

SAFEGUARDING NEWSLETTER

The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 4/December 2022



“Lord Jesus, Hear our voices as we pray for your care and protection. Strengthen and guide us as we strive to make our Catholic communities a safe place for all. Give us the wisdom and courage to listen with open hearts, see with open eyes, and speak out to ensure children and adults are safe, loved, respected, and cared for. We also pray for those who have been harmed. Give them the courage to seek the truth and to heal. May we all strive to understand our collective responsibility to work together

This Issue :

From the Director

Clergy Mandatory Reporting Training

SGO Chat Group

New Website

New Training Format

2023 Training Calendar

Around the Parish

Snippets on 2022 CPW

CYM Christ the King World Youth Day 2022

Onboarding SGO Training Part 2

CSSWA—2022 Volunteers Award Night

JEDO—16 Days of Activism to end Gender Based Violence



Where did the year go? I enthusiastically returned to the Safeguarding Program Office in January 2022 and am pleased to advise I will continue in the Directors role in 2023.

The focus this year was to review our systems internally and focus on the support for Clergy regarding the Mandatory Reporting legislation. With the wonderful support of the Safeguarding Program Team—Ingka (Admin Support) and Thomas (Safeguarding Coordinator), we have achieved a great deal.

Ingka provides a level of diligence and proficiency that has improved the collection of data and reports. Her friendly prompt communication and follow-up support to both the SGOs and Clergy, has seen her navigate the CLANED Online Mandatory Reporting with the Clergy. Many very grateful for her help! The roll-out of the SGO lanyards is also well underway (*if any SGO hasn't arranged one yet, please let Ingka know*). Ingka also prepares all our resources ready for training. Thank you, Ingka!

Thomas this year reviewed the SAAT and implemented a streamlined version with parishes. The ongoing support with recommendations and parish visits will continue next year to help build capacity in embedding the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards (NCSS). Expect a friendly visit from Thomas as he continues to reach out to you all. He has also picked up the Safeguarding Induction training and is working on the new Safeguarding Guidelines with me. Great work Thomas!

In 2022 we had **over 1600 people “through our doors”** attending various Safeguarding sessions. We had a 20% increase from last year in attendances at a church worker Safeguarding Induction. We look forward to continuing this effort next year with 2023 induction dates available on our website soon (**see the training calendar**).

A very successful Child Protection Week saw beautifully decorated kites in our Parishes and Agencies and some skilful kite flying (even by the Archbishop!) as a sign of our continued commitment to raising awareness and keeping the conversation alive on the need for child protection.

The *Transition Project* of the Archdiocese continues to add vibrancy, innovation, harmony, and collaboration to the Archdiocese. This has brought a greater level of objectivity, transparency, professionalism, and accountability to the Archdiocese. Our office worked in collaboration with the transition project to produce an Archdiocesan Safeguarding Policy, Screening and Monitoring Policy and work continues on converting the Safeguarding Handbook into a suite of Safeguarding Guidelines.



All this to better align with the NCSS and build capacity of safeguarding overall. The guidelines project will roll into 2023 with **refresher SGO training available in the first quarter of next year**.

I am thrilled to announce Edition 2 of the NCSS was formally announced 7 December 2022 by Australian Catholic Standards Limited, the Australian Catholic Bishops conference, Catholic Religious Australia and the Association of Ministerial Public Juridic Persons. The second edition of the Safeguarding Standards incorporates safeguarding measures for adults (with a focus on adults at risk). Whilst here in the Archdiocese of Perth we have provisionally adopted the inclusion of adults, I am pleased we can formally move to edition two very soon.

This year we also acknowledged the many days of recognition for minority and/or marginalised group and had the opportunity to collaborate with JEDO (Justice Ecology and Development Office) on the 2022-23 Social Justice Statement – **RESPECT: Confronting Violence and Abuse**.

Finally, as we draw to a close of 2022, I would like to **sincerely thank every single one of you** for your dedication and commitment— for giving selflessly to the church. **“Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless.”** – *Sherry Anderson*. I am humbled by your acts of kindness, generosity and care.

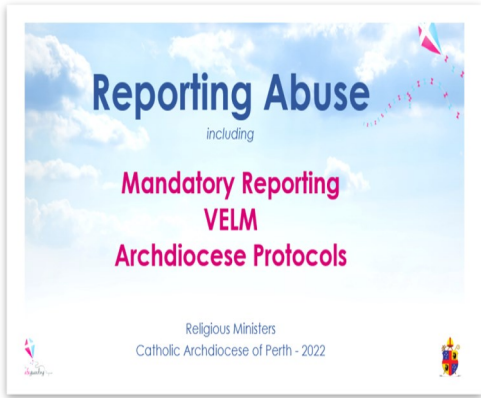
To our Clergy, Agency Directors, Archdiocese Managers and the hundreds of people who you walk beside, behind and in front. Thank you for your support and guidance.

From the Safeguarding Team Office, we wish you a blessed Christmas, wonderful New Year and we look forward to working with you all in 2023.

Stay safe - Barbara.



CLERGY MANDATORY REPORTING



The SG Office team have been busy this last quarter training Archdiocesan Clergy in Mandatory Reporting. In collaboration with CEWA, **Ms Saxon Gee—WA Professional Standards and Fr Joe Parkinson – Director of Catholic Bioethics Perth**, 83 % of the Clergy have completed competency-based training. The commitment the Clergy have shown in gaining a greater understanding of the Mandatory Reporting legislation shows their continued dedication and commitment to safeguarding children. It has been a rich learning experience that Clergy will undertake annually.



SURVEY—SGO CHAT GROUP

We want to gauge interest in catching up with fellow SGOs.
Are you interested in an informal coming together of minds to share information, and ideas, collaborate, make new connections, build on teamwork?



Click [here](#) for the survey or use the QR Code



Welcome to our new website

The Safeguarding Program

Home About Us Training Parish/Agency Parents/Carers Contact Us

I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. -Philippians 4:13



Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Perth



Safety, Love, and Hope

It is our collective responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults within the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.

Training Click Here

Safeguarding Handbook Click Here

Reporting/Feedback Click Here

The Safeguarding Program

Creating a safe Church is a dynamic process that involves active participation and responsibility by all leaders, clergy, church workers and the wider church community including parents and families. The Catholic Archdiocese of Perth is committed to making this possible through collaboration, vigilance and proactive approaches across legislation, policies, procedures and practices.

Read more

Call +61 (0)8 9221 7762

© 2022 Safeguarding Program | All Rights Reserved | Powered by the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth

SGO Training NEW Format



The training of NEW Safeguarding Officer's is taking a new format. Training will now comprise of two parts:

- Part 1: Attend the 1-hr Safeguarding Induction (Level 1)
Part 2: Attend a half-day Safeguarding Officer training.

This replaces the one full day session. We hope the new format provides greater flexibility.

SGO Refresher Training

Bookings will be available via our website soon. Both face-to-face and online versions will be on offer. We will cover an update from ACSL, what's happening within the Archdiocese and changes to the Safeguarding Handbook. We will support you to support others.

PLEASE NOTE: With the inclusion of Adults at Risk in the NCSS:

- there is a NEW Personal Safeguarding Declaration Form (available on our website). This version is to be completed by ALL church workers. Those who have already completed Form 2 & 18 do NOT need to redo with the new version.
The Safeguarding Induction is for ALL church workers (paid & unpaid) in ANY role in the church.



SAFEGUARDING TRAINING CALENDAR 2023



REGISTRATION LINK - [CLICK HERE](#)
EMAIL: safeguarding@perthcatholic.org.au
PHONE: 9221 7762

DATE	TIME		TRAINING	VENUE
10 January 2023 18 January 2023	10 - 11 2 - 3	AM PM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online Online
02 February 2023 13 February 2023 18 February 2023 21 February 2023 23 February 2023 27 February 2023 28 February 2023	10 - 11 2 - 3 9 - 12 7 - 8 9.30 - 11.30 9 - 11 7 - 9	AM PM AM - PM PM AM AM PM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Onboarding SGO Part 2 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 SGO Refresher SGO Refresher SGO Refresher	Online Online 40A Mary St, Highgate Online 450 Hay Street, Perth Online TBC – North of the river
02 March 2023 04 March 2023 08 March 2023 09 March 2023 17 March 2023 22 March 2023 28 March 2023	5 - 8 9.30 - 11.30 10 - 2 2 - 3 10 - 11 7 - 8 7 - 9	PM AM AM - PM PM AM PM PM	SG for Youth Leader SGO Refresher SG for Seminarian – Module 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 SGO Refresher	TBC 40A Mary St, Highgate St Charles Seminary Online Online TBC – North of the river TBC – South of the river
04 April 2023 11 April 2023 17 April 2023 27 April 2023	6.30 - 8.30 10 - 11 2 - 3 7 - 8	PM AM PM PM	SGO Refresher Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online Online Online Online
03 May 2023 16 May 2023 29 May 2023	10 - 11 2 - 3 7 - 8	AM PM PM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online Online Online
08 June 2023 14 June 2023 20 June 2023 29 June 2023	10 - 11 TBC 2 - 3 7 - 8	AM PM PM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Onboarding SGO Part 2 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online TBC Online TBC – South of the river
05 July 2023 21 July 2023 25 July 2023	2 - 3 10 - 11 7 - 8	PM AM PM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online Online Online
07 August 2023 16 August 2023 24 August 2023 31 August 2023	10-11 2 - 3 TBC 7 - 8	AM PM PM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 SG for Managers and Directors Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online Online TBC Online
05 September 2023 15 September 2023	2 - 3 10 - 11	PM AM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online Online
04 October 2023 19 October 2023 21 October 2023 24 October 2023 25 October 2023	10 - 11 2 - 3 9- 12 7 - 8 10 - 2	AM PM AM - PM PM AM - PM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Onboarding SGO Part 2 Safeguarding Induction Level 1 SG for Seminarian Module 2	Online Online 40A Mary St, Highgate TBC - Perth St Charles Seminary
07 November 2023 17 November 2023	7 - 8 10 - 11	PM AM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1 Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online Online
06 December 2023	10 - 11	AM	Safeguarding Induction Level 1	Online



We have come to the end of 2022 and how fast was that! About 50 Parishes (47%) have completed a Self-Assessment SAAT for our review and recommendation. We acknowledge the hard work and a big thank you to those who have completed their SAATs. We encourage the remaining 53% of parishes to get their SAATs completed as soon as possible, so we can provide review, recommendations, and support.

The National Catholic Safeguarding Standards are continuously being amended through the Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited (ACSL). It's currently under Edition 2 (Provisional) which essentially includes Adults at Risk. We took the opportunity with the changes to review the SAAT (25-page) and improve it to a 19-page document. We always seek better ways to help you identify safeguarding gaps and increase awareness thru the SAAT. If you have any SAAT issues, please contact us. Your contributions are highly appreciated. *Thomas - Safeguarding Coordinator*

St Mary's Cathedral, Perth

The Cathedral Safeguarding team have come up with the idea of a feedback box. Mass goes and parishioners can express their thoughts with matters regarding the Safeguarding Program at the Cathedral. The box, generously provided by the Dean was beautifully and brightly decorated, made the feedback forms and everyone contributed ideas to make sure all the Safeguarding policies were carefully taken into consideration.

(Story provided by Josephine Cabagyo—SGO St Mary's Cathedral)



Confront difficult situations

During Child Protection Week this year a thought filled parishioner shared with us some very helpful tips when working with difficult situations. *Thank you Julia Ewert (MBA, FAIM).*

The fundamentals of [#negotiation](#) are based on connection and empathy.

People often don't know what to say, so they say nothing. However non-verbal signs are also a way to demonstrate empathy.

Next time you feel empathy for someone, here are some verbal and non-verbal responses you may wish to try:

- Genuine, warm eye-contact. Hold the person's gaze for a few short moments
- A safe hand on their shoulder and moment of silent, shared contemplation
- Place your hands over your heart to symbolise love or togetherness
- "I don't have the right words, but still wanted to approach you"
- "May I sit with you?"
- "It sounds like you're having a hard time. What else would you like to share about it?"
- "Tell me something I can do for you right now"

Please, step out of your comfort zone just a little, as it's likely their discomfort is much larger. Your small gesture may mean the world to them.



We've been busy!



Test Fly at Rockingham Parish!



Safeguarding News: National Child Protection Week Morning Tea

Last week New Norcia Safeguarding Officer, Tracy Sievwright, attended the National Child Protection Week Morning Tea at St Mary's Cathedral in Perth. It was a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness of child safety and to acknowledge all Safeguarding Officers.



Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB, Donella Brown (Director Aboriginal Catholic Ministry) and Thomas Law (Safeguarding Coordinator)



Let your faith soar...those who trust in the Lord will find new strength, they will soar. Isaiah 40:31

National Child Protection Week (5-11 September) shines a light on children growing up in a safe environment, supported by their family, church, community and culture. This year the Safeguarding Team invited agencies and parishes to participate in kite making and flying activities to bring people together and to raise awareness of safeguarding and child protection.

Here at the Catholic Pastoral Centre, the Catholic Outreach team joyfully embraced the activity... after a fashion. Take a close look at this 'action' shot!



Frank Tassone (Archdiocese Senior Operation Officer), Barb Blayney and Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB



We've been busy!



Barb Blayney with Greg Lo from Manning Parish (top left), with Martina Kavanagh and Colin D'Rozario (left)

We greatly appreciate all the support at this special occasion. **THANK YOU** to Colin D'Rozario, Martina Kavanagh, Gregory Lo Cheryl Harris and Ross Scholz.



We've been busy!

ONBOARDING SGO TRAINING PART 2

Saturday, 03 December 2022
From left to right:

Darlene Min—Thornlie

Enrica Castello—Canning Vale

Michael Elder—Thornlie

Barb Blayney—Safeguarding Director

Belinda Fabling—Wilson

Maureen Fox—Yanchep

**Loretta Spadaccini—Gingin/
Chitering**

Denise Hitchens—Mandurah



VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION



The Safeguarding Program Office is a member of Catholic Social Services WA. This year we nominated **Ann Fairhead – SGO at St Vincent Parish Kwinana** for the Volunteer of the Year Award.

We are very proud of all our SGOs and took this opportunity to recognise the contribution Ann has made to the Safeguarding Program.

Ann joined the Safeguarding team in July 2015 and has been an integral part of the Kwinana team building capacity, and sustainability and raising awareness of the importance of Safeguarding at the parish.

Over the years has been supported by Fr Daniel Boyd, Fr Thi Lam and six SGOs and three very helpful Parish Secretary's. Her wealth of experience as a past teacher, nurse, and 20 years with Caritas Australia has helped guide the parish to continue to build collective responsibility for Safeguarding in the Parish.



At the awards ceremony held on Friday 25 November, Ann had the opportunity to speak with Archbishop Costelloe SDB who when talking about all the volunteers working in our parishes said: "our church workers are vital for assisting him, acting for him to bring the Safeguarding Program to fruition". Congratulations Ann!

(From left, Barbara Blayney – Director Safeguarding Program, Ann Fairhead – SGO Kwinana Parish, Grace Kurniawan – CSSWA)



We've been busy!



(From left, Carol Mitchel—Director JEDO, Barbara Blayney – Director Safeguarding Program)



16 Days of Activism to end Gender Based Violence

The Safeguarding Program Office in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Justice, Ecology and Development Office (JEDO) campaigned for prayerful awareness raising of the global issue of violence against women and girls. A mass dedication coinciding with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women was held at 8 am, on 25 November at St Mary's Cathedral. As the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards move to represent safeguarding not just for children but for adults at risk also and the 2022-23 Catholic Social Justice Statement – *Respect: Confronting Violence and Abuse*, was launched earlier this year, it was a timely opportunity to raise awareness for the UN 16 Days of Activism campaign.



SPECIAL REPORT: Domestic violence not something we can turn a blind eye to, Bishop Sproston highlights

Read the full report:

[SPECIAL REPORT: Domestic violence not something we can turn a blind eye to, Bishop Sproston highlights | The Record](#)