



CLOYNE DIOCESAN CENTRE

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Safeguarding Message 17th November 2022

Dear Friends,

Thankfully, even in the midst of the shadow of Covid, active life in parishes is returning. With this in mind I encourage all parishes to continue to be vigilant in Safeguarding practice and procedures.

At the beginning of this year, I invited the National Safeguarding Board to undertake an audit/review of the Safeguarding practice of children within the Diocese, which they did in June. I am pleased with this message to announce the publication of the findings of the Audit which can be found on the Diocesan website, www.cloynediocese.ie. I am thankful to all those who were involved in the audit/review, the safeguarding personnel in the Diocese, survivors of abuse, parishes that were visited, people who work with young people, support persons, priest advisers and respondents. To quote from the audit/review:

"The purpose of this second round of Reviews is to assess child-safeguarding practice against the Catholic Church in Ireland's current standards as detailed in Safeguarding Children Policy and Standards for the Catholic Church in Ireland, 2016 and make statements based on evidence, which provide:

- *Public confidence that the Church body is safe for children;*
- *Affirmation to Child Safeguarding personnel that they are doing the right things well;*
- *Confirmation to the Church authority that what they want to be done is in fact being done;*
- *Independent verification of Self-Audit – or correction and/or improvement of Self-Audit;*
- *Opportunities for learning.*

The reviewers have found that all standards have been met and noted that improvements have been made since the last audit in 2013. This has come about due to the hard work and involvement of so many people across the Diocese and in Parishes who ensure best practice. While the audit/review is positive I am all too aware that the hurt and trauma that survivors of abuse in the Church have suffered does not totally go away and reemerges often. I am conscious too of people who have been abused but have never come forward to tell their story. I once again encourage anyone who has been abused by Church personnel to share their story with the Diocese and Statutory agencies.

The work of Safeguarding goes on and develops, that is why an "Adult At Risk Policy" has been developed by the Dioceses in Munster and also a Policy for Diocesan and Parish Pilgrimages. Training for these will be undertaken in 2023. May we not be found wanting in our Safeguarding Practice.

With prayerful best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



Most Rev. William Crean, D.D.,
Bishop of Cloyne.

REPORTING

If a person has a Safeguarding concern or wishes to report an allegation of child abuse or to record historical abuse, contact the Diocesan Designated Liaison Person and or Gardai and TUSLA

Designated Liaison Person (DLP):

Fr. Patrick Winkle and Mr. Ger Crowley:

Contact no. 086-0368999 Email: dlp@cloynediocese.ie

An Garda Siochana

For allegations that relate to clerics/religious: 01-6663430 or 01-6663435

For allegations that do not relate to clerics/religious: Contact Local Garda Station

Tusla

Cobh/Midleton/Macroom areas: 021-4927000

Mallow/Fermoy areas: 022-54100