

**Safeguarding  
is everyone's  
responsibility.**



**The Archdiocese is  
committed to the  
safety, wellbeing and  
human dignity of  
children, young  
people and adults.**

**St. Joseph's Springvale Parish,  
including St. Mark's Dingley Village**



**Introduction to Safeguarding  
for all Parishioners**

**May – June 2021**

If there's an incident of misconduct and/or child abuse here in this church

How would you react?

What would you do?

And importantly –

Would you report it?



# What is Safeguarding?

- Safeguarding is about protecting and keeping our children and our vulnerable people safe in the life and activities of our church.
- It is about respecting the dignity of each person – as we strive to create an inclusive and welcoming Church – that enables its people to grow and develop their faith freely – in a caring and supportive environment.



# Why is it important?

It is important for several reasons:

- **Uphold** the right to the safety of all persons
- **Participate** in creating a culture of safety
- **Prevent** abuse in the first instance
- **Respond** appropriately and effectively if abuse does occur



## Steps we are currently taking ...

- Understanding and managing the risk areas
- Commencing an education awareness series for all Volunteers
- Commencing education awareness sessions with parents and guardians = **The “Never alone rule”**
- Empowering our children to understand safety and say **‘no’** in unsafe situations
- Have a mechanism for reporting abuse and misconduct.



## What do we need from you?

- All persons in ministry, working or volunteering within the Archdiocese have a moral, legal and ethical responsibility to care for, and promote the wellbeing of children and young people. Safety of all persons is a collective responsibility and is best achieved with the help of everyone in our Parish Community.

# What do we need from you?

- Each of us, as Catholics, must lead. There can be no backbenchers. Everyone is in the front pew. We have an opportunity and a responsibility to change the way we operate – through Safeguarding, we can revitalise our parish with creativity and accountability!

## Message from Fr. Joseph Nguyen Truong, OFM Conv.

- **SAFEGUARDING** is everybody's business and I want to encourage everyone to take an active interest and to support the Safeguarding Committee in the roll-out of the Safeguarding Framework and what is asked of the volunteers in the various Ministries.

## Message from Fr. Joseph Nguyen Truong, OFM Conv.

- The Committee has been working during COVID-19 to implement Safeguarding practices. I would like to acknowledge and thank them for the many enhancements, the many positive and enriching interactions for the children and young people, through their own participation in the church.

## Message from Fr. Joseph Nguyen Truong, OFM Conv.

- We can all play our part in keeping our children and our people safe. It's a gospel responsibility to do so. So please join me in this vital journey and in this important work, thank you!

**Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.**

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and human dignity of children, young people and adults.



**God gave all  
children the  
right to feel  
safe at all  
times**



**SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY**  
**If you see it ... YOU report it!**

## Reporting abuse – contact details

If you have experienced abuse, we encourage you to come forward and report the matter to a person in leadership who will assist and support you to make a report.

**Professional Standards Unit:** (03) 9926 5630

[www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Reporting-Abuse](http://www.cam.org.au/Professional-Standards/Reporting-Abuse)

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Joseph Truong Nguyen, OFM Conv.

**Safeguarding Parish Leader:** Lorraine Jennings

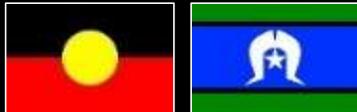
[Springvalesafe@cam.org.au](mailto:Springvalesafe@cam.org.au)

**Remember!** Always call 000 if a child or adult is in immediate danger

# St. Joseph's Springvale Parish, including St. Mark's Dingley Village



# Thank you



*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout the Archdiocese and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to them and their cultures and to Elders past and present.*