

OFFICE OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE

BISHOP BURBIDGE'S MESSAGE TO VICTIMS/SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

“DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS
IN CHRIST,

I extend to you and your families my deep sorrow and apology for the abuse you have endured and respectfully ask your forgiveness for the betrayal of trust at the deepest level by those who were meant to protect you.

I particularly express my sorrow to those who have been abused by priests, deacons, consecrated men and women religious, volunteers and lay employees of the Church.

I have a sincere personal commitment to address the spiritual and emotional well-being of victims and survivors of sexual abuse...It is my hope and prayer that you find solace and support in this Victim Assistance program, and by the prayers and Masses that will be offered for you.”

*200 North Glebe Road
Suite 605
Arlington, VA 22203*

Phone Number
(703) 841-2530

Fax
(703) 778-9119

victimassistance@arlingtondiocese.org

Frank J. Moncher, PhD
Victim Assistance Coordinator (VAC)

Alejandra Shapero, MA
Program Assistant



www.arlingtondiocese.org/victim-assistance



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARLINGTON

OFFICE OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE



*Hope & Healing for
Victims/Survivors of Sexual Abuse
in the Church*

“Fear not, for I am with you...I will strengthen you, and help you, and uphold you...”

Isaiah 41:10

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ARLINGTON'S OFFICE OF VICTIM ASSISTANCE

In 2003, under the leadership of Bishop Emeritus Loverde, the Office of Victim Assistance was established to respond to the needs of victims/survivors of the Diocese of Arlington. These efforts continue under Bishop Burbidge.

The Office of Victim Assistance seeks to extend the loving compassion of Christ to victims/survivors of child sexual abuse throughout their healing process.

If you are, or someone you know is, a victim/survivor of child sexual abuse by clergy, an employee, or a volunteer of the Diocese of Arlington, please contact the office to report an allegation and receive comprehensive assistance.

HOPE FOR HEALING

The Office of Victim Assistance offers outreach, support, and assistance to victims/survivors to address individual needs for healing.

- Help with reporting to the proper authorities
- Referrals for spiritual direction
- Referrals for therapy
- Sharing groups
- Prayer services and Masses for Healing
- Educational presentations
- Annual Spiritual Retreats
- Opportunity to meet with Bishop Burbidge

On behalf of the Diocese of Arlington, we apologize for the pain you have endured. Please know you are not alone. The abuse you suffered was not your fault and we are here for you.

Please contact our office to speak to our staff about how we may help.



All communications received by the Office of Victim Assistance will be provided to the appropriate Church authorities and, as warranted, to civil authorities. Otherwise, communications will be kept confidential and private.