Thank you for your email.

Bishop Knestout is committed to ensuring the protection of God’s children within the ministry of the Church of Richmond. He continues to express his deepest apologies on behalf of the Church to those who have ever been abused by a member of the clergy. Such abuse is unforgettable, and many victims carry that burden with them throughout their lives.

The Diocese of Richmond has made several resources available through our pastor and the parish staff that may address the points you raise in your email. From our experience, these resources aim to help us to persevere, restore hope in the face of scandal, and encourage us in the work of renewal of the Church. If you would like to learn more about these resources or schedule an appointment to speak with our pastor or a member of our parish staff, please let us know.

The Catholic Diocese of Richmond urges individuals who have been sexually abused by a priest, deacon, religious, lay employee or volunteer of the Diocese to report abuse directly to law enforcement, including Child Protective Services (CPS) at 1-800-552-7096, and by calling the Attorney General’s Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064.

We also encourage individuals to contact the 24-hour confidential Victim’s Assistance Reporting number at 1-877-887-9603 or email vac@richmonddiocese.org to report sexual abuse.

If you have questions about this list or the Diocese’s response to the sexual abuse crisis, please send an email to: PastoralResponse@richmonddiocese.org.

Thank you again for your email, and let us keep each other in prayer during this time.