



# Safeguarding Newsletter



ARCHDIOCESE OF CASHEL & EMLY

## CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

As a constituent member of the Catholic Church in Ireland, we recognise and uphold the dignity and rights of all children, are committed to ensuring their safety and well-being, and will work in partnership with parents/guardians to do this. We recognise each child as a gift from God, and we value and encourage the participation of children in all activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development.

All Church personnel (including clergy, religious, staff and volunteers) have a responsibility to safeguard children through promoting their welfare, health and development in a safe and caring environment that supports their best interests and prevents abuse.

## MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP KIERAN O'REILLY

Dear Friends,

The Archdiocese of Cashel and Emly is committed to ensuring that the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults is a priority in our church life. In the diocese we are committed to ensuring safe environments for all who participate in church life through the promotion of best practice in these areas.

I would like to sincerely thank all who give time and energy in our parishes to this area of service. It is much appreciated by our church communities.

I ask all to remain vigilant so that the highest standards are maintained.

With sincere good wishes,

**+Kieran**

## WHAT IS SAFEGUARDING?

Safeguarding is creating safe environments for children and vulnerable adults and those who work with them.

## HOW DOES THE CHURCH SAFEGUARD?

- Parish safeguarding representatives in all parishes
- Clear policies, procedure and guidance
- Child friendly posters and leaflets
- Leaflets and information for parents
- Mandatory training
- Safe recruitment
- Garda Vetting



## VULNERABLE ADULT STATEMENT

The Archdiocese recognises that there are many people with whom Church personnel have contact who require special care and attention. The Archdiocese values and encourages the participation of vulnerable adults in all parish liturgies and activities that enhance their spiritual, physical, emotional, intellectual and social development. We believe that all Church personnel, including priests, religious, staff and volunteers must carry out their ministry respecting the rights of the individual in line with gospel values and human rights legislation. The Archdiocese recognises and upholds the dignity and rights of vulnerable adults and is committed to safeguarding all our members.

**April Issue 2019**

**OUR POLICIES:** You can find all our safeguarding policies, procedures, leaflets, forms and supports at [www.cashel-emly.ie/safeguarding](http://www.cashel-emly.ie/safeguarding)

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As the parent of a child involved in parish activities, I am aware that there are *child safeguarding measures* in place, such as training, Garda vetting for adult volunteers and record keeping including signing in/out procedures, to ensure my child's safety.

I feel reassured that the parish takes the area of child protection seriously as it is extremely important."

**Parent**



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I was asked by my Parish Priest a few years ago to become a Parish Rep.

There are usually two Parish Reps in each parish and maybe more, depending on the size of the Parish.

Training is provided by the Archdiocese for those taking up the role. Support and advice are always available through the Director of Safeguarding.

The role of the Parish Rep is:

- To raise awareness of what Child Safeguarding in the Church is.
- To ensure that the Child Safeguarding Policy Statement is displayed prominently in the Church and other Church places where the public have access.

- To ensure that it contains contact information for safeguarding personnel in the diocese, the Gardaí and TUSLA.

- To ensure that Church activities are provided in a way that protects the safety and wellbeing of children and vulnerable people.

- To meet regularly with the priest to monitor safeguarding practices in the parish and assist the priest in completing the annual audit.

The work of safeguarding children in our Church is everyone's responsibility and I would encourage and urge people in parishes to consider taking up this role, if invited to do so. It is not an onerous task; support and guidance is available and all the procedures are now in place, our role is to monitor and adhere to them."

**Parish safeguarding Representative**



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As a Parish Priest I certainly value the protection and security that safeguarding offers to all involved in Parish life, from Priests to volunteers, lay faithful, families and children. Making the Church a safer place for us all.

**Parish Priest**



I have been a Trainer for the *Archdiocese of Cashel & Emly* for the past six years. The commitment of all those, past and present, who are involved in the work of ensuring that children and vulnerable people can participate safely in Church ceremonies and activities continues to impress me. It is however the commitment, day in day out, of the Clergy, the Church volunteers and Safeguarding Reps, across the diocese that never ceases to amaze me. They ensure that policies and procedures are in place, are acted upon and are annually audited in every parish. It is a privilege and a responsibility to be part of this work, as we aim to follow the Gospel directive "*let the little children come to me...for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to such as these*"

**Trainer**

“From the moment I enquired about becoming involved in the Diocesan Safeguarding Committee I was met with a warm welcome and a sincere gratitude of thanks for expressing my interest. From Archbishop Kieran right down to parish representatives I have been enormously impressed with the level of time and dedication given to Safeguarding within the Diocese and the continuous efforts in place to ensure the highest standards are maintained at all times.”

**Member of the  
safeguarding  
committee**

“Before I became an Altar Server, I heard someone from the parish speak about keeping children safe. After that I felt a lot safer. Usually I would be shy to say if there was something wrong but now, I feel like I can say if there is something wrong. I found it very useful to hear this and everything was explained in a way that I could understand.”

**Altar Server aged 11**







Please colour in our illustration and if you wish to have it displayed in your church, cut out and leave into your Centre/Church.



## ARCHDIOCESE SAFEGUARDING TEAM

### Director of Safeguarding & DLP

**Cleo Yates:**

• **Mobile:** 087 355 3024 • **Email:** [Safeguarding@cashel-emly.ie](mailto:Safeguarding@cashel-emly.ie)

### Trainers:

Mary Purcell, Fr. Tom Hearne.

For your Parish Safeguarding representatives, see your parish notice board

If you have a child protection or vulnerable adult concern or wish to report an allegation, please contact:

## TUSLA, CHILD & FAMILY AGENCY

### Child Care Managers

• **Limerick:** 061 482792 • **North Tipperary:** 067 46647  
• **South Tipperary:** 052 6170931

### Vulnerable Adults-HSE

• **Limerick/North Tipperary:** 067 46470  
• **South Tipperary:** 056 7784325

### Gardai

• **Thurles:** 0504 25100 • **Templemore:** 0504 31011  
• **Cashel:** 062 75840 • **Tipperary:** 062 51212  
• **Clonmel:** 052 6177640

