

March 8, 2023

Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church, Appomattox, Virginia

Committee for Education and Action on Sexual Abuse Action Plan

Purpose: To undertake the clerical sexual abuse crisis in the Catholic Church and to ensure that the parish of Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church is a safe environment, the Committee for Education and Action on Sexual Abuse (CEASA), a ministry sanctioned by the pastor and the parish pastoral council, *prayerfully* puts forth this action plan.

1. EDUCATION: Research, study, and be aware of issues dealing with clerical sexual abuse.

a. Guided by the Holy Spirit, study and digest the underlying causes and contributing factors of clerical sexual abuse and its cover-up, through research of varied and wide ranging books, articles, reports, case studies, opinions, and heeding Pope Francis.

b. Construct a reference list of materials on the sexual abuse crisis, making it available to all.

c. Share the things we learn among CEASA members, with the parish pastoral council, with the parish through periodic "Parish Discussions", and be available to share at any time with anyone.

2. ACTION: Undertake actions to eliminate clerical sexual abuse and its cover-up in the Catholic Church, and to compassionately support victims.

a. Support the diocesan plan and our bishop's efforts to eliminate clerical sexual abuse.

b. Support the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (The Dallas Charter).

c. Become familiar with various organizations, e.g. SNAP (Survivor's Network of those Abused by Priests), BishopAccountability.Org, Nate's Mission, etc, and espouse their actions to end these atrocities and to support victims.

d. In the spirit of synodality, communicate what we are doing and learning to our parish, to the parishes and missions in Deanery 15, and to the Bishop of Richmond.

e. Encourage periodic homilies on various aspects of the clerical sexual abuse crisis in order to raise awareness and attentiveness.

f. Continue to expect and seek full accountability and transparency from our bishop for all acts of clerical sexual abuse and cover-up within our Dioceses, so that reformation, healing, and justice may come about.

g. Maintain the CEASA presence on the OLP website so as to make information and updates easily available to parishioners and to any interested parties.

3. SAFE ENVIRONMENT: Ensure that OLP is a safe environment, in compliance with the diocesan regulation.

a. Follow the Diocese of Richmond Safe Environment Regulation.

b. Conduct an inspection of OLP not less than annually to ensure full compliance.

c. Coordinate with Parish Pastoral Council and all committees/ministries to ensure all events involving children, young people, and vulnerable people are conducted in accordance with the safe environment regulation.

- d. Provide guidance in recognizing and reporting suspect situations.
- e. Ensure that OLP is a safe place for all people and free from sexual abuse.

Examples of Resources for Study

Consent: A memoir of Unwanted Attention, Donna Freitas, PhD

Perversion of Power: Sexual Abuse in the Catholic Church, Mary Gail Frawley-O’Dea, Ph.D
Pennsylvania Grand Jury Report

Spotlight, the movie on the Boston Globe study of the Diocese of Boston

John Jay School of Criminal Law studies

Lead Us Not Into Temptation: Catholic Priests and the Sexual Abuse of Children, Jason Berry

Sex, Priests, and Power: Anatomy of a Crisis, A.W. Richard Sipe

The Catholic Women’s Forum

The “Dallas” Charter: Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

“The Daniel Coalition”: You are not Alone.

National Catholic Reporter, Numerous relevant articles from the archives.

BishopAccountability.org

And Many, Many More