



Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Saint Cloud

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Dear Brothers:

It comes as no surprise that pornography is one of the leading causes of addictions, abuse, adultery, divorce, and even human trafficking. Pornography creates unsafe environments for children and confuses others about attitudes towards sex and marriage. It is a moral issue.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' formal statement, *Create in Me a Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography*, states, "We must see our role in protecting children from pornography as our sacred duty, as well as an aspect of our work to create safe environments in accord with our ongoing implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*." Together we can address this issue by teaching those who have been entrusted to our care about pornography's effects and to share resources with them.

On **March 2 and 3, 2019**, we will celebrate Safe Haven Sunday. This awareness day provides an opportunity to address the harmfulness of pornography in marriages, families, and cultures as a whole, while providing helpful resources to both individuals and families. We have partnered with Covenant Eyes who will provide us with some of the resources. An informational video further explains the purpose of Safe Haven Sunday: www.covenanteyes.com/safe-haven-introduction, please take time to view it. For your assistance, a Safe Haven Sunday Implementation Guide is enclosed.

Also enclosed is information on the purchase of educational resources to be distributed to parishioners on Safe Haven Sunday. The Covenant Eyes' book, *Equipped: Smart Catholic Parenting in a Sexualized Culture* is an excellent resource for parents of school-age children. Another resource is "Raising Chaste Children" which is part of the *Create in Me a Clean Heart* materials available from the USCCB. Copies of these resources, as well as an order form to purchase the materials to distribute in your parishes, are enclosed. Please complete and submit the order form to the Office of Marriage and Family no later than **December 1, 2018**.

We are very concerned about marriages and families in the Diocese of Saint Cloud with the many threats they face in today's culture. Together let us assist them in dealing with this evil. Thank you for your ministry, may God bless you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Donald J. Kettler
Donald J. Kettler
Bishop of Saint Cloud

Enclosures: *Equipped: Smart Catholic Parenting in a Sexualized Culture*
Raising Chaste Children
Book Order Form - Due December 1, 2018
Safe Haven Implementation Guide