



## DIOCESE OF ST. CATHARINES

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### **Announcement**

**6 May 2021 – ST. CATHARINES, ON** - Today, the Bishops of Canada launch a national, bilingual *Canadian Reporting System for Sexual Abuse or Cover-up by a Catholic Bishop*. This new reporting system is a direct response to Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter, *Vos estis lux mundi* (You are the light of the world) in which he calls on all dioceses and eparchies to establish “public, stable and easily accessible systems for submission of reports...” so that reporting practices are updated, clarified and standardized throughout the world, and Church leadership is made more transparent, responsible and accountable.

[ClearView Strategic Partners](#), a Canadian provider of an independent ethics reporting platform has designed this reporting system to receive and transmit to the proper Church authorities reports of sexual abuse, sexual misconduct (e.g., sexual harassment or possession of child pornography) or cover-up by a Catholic Bishop. ClearView provides a secure and confidential platform, allowing a person to make a report anonymously if they so choose, and ensuring all communications are documented and preserved. Individuals can access the reporting system online ([BishopReportingSystem.ca](#)) or via a toll-free number (1-866-892-3737) from anywhere in Canada, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year in English or French.

For general and technical questions about the *Canadian Reporting System for Sexual Abuse or Cover-up by a Catholic Bishop*, contact Lisa Gall, Communications Coordinator, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCCB), by e-mail at [communications@cccbb.ca](mailto:communications@cccbb.ca) or by phone at 613-241-9461, ext. 225.

For questions about safeguarding and responsible ministry in the Diocese of St. Catharines, contact Margaret Jong, Vice-Chancellor, Diocese of St. Catharines, by email at [diocese@saintcd.com](mailto:diocese@saintcd.com) or phone at 905-684-0154, ext. 215.