



September 2009

Volunteers across the Archdiocese of Toronto have a long-standing tradition of giving generously of their time and talents to strengthen our community. We must never underestimate the tremendous contribution of these individuals and the critical role they play in providing care, compassion and ongoing support to our family of faith.

As part of our mandate to foster a safe and caring community, since 2001 the Archdiocese has had a policy of screening its volunteers to ensure the protection and safety of the most vulnerable. This practice has now become a standard for most organizations seeking to exercise due diligence and responsible volunteer stewardship,

Our diocesan Volunteer Screening department oversees this important work, conducting the appropriate checks and balances to ensure a safe environment for all those engaged in a variety of important ministries.

The pages of this manual will provide additional insights and helpful information for those engaged in volunteer service to the community. I wish to thank those responsible for coordinating these activities at both the diocesan and parish level.

To all volunteers, who are truly following the gospel call to serve, be assured of my prayers and ongoing gratitude. May your outreach with the Archdiocese of Toronto enhance your own faith journey.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Thomas Card. Collins

Thomas Cardinal Collins,
Archbishop of Toronto