

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Statement from the Archdiocese of St. Louis Regarding the Vatican's Release of the McCarrick Report

ST. LOUIS – The Archdiocese of St. Louis is saddened by the immoral acts of manipulation and coercion by former cleric Theodore McCarrick, as detailed in the report just released by the Vatican. It is painful to see how someone in McCarrick's position within God's Holy Church could carry out criminal acts against those entrusted to his care.

The prayers and hope throughout the Archdiocese of St. Louis is that this report, commissioned by Pope Francis, will lead to healing for all victims of abuse.

The archdiocese's Safe Environment Program requires all clergy and adult employees and volunteers who work with or near minors and/or vulnerable adults to attend a Protecting God's Children workshop and complete online training updates every three years; read and sign the archdiocese's *Code of Ethical Conduct for Clergy, Employees, and Volunteers Working in Ministry*; and complete a national criminal record check and agree to regular screening updates. More information on these and all measures to protect children and vulnerable adults in the Archdiocese of St. Louis can be found here.

Additionally, the archdiocese is required to follow *Vos estis lux mundi*, a policy issued by Pope Francis implementing new norms for addressing bishops accused of abuse or misconduct. Anyone wishing to make a complaint against a bishop of sexual abuse or other related misconduct as set forth below may make such a report at ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling toll-free **I-800-276-1562**.

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