestout,

Greetings from the Committee for Education and Action on Sexual Abuse (CEASA) from Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Appomattox. We hope this letter finds you well. It has been 7 months since last we communicated with you. It is our aim to provide you with an update on our committee activities semi-annually.

It has been a busy time for our committee. We have hosted two Town Hall Meetings, one on clericalism and one on the importance of the laity in confronting the crisis of child sexual abuse. These meetings, which are held quarterly for the benefit of our parish, enable us to fulfill our charter to help educate members of our parish. The town hall meetings have been well-attended and produce great dialogue and understanding of this tragic condition.

Another part of our committee mission is to help our pastor ensure OLP is in full compliance with the diocesan safe environment regulation. We have achieved full compliance in preparation for the audit in accordance with the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. We have been in direct communication with the Director of Safe Environment, Ms. Nazia Shafi and her staff.

We have updated our parish action plan and shared it with each parish/mission in Deanery 15. We will continue to communicate with these parishes and hope to have an exchange of best practices for ensuring a safe environment within our parishes.

Lastly, each member of our committee has engaged in the consultation phase of the Synod on Synodality. We thank you for your leadership in this important journey and appreciate the opportunity to participate.

As always, we are open to taking on additional actions to help heal our Church. Please know that you can count on this committee to help, and we stand ready to assist you in this very important diocesan mission.

Faithfully, on Behalf of our Committee,

Scott G. West
CEASA Chairperson

cc:

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