

CLOYNE DIOCESAN CENTRE

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Safeguarding Message November 2025

My Friends,

As we come to the close of another year, I write to once again update you on ongoing developments in the Diocese in relation to the safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults.

I said in my July Safeguarding Message that the NBSCCCI would hold its conference in September. To quote from the National Office Newsletter after the conference "We are very grateful to all who generously gave of their time to present to us, whether they were survivors who shared some of their often harrowing experiences, or the academics who provided us with research frameworks within which to situate our thinking on how best to respond to the radical call of the Gospel. Thanks also to those Church bodies who gave us an insight into their work and some of the challenges that we will face in trying to respond to the needs of those who have been hurt in the Church in Ireland".

This highlights again the importance of being vigilant as we move forward together.

In the Diocese, new updated Safeguarding Posters are currently being distributed, and the Parish Self Audit will be undertaken in November with an expected 100% compliance. Five training sessions will also be held in November around the Diocese in connection with the new vetting legislation requirements.

To end in a positive note I quote again from the National Board Newsletter "The overwhelming positivity of the feedback we have received confirms our conviction that it is only by speaking and listening together that we will be able to effectively journey towards healing for all who have been impacted by abuse; those who have survived that abuse and those who have feel betrayed by the abuse perpetrated in the past by those who were members of our Church. That journey will be difficult at times, and we will have to speak and hear things that make us uncomfortable and challenged, yet that is what we are called to do".

With prayerful best wishes,

+ lin. Lean Most Rev William Crean, DD

Bishop of Cloyne