

DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

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The Diocese of Grand Rapids' Office of Communications has issued the following statement following a press conference by Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel to update the public on the statewide investigation into the Catholic Church.

As we have said since the investigation began, the Diocese of Grand Rapids is and will continue to cooperate with the Michigan Department of the Attorney General in its statewide investigation into the Catholic Church.

The Diocese of Grand Rapids' policy is to report to law enforcement all allegations of sexual abuse against children or vulnerable adults – no matter when they occurred – which are brought to the diocese's attention. The diocese continues its pledge to help victim-survivors in their healing process through both prayers and practical means, such as counseling. If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual abuse, we encourage you to call the hotline for the Michigan Attorney General's Office at 844-324-3374.

The Diocese of Grand Rapids has not been notified by the Attorney General's Office of any credible accusations against any of our priests. The diocese will take immediate action if so notified.

Bishop Walkowiak has published a video ahead of the worldwide meeting currently taking place at the Vatican addressing the prevention of clergy sexual abuse. His video can be <u>viewed here</u>.

Resources pertaining to the safe environment policies and procedures of the Diocese of Grand Rapids can be found at <u>grdiocese.org</u>, click 'Protecting God's Children' in the menu.

The Diocese of Grand Rapids serves more than 191,000 Catholics, 80 parishes and 31 schools in an 11-county area of West Michigan. For additional information visit our website https://grdiocese.org/. Connect with the diocese on Facebook (Diocese of Grand Rapids), Twitter (@GRDiocese), and Instagram (@GRDiocese).

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