



Diocese of Davenport

Office of the Bishop

July 2020

Dear Pastors, Principal, DREs and Youth Ministers,

With this letter I hereby endorse the *Empowering God's Children - Teaching Safety* safe environment program and curriculum for all grades PreK-12 in the Diocese of Davenport. This curriculum is to be used in all Catholic schools and Faith Formation programs in the Diocese.

The Office of Safe Environment officially adopted *Empowering God's Children - Teaching Safety* in the fall of 2018. *Teaching Safety* helps contribute to the protection of our young children as well as our high school students. *Teaching Safety* affirms that the parents and students are loved by God and all are to be respected.

I am grateful to all of our teachers and catechists who work so diligently for the safety of our children and youth. The ongoing support of the schools and parishes is a blessing to our diocese. Know that I realize the countless hours the administrators, educators, DREs and Youth Ministers put in to maintain a safe environment for all of our children. May all who minister to our youth be blessed by our loving God.

Yours in Christ,

+ *Thomas R. Zinkula*

Most Rev. Thomas R. Zinkula
Bishop of Davenport