

## Archdiocese of Hartford Compliant With Charter Audit for Safety of Children

Hartford, Conn. - (November 11, 2011) An independent audit completed by StoneBridge Business Partners out of Rochester, NY has found that the Archdiocese of Hartford is in compliance with all audited articles within the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People for the 2010-2011 audit period.

The comprehensive on-site audit took place over a span of three days, in which documentation from Archdiocesan parishes was reviewed and church officials, including Archbishop Henry J. Mansell, and various department personnel were interviewed. On-site audits take place every three years, while paper audits are conducted every year.

"The conclusions reached as to the compliance of your Diocese are based upon our inquiry, observation and the review of specifically requested documentation furnished to StoneBridge Business Partners during the course of this audit," stated the letter of compliance.

According to the Archdiocese of Hartford, it is important for the public to know that it is committed to keeping children safe. Its Safe Environment Program requires background checks for all employees and volunteers who have regular contact with children and young people, and includes Virtus training on sexual awareness for all such personnel.

Sister Mary Kelly, CSJ, Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Archdiocese who helped facilitate the audit, wanted to thank Archbishop Mansell, archdiocesan parishes, department heads, and archdiocesan personnel for their cooperation.

"Everyone was eager to help and support this effort to ensure that the safety of our children comes first," she said. "We were confident about our compliance, but it is always reassuring to get an official nod of approval."

For information about the Safe Environment Program visit [www.archdioceseofhartford.org](http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org) <<http://www.archdioceseofhartford.org>>, or to report an incident, contact Sister Mary Kelly at 860-541-6491.