



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bishop Lohse releases statement on Michigan Attorney General Report

KALAMAZOO, Mich.: (January 8, 2024): Bishop Edward M. Lohse issued the following statement today in light of the release of the report from the Michigan Attorney General's office on the Diocese of Gaylord.

"Before all else, I want to extend a word of compassion to all victims/survivors of sexual abuse, here in the Diocese of Kalamazoo and elsewhere. Sexual abuse is always wrong, and it is especially reprehensible when it is perpetrated by someone in the employment of the Church. We pray for all who have been affected by clergy sexual abuse and for their continued healing.

"Today, as the release of the second diocesan report on the Diocese of Gaylord is made public, we take the occasion to reaffirm our own diocesan commitment to cooperate fully with the state Attorney General's office in its investigation into the Diocese of Kalamazoo. Anyone with information related to clergy sexual misconduct should call the reporting number set up by the Attorney General's Office at 844-324-3374.

"Additionally, anyone dealing with the painful effects of child sexual abuse or other childhood trauma is encouraged to consider contacting our [diocesan Trauma Recovery Program](#) an internationally recognized program that has assisted more than 500 people in their healing from childhood trauma-related incidents since 2002.

"The Diocese of Kalamazoo remains diligent in adhering to our policies and procedures to protect all God's people from predators. These efforts include the ongoing training and background checks of more than 18,000 people since 2002, including all clergy, diocesan and parish employees and volunteers who work with children and vulnerable adults.

"Let us all renew our commitment to work together for the day when child sexual abuse everywhere will be eliminated from our land."