Meath Diocesan Office
Dublin Road
Mullingar
County Westmeath

Parish Safeguarding Update - September 2022

I wish to draw your attention to upcoming Safeguarding Sessions. These are being provided to all parishes as they begin to reactivate activities and gatherings following the pandemic. An update on recent changes e.g., Parish Risk Assessments and information on the Parish Audit Form process will also be provided.

A "Return to Church" session designed for clergy, parish staff, parish safeguarding reps and anyone involved in ministry with young people will be held on the following dates:

Monday 19 September 7:30pm - 9pm in the Parish Centre, TRIM

Monday 26 September 7:30pm - 9pm in the Parish Community Centre, MULLINGAR

Wednesday 28 September 7:30pm - 9pm in St. Anne's Parish Room, NAVAN 7:30pm - 9pm in ASHBOURNE Parish Centre 7:30pm - 9pm in TULLAMORE Parish Centre

Due to the pandemic, in-person training and exchange of best practice have been on hold. By meeting together with neighbouring parishes, I hope that we can develop a generous spirit of safeguarding in the coming months.

The sessions listed above will also provide some updates which will assist in completing the Parish Audit Form for 2022. Primarily these sessions are aimed at:

- 1. Members of the clergy and Parish employees
- 2. Parish Safeguarding Representatives
- 3. Those adult volunteers involved in activities for children/young people

Others who wish to attend can make contact by email: sgtraining@dioceseofmeath.ie.

I would be grateful if those attending would register with me by email beforehand. This will assist with planning and recording of attendance.

I recommend that you speak with your current/prospective Safeguarding Reps about the next full day (9:30am – 4pm) of Safeguarding training on Saturday 1 October in Navan. This will allow every parish to assess current training needs as we step away from pandemic restrictions. I would like to highlight a requirement that a minimum of one leader for every parish group must have attended a full day of training within the last three years.

Please contact me by email or by phone [087 795 1510] if you have any queries about the above.

Yours sincerely,

Safeguarding Coordinator Diocese of Meath