

Prospetto sinottico delle due versioni in lingua inglese del motu proprio *Vos estis lux mundi*

Versione del 7 maggio 2019	Versione del 25 marzo 2023
<p><i>"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden"</i>(Mt 5:14). Our Lord Jesus Christ calls every believer to be a shining example of virtue, integrity and holiness. All of us, in fact, are called to give concrete witness of faith in Christ in our lives and, in particular, in our relationship with others.</p> <p>The crimes of sexual abuse offend Our Lord, cause physical, psychological and spiritual damage to the victims and harm the community of the faithful. In order that these phenomena, in all their forms, never happen again, a continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church, so that personal sanctity and moral commitment can contribute to promoting the full credibility of the Gospel message and the effectiveness of the Church's mission. This becomes possible only with the grace of the Holy Spirit poured into our hearts, as we must always keep in mind the words of Jesus: <i>"Apart from me you can do nothing"</i>(Jn 15:5). Even if so much has already been accomplished, we must continue to learn from the bitter lessons of the past, looking with hope towards the future.</p> <p>This responsibility falls, above all, on the successors of the Apostles, chosen by God to be pastoral leaders of his People, and demands from them a commitment to follow closely the path of the Divine Master. Because of their ministry, in fact, Bishops, <i>"as vicars and legates of Christ, govern the particular churches entrusted to them by their counsel, exhortations, example, and even by their authority and sacred power, which indeed they use only for the edification of their flock in truth and holiness, remembering that he who is greater should become as the lesser and he who is the chief become as the servant"</i>(Second Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution <i>Lumen Gentium</i>, 27). What more closely concerns the successors of the Apostles concerns all those who, in various ways, assume ministries in the Church, or profess the evangelical counsels, or are called to serve the</p>	<p><i>"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden"</i> (Mt 5:14). Our Lord Jesus Christ calls every believer to be a shining example of virtue, integrity and holiness. All of us, in fact, are called to give concrete witness of faith in Christ in our lives and, in particular, in our relationship with others.</p> <p>The crimes of sexual abuse offend Our Lord, cause physical, psychological and spiritual damage to the victims and harm the community of the faithful. In order that these phenomena, in all their forms, never happen again, a continuous and profound conversion of hearts is needed, attested by concrete and effective actions that involve everyone in the Church, so that personal sanctity and moral commitment can contribute to promoting the full credibility of the Gospel message and the effectiveness of the Church's mission. This becomes possible only with the grace of the Holy Spirit poured into our hearts, as we must always keep in mind the words of Jesus: <i>"Apart from me you can do nothing"</i> (Jn 15:5). Even if so much has already been accomplished, we must continue to learn from the bitter lessons of the past, looking with hope towards the future.</p> <p>This responsibility falls, above all, on the successors of the Apostles, chosen by God to be pastoral leaders of his People, and demands from them a commitment to follow closely the path of the Divine Master. Because of their ministry, in fact, Bishops, <i>"as vicars and legates of Christ, govern the particular churches entrusted to them by their counsel, exhortations, example, and even by their authority and sacred power, which indeed they use only for the edification of their flock in truth and holiness, remembering that he who is greater should become as the lesser and he who is the chief become as the servant"</i> (Second Vatican Council, Dogmatic Constitution <i>Lumen Gentium</i>, 27). What more closely concerns the successors of the Apostles concerns all those who, in various ways, assume ministries in the Church, or profess the evangelical counsels, or are called to serve the</p>

<p>Christian People. Therefore, it is good that procedures be universally adopted to prevent and combat these crimes that betray the trust of the faithful.</p> <p>I desire that this commitment be implemented in a fully ecclesial manner, so that it may express the communion that keeps us united, in mutual listening and open to the contributions of those who care deeply about this process of conversion.</p> <p>Therefore, I decree:</p>	<p>Christian People. Therefore, it is good that procedures be universally adopted to prevent and combat these crimes that betray the trust of the faithful.</p> <p><u>To this end, on May 7, 2019, I promulgated an apostolic letter in the form of a Motu Proprio containing norms ad experimentum for a three-year period.</u></p> <p><u>Now, after the stipulated time has passed,</u></p> <p><u>having considered the observations received from the Bishops' Conferences and the Dicasteries of the Roman Curia, having evaluated the experience of these years, in order to foster a better application of what has been established,</u></p> <p><u>without prejudice to the provisions of the Code of Canon Law and the Code of Canons of the Eastern Churches on criminal and procedural matters,</u></p> <p>I decree:</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TITLE I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GENERAL PROVISIONS</p> <p>Art. 1 – Scope of application</p> <p>§1. These norms apply to reports regarding clerics or members of Institutes of Consecrated Life or Societies of Apostolic Life and concerning:</p> <p>a) delicts against the sixth commandment of the Decalogue consisting of:</p> <p>i. forcing someone, by violence or threat or through abuse of authority, to perform or submit to sexual acts;</p> <p>ii. performing sexual acts with a minor or a vulnerable person;</p> <p>iii. the production, exhibition, possession or distribution, including by electronic means, of</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TITLE I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GENERAL PROVISIONS</p> <p>Art. 1 – Scope of application</p> <p>§1. These norms apply to reports regarding clerics or members of Institutes of Consecrated Life or Societies of Apostolic Life <u>and to the moderators of international associations of the faithful recognized or erected by the Apostolic See</u> concerning:</p> <p>a)</p> <p><u>* a crime against the sixth commandment of the decalogue committed with violence or threat or through abuse of authority, or in forcing someone to perform or undergo sexual acts;</u></p> <p><u>** a crime against the sixth</u></p>

<p>child pornography, as well as by the recruitment of or inducement of a minor or a vulnerable person to participate in pornographic exhibitions;</p> <p>b) conduct carried out by the subjects referred to in article 6, consisting of actions or omissions intended to interfere with or avoid civil investigations or canonical investigations, whether administrative or penal, against a cleric or a religious regarding the delicts referred to in letter a) of this paragraph.</p> <p>§2. For the purposes of these norms,</p> <p>a) "<i>minor</i>" means: any person under the age of eighteen, or who is considered by law to be the equivalent of a minor;</p> <p>b) "<i>vulnerable person</i>" means: any person in a state of infirmity, physical or mental deficiency, or deprivation of personal liberty which, in fact, even occasionally, limits their ability to understand or to want or otherwise resist the offence;</p> <p>c) "<i>child pornography</i>" means: any representation of a minor, regardless of the means used, involved in explicit sexual activities, whether real or simulated, and any representation of sexual organs of minors for primarily sexual purposes.</p>	<p><u>commandment of the decalogue committed with a minor or with a person who habitually has an imperfect use of reason or with a vulnerable adult;</u></p> <p><u>*** the immoral purchase, conservation, exhibition or disclosure, in any way and with any means, of pornographic images of minors or of people who habitually have an imperfect use of reason;</u></p> <p><u>**** the recruitment or inducement of a minor or a person who habitually has an imperfect use of reason or a vulnerable adult to display himself pornographically or to participate in real or simulated pornographic exhibitions;</u></p> <p>b) conduct carried out by the subjects referred to in article 6, consisting of actions or omissions intended to interfere with or avoid civil investigations or canonical investigations, whether administrative or penal, against <u>one of the subjects referred to in the previous § 1 in this regard the crimes referred to in letter a) of this paragraph.</u></p> <p>§ 2. For the purposes of these norms,</p> <p>a) "<i>minor</i>" means: any person under the age of eighteen; <u>the person habitually with imperfect use of reason is equated to the minor;</u></p> <p>b) "<i>vulnerable adult</i>" means: any person in a state of infirmity, physical or mental deficiency, or deprivation of personal liberty which, in fact, even occasionally, limits their ability to understand or to want or otherwise resist the offense ;</p> <p>c) "<u>child pornography material</u>" means: any representation of a minor, regardless of the means used, involved in explicit sexual activities, whether real or simulated, and any representation of sexual organs of minors for purposes <u>of lust or profit.</u></p>
<p>Art. 2 – Reception of reports and data protection</p> <p>§1. Taking into account the provisions that</p>	<p>Art. 2 – Reception of reports and data protection</p> <p>§ 1. Taking into account the provisions that</p>

<p>may be adopted by the respective Episcopal Conferences, by the Synods of the Bishops of the Patriarchal Churches and the Major Archiepiscopal Churches, or by the Councils of Hierarchs of the Metropolitan Churches <i>sui iuris</i>, the Dioceses or the Eparchies, individually or together, must establish within a year from the entry into force of these norms, one or more public, stable and easily accessible systems for submission of reports, even through the institution of a specific ecclesiastical office. The Dioceses and the Eparchies shall inform the Pontifical Representative of the establishment of the systems referred to in this paragraph.</p> <p>§2. The information referred to in this article is protected and treated in such a way as to guarantee its safety, integrity and confidentiality pursuant to canons 471, 2° CIC and 244 §2, 2° CCEO.</p> <p>§3. Except as provided for by article 3 §3, the Ordinary who received the report shall transmit it without delay to the Ordinary of the place where the events are said to have occurred, as well as to the Ordinary of the person reported, who proceed according to the law provided for the specific case.</p> <p>§4. For the purposes of this title, Eparchies are equated with Dioceses and the Hierarch is equated with the Ordinary.</p>	<p>may be adopted by the respective Episcopal Conferences, by the Synods of the Bishops of the Patriarchal Churches and of the Major Archiepiscopal Churches, or by the Councils of Hierarchs of the Metropolitan Churches <i>sui iuris</i>, the Dioceses or the Eparchies, individually or together, must <u>be provided with offices easily accessible to the public for receiving reports. Reports must be submitted to these ecclesiastical bodies or offices.</u></p> <p>§ 2. The information referred to in this article is protected and treated in such a way as to guarantee its safety, integrity and confidentiality pursuant to canons 471, 2° CIC and 244 §2, 2° CCEO.</p> <p>§ 3. Except as provided for by article 3 § 3, the Ordinary who received the report shall transmit it without delay to the Ordinary of the place where the events are said to have occurred, as well as to the Ordinary of the person reported. <u>Unless otherwise agreed between the two Ordinaries, it is the duty of the Ordinary of the place where the events would have occurred to proceed in accordance with the law according</u> to what is provided for the specific case.</p> <p>§ 4. For the purposes of this title, Eparchies are equated with Dioceses and the Hierarch is equated with the Ordinary.</p>
<p>Art. 3 – Reporting</p> <p>§1. Except as provided for by canons 1548 §2 CIC and 1229 §2 CCEO, whenever a cleric or a member of an Institute of Consecrated Life or of a Society of Apostolic Life has notice of, or well-founded motives to believe that, one of the facts referred to in article 1 has been committed, that person is obliged to report promptly the fact to the local Ordinary where the events are said to have occurred or to another Ordinary among those referred to in canons 134 CIC and 984 CCEO, except for what is established by §3 of the present article.</p> <p>§2. Any person can submit a report concerning the conduct referred to in article 1,</p>	<p>Art. 3 – Reporting</p> <p>§ 1. <u>Except in the case of knowledge of the news by a cleric in the exercise of his ministry in the internal forum,</u> whenever a cleric or a member of an Institute of Consecrated Life or of a Society of Apostolic Life has notice of, or well-founded motives to believe that, one of the facts referred to in article 1 has been committed, that person is obliged to report promptly the fact to the local Ordinary where the events are said to have occurred or to another Ordinary among those referred to in canons 134 CIC and 984 CCEO, except for what is established by §3 of the present article.</p> <p>§ 2. Any person, <u>especially the lay faithful</u></p>

<p>using the methods referred to in the preceding article, or by any other appropriate means.</p> <p>§3. When the report concerns one of the persons indicated in article 6, it is to be addressed to the Authority identified based upon articles 8 and 9. The report can always be sent to the Holy See directly or through the Pontifical Representative.</p> <p>§4. The report shall include as many particulars as possible, such as indications of time and place of the facts, of the persons involved or informed, as well as any other circumstance that may be useful in order to ensure an accurate assessment of the facts.</p> <p>§5. Information can also be acquired <i>ex officio</i>.</p>	<p><u>who hold offices or exercise ministries in the Church</u>, can submit a report concerning the conduct referred to in article 1, using the methods referred to in the preceding article, or by any other appropriate means.</p> <p>§ 3. When the report concerns one of the persons indicated in article 6, it is to be addressed to the Authority identified based upon articles 8 and 9. The report can always be sent to <u>the competent Dicastery</u> directly or through the Pontifical Representative. <u>In the first case, the Dicastery informs the Pontifical Representative.</u></p> <p>§ 4. The report shall include as many particulars as possible, such as indications of time and place of the facts, of the persons involved or informed, as well as any other circumstance that may be useful in order to ensure an accurate assessment of the facts.</p> <p>§ 5. Information can also be acquired <i>ex officio</i>.</p>
<p>Art. 4 – Protection of the person submitting the report</p> <p>§1. Making a report pursuant to article 3 shall not constitute a violation of office confidentiality.</p> <p>§2. Except as provided for by canons 1390 CIC and 1452 and 1454 CCEO, prejudice, retaliation or discrimination as a consequence of having submitted a report is prohibited and may constitute the conduct referred to in article 1 §1, letter b).</p> <p>§3. An obligation to keep silent may not be imposed on any person with regard to the contents of his or her report.</p>	<p>Art. 4 – Protection of the person submitting the report</p> <p>§ 1. Making a report pursuant to article 3 shall not constitute a violation of office confidentiality.</p> <p>§ 2. Except as provided for by canons 1390 CIC and 1452 and 1454 CCEO, prejudice, retaliation or discrimination as a consequence of having submitted a report is prohibited and may constitute the conduct referred to in article 1 §1, letter b).</p> <p>§ 3. Whoever makes a report, <u>the person who claims to have been offended and the witnesses</u> cannot be imposed any obligation of silence regarding the content of the report, <u>without prejudice to the provisions of art. 5 § 2.</u></p>
<p>Art. 5 – Care for persons</p> <p>§1. The ecclesiastical Authorities shall commit themselves to ensuring that those who state that they have been harmed, together with their families, are to be treated with dignity</p>	<p>Art. 5 – Care for persons</p> <p>§ 1. The ecclesiastical Authorities shall commit themselves to ensuring that those who state that they have been harmed, together with their families, are to be treated with dignity and respect, and, in particular, are to</p>

<p>and respect, and, in particular, are to be:</p> <p>a) welcomed, listened to and supported, including through provision of specific services;</p> <p>b) offered spiritual assistance;</p> <p>c) offered medical assistance, including therapeutic and psychological assistance, as required by the specific case.</p> <p>§2. The good name and the privacy of the persons involved, as well as the confidentiality of their personal data, shall be protected.</p>	<p>be:</p> <p>a) welcomed, listened to and supported, including through provision of specific services;</p> <p>b) offered spiritual assistance;</p> <p>c) offered medical assistance, including therapeutic and psychological assistance, as required by the specific case.</p> <p>§ 2. <u>However, the legitimate protection of good reputation</u> and the privacy of all persons involved, as well as the confidentiality of personal data <u>must be safeguarded. The presumption pursuant to art. 13 § 7, without prejudice to the provisions of art. 20.</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">TITLE II</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PROVISIONS CONCERNING BISHOPS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND THEIR EQUIVALENTS</p> <p>Art. 6 – Subjective scope of application</p> <p>The procedural norms referred to in this title concern the conduct referred to in article 1, carried out by:</p> <p>a) Cardinals, Patriarchs, Bishops and Legates of the Roman Pontiff;</p> <p>b) clerics who are, or who have been, the pastoral heads of a particular Church or of an entity assimilated to it, Latin or Oriental, including the Personal Ordinariates, for the acts committed <i>durante munere</i>;</p> <p>c) clerics who are or who have been in the past leaders of a Personal Prelature, for the acts committed <i>durante munere</i>;</p> <p>d) those who are, or who have been, supreme moderators of Institutes of Consecrated Life or of Societies of Apostolic Life of Pontifical right, as well as of monasteries <i>sui iuris</i>, with respect to the acts committed <i>durante munere</i>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TITLE II</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PROVISIONS CONCERNING BISHOPS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AND THEIR EQUIVALENTS</p> <p>Art. 6 – Subjective scope of application</p> <p>The procedural norms referred to in this title concern the <u>crimes</u> and the conduct referred to in article 1, carried out by:</p> <p>a) Cardinals, Patriarchs, Bishops and Legates of the Roman Pontiff;</p> <p>b) clerics who are, or who have been, the pastoral heads of a particular Church or of an entity assimilated to it, Latin or Oriental, including the Personal Ordinariates, for the acts committed <i>durante munere</i>;</p> <p>c) clerics who are or who have been in the past leaders of a Personal Prelature, for the acts committed <i>durante munere</i>;</p> <p><u>d) clerics who are or have been at the head of a public clerical association with the faculty of incardinating, for acts committed <i>durante munere</i>;</u></p> <p>e) those who are, or who have been, supreme moderators of Institutes of Consecrated Life or</p>

	<p>of Societies of Apostolic Life of Pontifical right, as well as of monasteries <i>sui iuris</i>, with respect to the acts committed <i>durante munere</i>;</p> <p><u>f) lay faithful who are or have been moderators of international associations of the faithful recognized or erected by the Apostolic See, for acts committed <i>durante munere</i>.</u></p>
<p>Art. 7 – Competent Dicastery</p> <p>§1. For the purposes of this title, “competent Dicastery” means the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, regarding the delicts reserved to it by the norms in force, as well as, in all other cases and as far as their respective jurisdiction is concerned, based on the proper law of the Roman Curia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Congregation for the Oriental Churches; - the Congregation for Bishops; - the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples; - the Congregation for the Clergy; - the Congregation for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life. <p>§2. In order to ensure the best coordination, the competent Dicastery informs the Secretariat of State, and the other Dicasteries directly concerned, of the report and the outcome of the investigation.</p> <p>§3. The communications referred to in this title between the Metropolitan and the Holy See take place through the Pontifical Representative.</p>	<p>Art. 7 – Competent Dicastery</p> <p>§ 1. For the purposes of this title, “competent Dicastery” means the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, regarding the delicts reserved to it by the norms in force, as well as, in all other cases and as far as their respective jurisdiction is concerned, based on the proper law of the Roman Curia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – <u>the Dicastery</u> for the Oriental Churches; – <u>the Dicastery</u> for Bishops; – <u>the Dicastery</u> for the Evangelization of Peoples; – <u>the Dicastery</u> for the Clergy; – <u>the Dicastery</u> for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life; – <u>the Dicastery for the Laity, Family and Life.</u> <p>§ 2. In order to ensure the best coordination, the competent Dicastery informs the Secretariat of State, and the other Dicasteries directly concerned, of the report and the outcome of the investigation.</p> <p>§ 3. The communications referred to in this title between the Metropolitan and the Holy See take place through the Pontifical Representative.</p>
Art. 8 – Procedure applicable in the event of a report concerning a Bishop of the	Art. 8 – Procedure applicable in the event of a report concerning a Bishop of

<p>Latin Church</p> <p>§1. The Authority that receives a report transmits it both to the Holy See and to the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province where the person reported is domiciled.</p> <p>§2. If the report concerns the Metropolitan, or the Metropolitan See is vacant, it shall be forwarded to the Holy See, as well as to the senior suffragan Bishop by promotion, to whom, if such is the case, the following provisions regarding the Metropolitan apply.</p> <p>§3. In the event that the report concerns a Papal Legate, it shall be transmitted directly to the Secretariat of State.</p>	<p><u>the Latin Church and other subjects pursuant to art. 6</u></p> <p>§ 1. The Authority that receives a report transmits it both to the <u>competent Dicastery</u> and to the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province where the person reported is domiciled.</p> <p>§ 2. If the report concerns the Metropolitan, or the Metropolitan See is vacant, it shall be forwarded to the Holy See, as well as to the senior suffragan Bishop by promotion, to whom, if such is the case, the following provisions regarding the Metropolitan apply. <u>Similarly, the report concerning those who are in the pastoral leadership of ecclesiastical circumscriptions immediately subject to the same Holy See is forwarded to the Holy See.</u></p> <p>§ 3. In the event that the report concerns a Papal Legate, it shall be transmitted directly to the Secretariat of State.</p>
<p>Art. 9 – Procedure applicable to Bishops of Eastern Catholic Churches</p> <p>§1. Reports concerning a Bishop of a Patriarchal, Major Archiepiscopal or Metropolitan Church <i>sui iuris</i> shall be forwarded to the respective Patriarch, Major Archbishop or Metropolitan of the Church <i>sui iuris</i>.</p> <p>§2. If the report concerns a Metropolitan of a Patriarchal or Major Archiepiscopal Church, who exercises his office within the territory of these Churches, it is forwarded to the respective Patriarch or Major Archbishop.</p> <p>§3. In the preceding cases, the Authority who receives the report shall also forward it to the Holy See.</p> <p>§4. If the person reported is a Bishop or a Metropolitan outside the territory of the Patriarchal, the Major Archiepiscopal or the Metropolitan Church <i>sui iuris</i>, the report shall be forwarded to the Holy See.</p> <p>§5. In the event that the report concerns a</p>	<p>Art. 9 – Procedure applicable to Bishops of Eastern Catholic Churches <u>and other subjects pursuant to art. 6</u></p> <p>§ 1. Reports concerning a Bishop, <u>or an equivalent person,</u> of a Patriarchal, Major Archiepiscopal or Metropolitan Church <i>sui iuris</i> shall be forwarded to the respective Patriarch, Major Archbishop or Metropolitan of the Church <i>sui iuris</i>.</p> <p>§ 2. If the report concerns a Metropolitan of a Patriarchal or Major Archiepiscopal Church, who exercises his office within the territory of these Churches, it is forwarded to the respective Patriarch or Major Archbishop.</p> <p>§ 3. In the preceding cases, the Authority who receives the report shall also forward it to the <u>Dicastery for the Oriental Churches.</u></p> <p>§ 4. If the person reported is a Bishop or Metropolitan outside the territory of the Patriarchal, the Major Archiepiscopal or the Metropolitan Church <i>sui iuris</i>, the report shall be forwarded to the <u>Dicastery for the Oriental Churches which, if it deems it</u></p>

<p>Patriarch, a Major Archbishop, a Metropolitan of a Church <i>sui iuris</i> or a Bishop of the other Eastern Catholic Churches <i>sui iuris</i>, it shall be forwarded to the Holy See.</p> <p>§ 6. The following provisions relating to the Metropolitan apply to the ecclesiastical Authority to which the report is to be forwarded based on this article.</p>	<p><u>appropriate, informs the Patriarch, Major Archbishop or the competent Metropolitan <i>sui iuris</i>.</u></p> <p>§ 5. In the event that the report concerns a Patriarch, a Major Archbishop, a Metropolitan of a Church <i>sui iuris</i> or a Bishop of the other Eastern Catholic Churches <i>sui iuris</i>, it shall be forwarded to the <u>Dicastery for the Oriental Churches.</u></p> <p>§ 6. The following provisions relating to the Metropolitan apply to the ecclesiastical Authority to which the report is to be forwarded based on this article.</p>
	<p><u>Art. 10 – Procedure applicable to Supreme Moderators of Institutes of Consecrated Life or Societies of Apostolic Life</u></p> <p><u>If the notification concerns those who are or have been Supreme Moderators of Institutes of Consecrated Life or Societies of Apostolic Life of Pontifical Right, as well as of monasteries <i>sui iuris</i> present in the Urbe and in the suburban Dioceses, it is forwarded to the competent Dicastery.</u></p>
<p>Art. 10 – Initial duties of the Metropolitan</p> <p>§1. Unless the report is manifestly unfounded, the Metropolitan immediately requests, from the competent Dicastery, that he be assigned to commence the investigation. If the Metropolitan considers the report manifestly unfounded, he shall so inform the Pontifical Representative.</p> <p>§2. The Dicastery shall proceed without delay, and in any case within thirty days from the receipt of the first report by the Pontifical Representative or the request for the assignment by the Metropolitan, providing the appropriate instructions on how to proceed in the specific case.</p>	<p><u>Art. 11 – Initial duties of the Metropolitan</u></p> <p><u>§ 1. The Metropolitan who receives the report immediately requests the competent Dicastery to initiate the investigation.</u></p> <p>§ 2. The Dicastery shall proceed <u>promptly,</u> and in any case within thirty days from the receipt of the first report by the Pontifical Representative or the request for the assignment by the Metropolitan, providing the appropriate instructions on how to proceed in the specific case.</p> <p><u>§ 3. If the Metropolitan deems the report manifestly unfounded, through the Pontifical Representative, he informs the competent Dicastery and unless otherwise provided by the latter, orders</u></p>

	<u>its archiving.</u>
<p>Art. 11 – Entrusting the investigation to a person other than the Metropolitan</p> <p>§1. If the competent Dicastery considers it appropriate to entrust the investigation to a person other than the Metropolitan, the Metropolitan is so informed. The Metropolitan delivers all relevant information and documents to the person appointed by the Dicastery.</p> <p>§2. In the case referred to in the previous paragraph, the following provisions relating to the Metropolitan apply to the person charged with conducting the investigation.</p>	<p>Art. 12 – Entrusting the investigation to a person other than the Metropolitan</p> <p>§ 1. If the competent Dicastery, <u>having heard the Pontifical Representative,</u> considers it appropriate to entrust the investigation to a person other than the Metropolitan, the Metropolitan is so informed. The Metropolitan delivers all relevant information and documents to the person appointed by the Dicastery.</p> <p>§ 2. In the case referred to in the previous paragraph, the following provisions relating to the Metropolitan apply to the person charged with conducting the investigation.</p>
<p>Art. 12 – Carrying out the investigation</p> <p>§1. Once he has been appointed by the competent Dicastery and acting in compliance with the instructions received, the Metropolitan, either personally or through one or more suitable persons:</p> <p>a) collects relevant information regarding the facts;</p> <p>b) accesses the information and documents necessary for the purpose of the investigation kept in the archives of ecclesiastical offices;</p> <p>c) obtains the cooperation of other Ordinaries or Hierarchs whenever necessary;</p> <p>d) requests information from individuals and institutions, including civil institutions, that are able to provide useful elements for the investigation.</p> <p>§2. If it is necessary to hear from a minor or a vulnerable person, the Metropolitan shall adopt appropriate procedures, which take into account their status.</p> <p>§3. In the event that there are well-founded motives to conclude that information or documents concerning the investigation are at risk of being removed or destroyed, the Metropolitan shall take the necessary measures for their preservation.</p>	<p>Art. 13 – Carrying out the investigation</p> <p>§ 1. Once he has been appointed by the competent Dicastery and acting in compliance with the instructions received <u>on the way to proceed,</u> the Metropolitan, either personally or through one or more suitable persons:</p> <p>a) collects relevant information regarding the facts;</p> <p>b) accesses the information and documents necessary for the purpose of the investigation kept in the archives of ecclesiastical offices;</p> <p>c) obtains the cooperation of other Ordinaries or Hierarchs whenever necessary;</p> <p>d) requests information, <u>if it deems it appropriate and in compliance with the provisions of § 7 below,</u> from individuals and institutions, including civil institutions, that are able to provide useful elements for the investigation.</p> <p>§ 2. If it is necessary to hear a minor or a vulnerable adult, the Metropolitan adopts appropriate procedures, which take into account <u>their condition and the laws of the State.</u></p> <p>§ 3. In the event that there are well-founded motives to conclude that information or documents concerning the investigation are at risk of being removed or destroyed, the</p>

<p>§4. Even when making use of other persons, the Metropolitan nevertheless remains responsible for the direction and conduct of the investigation, as well as for the timely execution of the instructions referred to in article 10 §2.</p> <p>§5. The Metropolitan shall be assisted by a notary freely appointed pursuant to canons 483 §2 CIC and 253 §2 CCEO.</p> <p>§6. The Metropolitan is required to act impartially and free of conflicts of interest. If he considers himself to be in a conflict of interest or is unable to maintain the necessary impartiality to guarantee the integrity of the investigation, he is obliged to recuse himself and report the circumstance to the competent Dicastery.</p> <p>§7. The person under investigation enjoys the presumption of innocence.</p> <p>§8. The Metropolitan, if requested by the competent Dicastery, informs the person of the investigation concerning him/her, hears his/her account of the facts and invites him/her to present a brief in defence. In such cases, the investigated person may be assisted by legal counsel.</p> <p>§9. Every thirty days, the Metropolitan sends a status report on the state of the investigation to the competent Dicastery.</p>	<p>Metropolitan shall take the necessary measures for their preservation.</p> <p>§ 4. Even when making use of other persons, the Metropolitan nevertheless remains responsible for the direction and conduct of the investigation, as well as for the timely execution of the instructions referred to in article <u>11 § 2.</u></p> <p>§5. The Metropolitan shall be assisted by a notary freely appointed pursuant to canons 483 §2 CIC and 253 §2 CCEO.</p> <p>§6. The Metropolitan is required to act impartially and free of conflicts of interest. If he considers himself to be in a conflict of interest or is unable to maintain the necessary impartiality to guarantee the integrity of the investigation, he is obliged to recuse himself and report the circumstance to the competent Dicastery.</p> <p><u>Equally, anyone who believes there is a conflict of interest in the case is required to contact the competent Dicastery.</u></p> <p>§ 7. The person under investigation enjoys <u>always</u> the presumption of innocence <u>and the legitimate protection of his good reputation.</u></p> <p>§ 8. The Metropolitan, if requested by the competent Dicastery, informs the person of the investigation concerning him/her, hears his/her account of the facts and invites him/her to present a brief in defence. In such cases, the investigated person may be assisted by legal counsel.</p> <p>§ 9. <u>Periodically, according to the indications received,</u> the Metropolitan sends a status report on the state of the investigation to the competent Dicastery.</p>
<p>Art. 13 – Involvement of qualified persons</p> <p>§1. In accordance with any eventual directives of the Episcopal Conference, of the Synod of Bishops or of the Council of Hierarchs regarding how to assist the Metropolitan in</p>	<p><u>Art. 14</u> – Involvement of qualified persons</p> <p>§ 1. In accordance with any eventual directives of the Episcopal Conference, of the Synod of Bishops or of the Council of Hierarchs regarding how to assist the Metropolitan in</p>

<p>conducting the investigation, the Bishops of the respective Province, individually or together, may establish lists of qualified persons from which the Metropolitan may choose those most suitable to assist in the investigation, according to the needs of the individual case and, in particular, taking into account the cooperation that can be offered by the lay faithful pursuant to canons 228 CIC and 408 CCEO.</p> <p>§2. The Metropolitan, however, is free to choose other equally qualified persons.</p> <p>§3. Any person assisting the Metropolitan in the investigation is required to act impartially and must be free of conflicts of interest. If he considers himself to be in a conflict of interest or be unable to maintain the necessary impartiality required to guarantee the integrity of the investigation, he is obliged to recuse himself and report the circumstances to the Metropolitan.</p> <p>§4. The persons assisting the Metropolitan shall take an oath to fulfil their charge properly.</p>	<p>conducting the investigation, <u>it is very convenient that</u> the Bishops of the respective Province, individually or together, establish lists of qualified persons from which the Metropolitan may choose those most suitable to assist in the investigation, according to the needs of the individual case and, in particular, taking into account the cooperation that can be offered by the lay faithful pursuant to canons 228 CIC and 408 CCEO.</p> <p>§ 2. The Metropolitan, however, is free to choose other equally qualified persons.</p> <p>§3. Any person assisting the Metropolitan in the investigation is required to act impartially and must be free of conflicts of interest. If he considers himself to be in a conflict of interest or be unable to maintain the necessary impartiality required to guarantee the integrity of the investigation, he is obliged to recuse himself and report the circumstances to the Metropolitan.</p> <p>§ 4. The persons assisting the Metropolitan shall take an oath to fulfil their charge properly, <u>in compliance with the provisions of art. 13 § 7.</u></p>
<p>Art. 14 – Duration of the investigation</p> <p>§1. The investigation is to be completed within the term of ninety days or within a term otherwise provided for by the instructions referred to in article 10 §2.</p> <p>§2. Where there are just reasons, the Metropolitan may request that the competent Dicastery extend the term.</p>	<p><u>Art. 15 – Duration of the investigation</u></p> <p>§ 1. The investigations is to be completed within <u>a short time and in any case within a</u> term otherwise provided for by the instructions referred to in article <u>11</u> § 2.</p> <p>§ 2. Where there are just reasons, <u>and after having sent information on the state of the investigation,</u> the Metropolitan may request that the competent Dicastery extend the term.</p>
<p>Art. 15 - Precautionary measures</p> <p>Should the facts or circumstances require it, the Metropolitan shall propose to the competent Dicastery the adoption of provisions or appropriate precautionary measures with regard to the person under investigation.</p>	<p><u>Art. 16 – Precautionary measures</u></p> <p>Should the facts or circumstances require it, the Metropolitan shall propose to the competent Dicastery the adoption of provisions or appropriate precautionary measures with regard to the person under investigation. <u>The Dicastery adopts the provisions, having</u></p>

	<u>heard the Pontifical Representative.</u>
Art. 16 – Establishment of a fund §1. Ecclesiastical Provinces, Episcopal Conferences, Synods of Bishops and Councils of Hierarchs may create a fund, to be established according to the norms of canons 116 and 1303 §1, 1° CIC and 1047 CCEO and administered according to the norms of canon law, whose purpose is to sustain the costs of the investigations. §2. At the request of the appointed Metropolitan, the funds necessary for the purpose of the investigation are made available to him by the administrator of the fund; the Metropolitan remain duty-bound to present an account to the administrator at the conclusion of the investigation.	<u>Art. 17 – Establishment of a fund</u> § 1. Ecclesiastical Provinces, Episcopal Conferences, Synods of Bishops and Councils of Hierarchs may create a fund, to be established according to the norms of canons 116 and 1303 §1, 1° CIC and 1047 CCEO and administered according to the norms of canon law, whose purpose is to sustain the costs of the investigations. §2. At the request of the appointed Metropolitan, the funds necessary for the purpose of the investigation are made available to him by the administrator of the fund; the Metropolitan remain duty-bound to present an account to the administrator at the conclusion of the investigation.
Art. 17 – Transmission of the documents and the <i>votum</i> §1. Having completed the investigation, the Metropolitan shall transmit the acts to the competent Dicastery, together with his <i>votum</i> regarding the results of the investigation and in response to any queries contained in the instructions issued under article 10 §2. §2. Unless there are further instructions from the competent Dicastery, the faculties of the Metropolitan cease once the investigation is completed. §3. In compliance with the instructions of the competent Dicastery, the Metropolitan, upon request, shall inform the person who has alleged an offence, or his/her legal representatives, of the outcome of the investigation.	<u>Art. 18 – Transmission of the documents and the <i>votum</i></u> § 1. Having completed the investigation, the Metropolitan shall transmit <u>the original of the documents</u> to the competent Dicastery, together with his <i>votum</i> regarding the results of the investigation and in response to any queries contained in the instructions issued under article <u>11</u> § 2. <u>A copy of the documents is kept at the Archive of the competent Pontifical Representative.</u> § 2. Unless there are further instructions from the competent Dicastery, the faculties of the Metropolitan cease once the investigation is completed. § 3. In compliance with the instructions of the competent Dicastery, the Metropolitan, upon request, shall inform the person who has alleged an offence <u>and, where appropriate, the person who made the report</u> or <u>their</u> legal representatives, of the outcome of the investigation.
Art. 18 – Subsequent measures Unless it decides to provide for a	<u>Art. 19 – Subsequent measures</u> Unless it decides to provide for a

supplementary investigation, the competent Dicastery proceeds in accordance with the law provided for the specific case.	supplementary investigation, the competent Dicastery proceeds in accordance with the law provided for the specific case.
<p>Art. 19 – Compliance with state laws</p> <p>These norms apply without prejudice to the rights and obligations established in each place by state laws, particularly those concerning any reporting obligations to the competent civil authorities.</p>	<p>Art. 20 – Compliance with state laws</p> <p>These norms apply without prejudice to the rights and obligations established in each place by state laws, particularly those concerning any reporting obligations to the competent civil authorities.</p>
<p><i>The present norms are approved ad experimentum for three years.</i></p> <p><i>I establish that the present Apostolic Letter in the form of Motu Proprio be promulgated by means of publication in the Osservatore Romano, entering into force on 1 June 2019, and then published in the Acta Apostolicae Sedis.</i></p> <p><i>Given in Rome, at Saint Peter's, on 7 May 2019, the seventh year of my Pontificate.</i></p> <p>FRANCIS</p>	<p><i>I establish that this Apostolic Letter in the form of Motu Proprio be promulgated through publication in L'Osservatore Romano, entering into force on 30 April 2023, and that it be then published in the Acta Apostolicae Sedis. <u>With its entry into force, the previous Apostolic Letter in the form of a Motu Proprio promulgated on 7 May 2019 is repealed.</u></i></p> <p><i>Given in Rome, at Saint Peter's, on 25 March 2023, Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord, eleventh of my Pontificate.</i></p> <p>FRANCIS</p>