

# Safeguarding Information: Parish employee or volunteer in a non child related role

*Safeguarding is everyone's  
responsibility*



Safeguarding Office  
(CHANCERY & PARISHES)

CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
BROKEN BAY

Communities of safety and care  
Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay  
Parish Safeguarding

# 'Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility'

## A message of gratitude

Thank you for being an important worker or volunteer of the Parish. The Catholic Diocese of Broken Bay (the Diocese) and its Parish communities are committed to ensuring safe communities for children and those who are vulnerable.

This information pack provides you with information that assists you to contribute to the Parish's commitment to Safeguarding and outline some best practices associated with protecting its people, especially children and those who are vulnerable.

"In the history of every person, the Father sees again the story of his Son who came down to Earth. Every human story has an irrepressible dignity." Pope Francis

You are encouraged to be a positive contributor to the Parish culture. The Parish community must aim to demonstrate the collective values and practices that guide the attitudes and behaviours of all people. The outcome is a faith community that celebrates the joy of everyone.

*'Each of us can make a difference. Each of us can help to protect one another. We are called to Step Up and to Speak Out for the protection of all.'* (Commitment Statement 2018)

Click the yellow icon below for content insight or click the PDF link to view the readings

[Read PDF](#) for the **Diocesan Safeguarding Commitment Statement**.  
A copy of the Commitment Statement is available from the Parish Office.



[Read PDF](#) for the **Diocesan Rights of the Child Framework**.  
It is available from the Safeguarding Intranet page.

## What is Safeguarding?

Parishes throughout the Diocese develop communities of faith for their people by the provision of many varied ministries. It is through these ministries that the value and personal dignity of the parishioner is celebrated and protected. When a parish is called upon to safeguard its people, the Catholic Church is asking them to pro-actively support a culture of safety and care that espouses honesty, engagement, and conversation. The result is a community environment where children and vulnerable adults: know that their community is alert to areas of risk and harm, and are capable of applying appropriate actions of prevention; are confident to voice their concerns at all times, and have trust that their concerns will be listened to respectfully and taken seriously. These actions create a culture of safety and care founded in line with the National and State Standards and Principles of a Child Safe Organisation.

[Visit Australian Catholic Safeguarding Ltd](#) website for information on the National Catholic Safeguarding Standards.

# Safeguarding Office (Chancery & Parishes)

The Safeguarding (Office (Chancery & Parishes) assists to develop a culture and practice of safeguarding amongst the clergy and parishes to protect children, young people and vulnerable adults.

## General Enquiries:

P 8379 1605 E [safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au)

## Visiting Clergy and Religious (Screening Practices):

E [clergy.safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au](mailto:clergy.safeguarding@bbcatholic.org.au)

## Safeguarding webpage:

<https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/our-faith/safeguarding>

## Mary Who Unties Knots

The Safeguarding Office places a special devotion to the blessed Mother under the title “Mary Who Unties Knots”.

**“We present our difficulties, our knots to her, especially the ones which affect the Christian life of our family”** – Pope Francis

Sometimes we cannot unravel our own knots, or our own pain without help. Mary Who Unties Knots is there for us.



## Safeguarding Awareness

Throughout the year, the agencies of the Diocese, CatholicCare, Catholic Schools Broken Bay, Chancery Offices and Parishes promote scheduled events that highlight the importance of Safeguarding. If you require further information about the Diocesan program for Safeguarding Awareness please contact the Safeguarding Office (Chancery & Parishes).



All parishes are encouraged to contribute and participate in the Safeguarding Awareness theme and initiatives. If you have an initiative for the year, please speak with your Parish Priest.

## Liturgy of Lament

An annual Diocesan Liturgy of Lament led by the Bishop, is held at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral, Waitara. The Liturgy is an expression of a public acknowledgment of the pain and suffering of those who have been wounded by abuse in the Catholic Church. This significant event brings together Clergy, parishioners and the wider community.



You are very welcome to attend the liturgy. Details are available on the Diocesan webpage or from your Parish Priest.