



We hope this newsletter find you well and embracing the ease of lockdown restrictions safely.

The safeguarding team have been working remotely since the start of the pandemic, however the team are now beginning to return to work in the office. To start, one member of the team will be available in the office each day. Please continue to bear with us as we return to normality whilst adhering to social distancing guidelines.

Thank you all, for your continued work and support over the past year.

What's New?

Diocesan Website

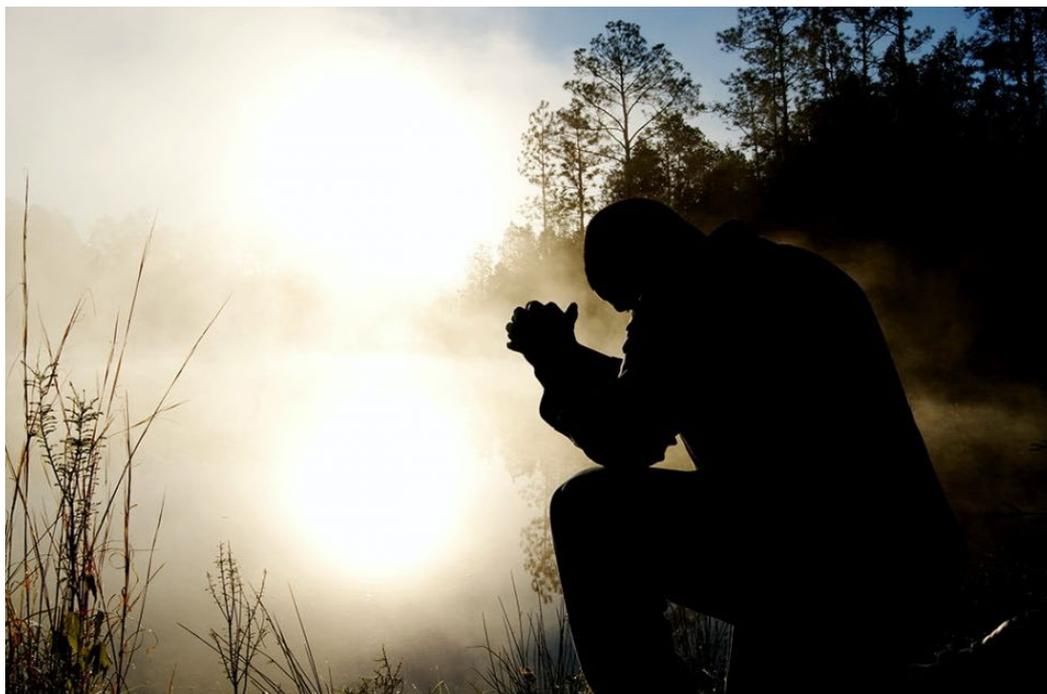
The Archdiocese are developing a brand-new website. The safeguarding section of the website will be interactive with easy access for visitors to our policies, support, resources and more.

CSAS is becoming CSSA

Our national body The Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service (CSAS) is being restructured into

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA).

CSSA will oversee that an effective safeguarding service is being provided across the dioceses' in England and Wales through regulation and policy & procedure provision. The new central agency will aid in improving safeguarding relationships throughout the diocese and promoting transparency and accountability.



National Day of Prayer for Survivors May 4th 2021

The National Day of Prayer for survivors of abuse is on 4th May. You can find

resources to mark this day on the [Bishops' Conference website by clicking HERE](#).

Northampton Diocese will be live streaming a prayer service for those unable to attend one in their local area. More information can be found on their [website](#).

Prayer for Healing and Reconciliation

Praise to you Father of our Lord Jesus Christ the source of all consolation and hope.

Be the refuge and guardian of all who suffer from abuse and violence.

Comfort them and send healing for their wounds of the body, soul and spirit.

Help us all and make us one with you in your love for justice

as we deepen our respect for the dignity of every human life.

Giver of peace, make us one in celebrating your praise, both now and forever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Victim Support: Support service for survivors of church-related abuse.

Tel: 0300 303 1056

Email: safespaces@victimsupport.org.uk

LiveChat:

www.SafeSpacesEnglandandWales.org.uk

We've had a request to provide examples of parish groups which need to have an Enhanced level DBS check to do their role. Some of the most common groups are:

Children's Liturgists

First Holy Communion and

Confirmation Catechists

Children's Play Group

Children's Choir/Music Group Leader

Sacristans

Adult Altar Servers/Coordinators

Mass Coordinators

Pastoral Assistants

Eucharistic Ministers

Parish Visitors of the Sick/Elderly

Parish Transport to Mass volunteers

Parish Outreach to vulnerable adults

Bereavement Counsellors

St Vincent de Paul Members

This is not an exhaustive list and there may be other ministries in your parish which are eligible for an Enhanced level DBS check, so if you need advice please email us the details.

You might also find it helpful to know some parish ministries which do not require a DBS check, including: Readers, Welcomers, Flower Arrangers, Collection Counters, After Mass Tea & Coffee Servers.

Stop Hate UK: LGBTQ+ Hate Crime

Stop Hate UK have shared an easy guide called 'Understand LGBTQ+ Hate Crime', which is being shared through Local Authorities and Police.

This resource defines the different types of LGBTQ+ hate crimes and covers key points: understanding hate crime law, online hate, how to report a hate crime, taking care of yourself after a hate crime, going to the police and going to court.

The guide is available on the [PSR resource area](#).



Safeguarding PSR Gathering Day

Our annual Safeguarding Gathering day will be returning on **Saturday 2nd October 2021**.

The gathering will be an opportunity for us to meet you all, for you to meet others involved in safeguarding across the diocese and we will have guest speakers throughout the day.

Invites will be sent out to in due course, which will detail the day further. For now, please pencil the date into your diaries!

Helpline Reminders – Please share in your Parish

Samaritans – Phone if you feel you are struggling to cope and need someone to talk to.

Helpline: 116 123 (open 24 hours).

Refuge – Phone if you are experiencing domestic abuse.

Helpline: 0808 2000 247 (Open 24 hours).

AgeUK – A range of information, advice, advocacy, and practical help services for older people

Helpline: 0800 678 1602

Childline – A counselling service for children

Helpline: 0800 1111

Mental Health Helplines – NHS compiled list of helplines and support groups that can offer expert advice. [Click HERE](#)

Helpline service posters are available on the PSR Resource Centre.

If you do not have a Parish Safeguarding Representative Poster, or your poster details need updating, please email the office. Once we have the up to date contact details for all PSRs in your parish, we can issue a new poster.

The PSR Zoom Meeting has been rescheduled and will be held on **Wednesday 5th May**. Please check your email for the invitation.

The online DBS application process will be introduced at the meeting, which can be used to facilitate upcoming volunteer DBS rechecks.

A guide for processing applications online will be sent out to all PSRs and posted on the PSR resource centre, following the meeting.

